

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 4 th Sunday in Lent Laetare Sunday	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 4 th Sunday in Lent Laetare Sunday	
FRI	9.00am Stations of the Cross	
	9.30am Mass: Friday of 4 th week in Lent	
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 5 th Sunday in Lent	
SUN	10.30am Eucharistic Service: 5 th Sunday in Lent	



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



15th March 2026
Laetare Sunday - 4th Sunday in Lent (A II) Psalter Week 4

THE ANNOUNCER!

One thing we have, which we always take for granted, is the gift of sight. Imagine someone born with a disability like blindness and how difficult their life can be. In today's instance, it was a man born blind. The readings of today invite us to reflect on how we see – both with our physical eyes and the eyes of the heart, and how the Lord anoints those eyes so that we can see as God sees.

In the first reading, the Lord sent the prophet Samuel to anoint a new king for Israel. When he saw Jesse's sons, he naturally assumed that the strongest and most impressive must be the one chosen by God. But the Lord corrects him on that, because the Lord doesn't see as human beings see. We look at the external appearances, but God sees the heart. In the end, it was the youngest son, David, the least expected, who was chosen and anointed.

In the second reading, St Paul reminds the Ephesians that before knowing Christ, they were living in darkness, but now they are called to live as *children of light*. Here, Paul spoke in metaphor: light is necessary for us to see. For the believer in Christ, they are those who Christ's light has illumined. Christ's light exposes the works of darkness around us so that we avoid them and live differently.

The Gospel presents us with the story of Jesus healing the man born blind. At first, the disciples focus on blame, asking who sinned to cause the blindness. But Jesus redirects their thinking. The man's condition becomes an opportunity for God's work to be revealed. Jesus heals him, giving him not only physical sight but also spiritual insight (for he could recognise Jesus and confess Him before all those who questioned him about his healing). But then also the spiritual blindness of the Jews and Pharisees was clearly exposed, who wouldn't believe in the miracle and in Jesus.

Let us look inward and examine how much we see or do not. Are there areas of our lives where we remain blind? Perhaps we are blind to the needs of others, blind to our own faults, or blind to God's presence in unexpected places and circumstances. Let us ask Christ to open our spiritual eyes.

Last week Collection: £355.60 Candles £30.94 Flowers £4.01 Att: 60

MINISTRIES	15/3/2026	22/3/2026
Church Cleaning	-	Danby & Harvey
Counters	Mitchell	Collins
Welcome	Cruickshank/Danby	Farrell/Harvey
Hall keeper	K James	K Cruickshank
Sat Reader	T Brennan	K Cruickshank
Sat EMOHC	M Collins	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sun Reader	E Danby, M Le Mero	E Reid, M Farrell
Sun EMOHC	M Moir, C Moir	-
Flowers	None	None
Teas	Michele & Louis	Liz & Ron

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	stthomasPSC@rcd-abdn.org
Health & Safety:	Keith Gray	01542 886242
Newsletter:	Margaret Farrell	01542 882116
	or	mcfarrell@btinternet.com
Hospital Chaplains:	Elgin	Dcn Graeme Morrison
	Aberdeen	Fr Emmet O'Dowd
		01224 482657
		or
		ARI@rcda.scot

Facebook: St Thomas' RC Church, Keith
 Email: chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk

YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly
 Website: www.stthomaskeith.com

Fr. Kingsley

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

Reverence: it is good to develop good habits during Lent – why not try a time of silence before Mass – 10 minutes quiet time, listening to God and preparing for Mass rather than talking to your neighbour?

Hospital Chaplain: Deacon Graeme is very happy to visit parishioners in hospital, but he needs to know if you or a loved one is in that position. Hospitals are not allowed to pass on that information, so please just give him a ring.

Lent: During Lent, Exposition on Fridays will be replaced with Stations of the Cross. **Chrism Mass** in St Peter's, Buckie on Thursday 26th March at 6pm.

Sung Lenten Vespers: TODAY Sunday 15th March at 4pm in St Margaret's, Huntly. Hymns, psalms, readings and prayers. All welcome.

Holy Week Ecumenical Services will be in St Thomas's on Monday 30th, Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April at 7.30pm

SCIAF WEE Boxes SCIAF SUNDAY On this SCIAF Sunday, we pray for families around the world who long for safety, stability, and clean water. We give thanks for the courage of mothers in Ethiopia who walk miles each day to care for their children, often at great risk. Please give what you can in today's collection for SCIAF. You can also donate at sciaf.org.uk/donate, by calling 0141 354 5555 or by using this QR code which will link it to our parish donations. Thank you.



Second collections in March: 14/15 SCIAF; 21/22 Easter Flowers

Lenten Retreat: we will host the annual retreat for the 4 parishes here on Saturday 28th March 10am-1pm, ending with lunch. All welcome – not restricted to parishioners. See posters in church porch. For catering purposes, please let Deacon Graeme or Elizabeth Danby know if you will be attending

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

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

The Light of the North: the diocesan magazine is now published on line only - accessible via the diocesan website. There are many very interesting articles, some written by our own parishioners.

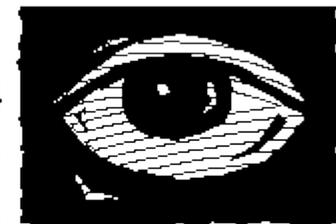
Communications: on the diocesan website (rcda.scot), if you click Contact on the drop down menu, and scroll down, you will find a pro forma to sign up for the Diocesan newsletter, and to opt in to other communications.

Pope's Prayer Intention: March: For disarmament and peace: Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

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	
Chrism Mass St Peter's Buckie	Thur 26 th Mar 6pm
Parish Lenten Retreat	Sat 28 th Mar 10am
Ecumenical Services in Holy week	M-W 30 th Mar-1 st Apr
Fabric & Finance Committee	Thurs 7 th May 7pm
PPC	Wed 13 th May 7pm

GO AND WASH



IN THE POOL OF SILOAM

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.

A parish of the R.C. Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust
Registered Charity Number SC005122