

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	
FRI	9.00am Exposition	
	9.30am Mass: Friday of the 5 <sup>th</sup> week of Easter	
SAT	5.30pm Vigil Mass: 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	
SUN	10.30am Eucharistic Service: 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	



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



**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (A II) Psalter Week 1**

**THE ANNOUNCER!**

On this 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, the word of God begins to prepare us for the feast of the Ascension, a moment of “weaning”, when Christ will no longer be physically present. The disciples are being prepared to mature, to carry on Christ’s mission as he goes to prepare a place for them.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we see the early Church facing tension and inequality. It was like the first real test of the Christian community’s maturity. Some widows were being overlooked, and this could have easily caused division. Instead, the apostles responded with wisdom: they listened, acknowledged the problem, and invited the community to take part in the solution. New leaders are chosen to serve, ensuring that no one is neglected. The Church continued growing and maturing through the way she handled the problem.

In the second reading, St Peter described the Church, the people of God, as living stones being built into a spiritual house, with Christ as the cornerstone. With this image of a house, each person has a place, a purpose, and contributes to something greater than themselves within the house, Christ as the foundation and cornerstone, though rejected by many. Our identity is rooted in being chosen and called by God to this house. We are a “chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation” for God.

In the Gospel according to John, Jesus spoke comforting words to the disciples: “Let not your hearts be troubled.” He knew the moments of uncertainty were coming, when he would not be physically present and they would be tested. He reassured them of their place in the Father’s house, where He goes to prepare a place for them. Jesus described Himself as “the way, the truth, and the life”. Through Him, we have sure access to God. When the Church holds on to our faith in Jesus Christ, we can do “greater works” through Him in the world.

As we hold on to Christ’s promise of a place in God’s house, let us, as a Church, keep maturing in faith. The Church in every generation will face trials as the early Church did, but we can work together and, through faith in Christ (the way, the truth, and the life), surmount the difficulties.

*Fr. Kingsley*

<b>Last week</b>	Collection: £253 Bursary & Vocations £51	Att: 52
<b>MINISTRIES</b>	3/5/2026	10/5/2026
Church Cleaning	Grant & Moir	-
Counters	Smith	Reid
Welcome	Cruickshank/Coull	Farrell/Danby
Hall keeper	R Hendry	M Collins
Sat Reader	K Cruickshank	B Schouwenaars-Harms
Sat EMoHC	M Collins	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sun Reader	E Reid, M Farrell	A Mitchell, T Coull
Sun EMoHC	E Danby, C Moir	-
Flowers	C Porter	C Porter
Teas	Carol & Graeme	Brenda & Mike

**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  
 Email: [chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk)

YouTube: St Margaret’s RC Church, Huntly  
 Website: [www.stthomaskeith.com](http://www.stthomaskeith.com)

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

**SCIAF WEE Boxes** thank you to everyone who contributed, the final total transferred to SCIAF this year is £2594.11. Huge thanks to Ron Smith for all his work behind the scenes.

**Ascension Thursday:** This is a Holiday of Obligation -Mass will be at 9.30am in Keith and 7pm in Buckie.

**World Youth Day: Seoul 2027 survey:** Pope Leo XIV is inviting youth, aged 18-35 from all around the world to join him in August 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. If you are part of the Diocese of Aberdeen, and are interested in joining us for WYD, please register your interest at <https://forms.gle/XzZAcqBVKZkPffjK7> so we have an idea of numbers and you can help create our pilgrim package.

**Heartfelt plea:** we really need more volunteers to take on the tasks required to keep our church running smoothly. In particular, we have only 4 cleaning teams currently, it would be good to have another couple of teams to spread the load. Whatever your God given gifts, please do have a good think about how you might serve our church, and speak to Deacon Graeme or Father Kingsley if you wish to volunteer.

**Mass preparation:** there's an old adage "God loves a tryer" so let's try again to remember ten minutes silence before Mass begins to allow everyone to prepare for the Holy Mass – the "source and summit" of our Faith.

**Light of the North:** the Easter/Spring edition of the diocesan magazine is available now on the diocesan website [LOTN Spring Issue 61 2026](#)

**Pluscarden Lectures:** the annual lectures will take place between 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May at Pluscarden Abbey. "Heaven, Earth and Jesus: The Mysteries of Christian Eschatology", a series of four talks given by Fr Simon Francis Gaine OP, Professor of Theological Anthropology, Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas, Rome. More details on Pluscarden's website.

**Second collections this month:** 9/10 Maintenance Fund; 23/24 Communications; 30/31: Day for Life.

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

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

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

**Pope's Prayer Intention: May: That everyone might have food:** Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

**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 \(rcda.scot\)](#) and the text of **In God's Image (V2)** is accessed through the Bishops Conference website.

Diary Dates	
Fabric & Finance Committee	Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm
PPC	Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> May 7pm
Ascension day	Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> May
Pentecost Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup> May
Pluscarden Lectures	26 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> May



**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