

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 15 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday of Year A	
SUN	10.30am Holy Mass: 15 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday of Year A	
FRI	9.00am Exposition	
	9.30am Mass: Friday of Week 15 in Ordinary Time	
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 16 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday of Year A	
SUN	10.30am Holy Mass: 16 <sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday of Year A	



**ST. THOMAS R.C. CHURCH, KEITH**  
**DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF ST JOHN OGILVIE**



**12<sup>th</sup> July 2026**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday of the Year (A II) Psalter Week 3**

**THE ANNOUNCER!**

Imagine planting a seed and waiting for it to grow. At first, nothing seems to happen. The soil looks unchanged, and it may even appear that the seed has disappeared. Yet beneath the surface, life is already at work. Today's readings remind us that God's word is like that seed; it may not always produce immediate results, but it never returns empty.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah compares God's word to the rain and snow that come down from heaven. Just as rain waters the earth and makes it fruitful, God's word accomplishes the purpose for which He sends it. His prophecy is an assurance that God is always at work, even when we cannot immediately see the results. His grace sown in us makes us fruitful and flourish.

In the second reading, St. Paul speaks about the suffering of this present time. Creation itself is "groaning," waiting for the fullness of God's redemption. Paul does not deny that life can be difficult, but he places our struggles in the light of the hope of glory at the end: like the hope in a sprouting seedling, which faces the struggles to push through the ground. God is preparing something greater than we can presently imagine. Our trials are not the final word; but God's glory.

In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the Sower to the crowd and, in private, explains the parable to his disciples. The same seed is scattered everywhere, but the results differ according to the condition of the soil. Some seed falls on the path, some on rocky ground, some among thorns, and some on good soil that produces a rich harvest.

The seed represents the word of God sown in us for our good. The question is how we are receiving His word. A hardened heart cannot welcome it. A shallow heart receives it briefly but does not persevere. A distracted heart allows worries and worldly concerns to choke it. But a receptive heart allows the word to take root, grow, and bear fruit. God's grace is at work to make us grow into a rich harvest for Him. Examine yourself today: how are you responding to this grace? Ask God for a heart that is open to Him and fertile.

*Fr. Kingsley*

**Last week**      Collection: £296      Att: 53

MINISTRIES	12/7/2026	19/7/2026
Church Cleaning	M & L Collins (July)	M & L Collins (July)
Counters	Smith	Reid
Welcome	Collins/Harvey	Gray/James
Hall keeper	R Hendry	M Collins
Sat Reader	K Cruickshank	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sat EMoHC	K Schouwenaars-Harms	R Hendry
Sun Reader	M Le Mero, E Reid	M Farrell, A Mitchell
Sun EMoHC	E Danby, I Grant	M Moir, E Danby
Flowers	K Reid	K Reid
Teas	Carol & Graeme	No teas

**Useful contacts:**

Parish Priest:	Fr Kingsley Chigbo	01542 780208
	email	cilk@rcda.scot
Assistant priest:	Fr Peter Ezekoka	01542 780208
	email	poe@rcda.scot
Permanent Deacon:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
	email	deacon.graeme@rcda.scot
PPC Chair:	Dcn Graeme Morrison	07387008498
Parish Safeguarding Co-ord:	Elizabeth Danby	<a href="mailto:stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org">stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org</a>
Health & Safety:	Keith Gray	01542 886242
Newsletter:	Margaret Farrell	01542 882116
	or	<a href="mailto:mcfarrell@btinternet.com">mcfarrell@btinternet.com</a>
Hospital Chaplains:	Elgin	Dcn Graeme Morrison
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O'Dowd
		01224 482657
		or
		ARI@rcda.scot
Facebook: St Thomas' RC Church, Keith	YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly	
Email: <a href="mailto:chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk">chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.stthomaskeith.com">www.stthomaskeith.com</a>	

**Welcome:** to all our visitors, feel free to look around our beautiful church, particularly the St John Ogilvie Chapel & Exhibition.

**Hospital visiting:** please remember to contact Deacon Graeme if you or any of your family are in hospital. He is always happy to visit.

**Weekday Mass attendance:** We are all encouraged to be part of our Weekday Mass community. The Friday Mass is a special day for adoration, confessions and offering prayers for specific intentions of our community. If you live locally, or are retired, your attendance is a great way to support your local church.

**Fr Peter's 10th priestly anniversary:** On Saturday, 22nd August 2026, Fr Peter will celebrate a special Mass to mark his 10th priestly anniversary at St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly, followed by a reception at St Thomas's Hall, Keith. It would be lovely if everyone could attend and join in the celebration, as we are all invited. A big congratulations to Fr Peter. **For catering, please inform the organisers of your attendance as soon as possible by signing the sheet in the porch or by filling out the form: <https://form.jotform.com/260996550056060>**

**HUSH!** In the basilica of St Mary Major in Rome, where Pope Francis is entombed, there is a special button which is pressed when people start talking in church – it says “hush, shhh!” to remind everyone to lift their minds and hearts to God.

**Heartfelt plea:** Whatever your God given gifts, please do have a good think about how you might serve our church further, and speak to Deacon Graeme or Father Kingsley if you wish to volunteer.

**Second collections this month:** July: 11/12 Apostleship of the Sea; 18/19 Maintenance Fund

**Prayer Group:** Monday evenings, 7pm in the hall. Contact: Elizabeth Danby.

**Tea & coffee** in the hall, after Sunday Mass. All welcome.

**St Thomas' Church** is open each day from **10am to 3pm** for private prayer. Please note, the church may not be open on weekdays in the event of severe weather.

**Pope's Prayer Intention: July: For respect for human life:** Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

**Safeguarding:** The Parish Safeguarding Coordinator is Elizabeth Danby, and she can be contacted as shown overleaf. The diocesan Safeguarding page can be found at [Safeguarding – Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen \(rcda.scot\)](http://safeguarding-roman-catholic-diocese-of-aberdeen.rcda.scot) and the text of **In God's Image (V2)** is accessed through the Bishops Conference website.

Diary Dates	
Fabric & Finance Committee	Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm
PPC	Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm



A parish of the R.C. Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust  
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