

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



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



22nd March 2026
5th Sunday in Lent (A II) Psalter Week 1

THE ANNOUNCER!

As the season of Lent approaches its final lap, the word of God introduces us to the message of resurrection and life which awaits us at the end of our lives. We reflect today on the resurrection faith, with special focus on it as God's promise to his people and the central theme of hope in Christian faith, following Jesus' words and actions.

In the first reading from the prophet Ezekiel, God spoke to the people of Israel during a time of great suffering and discouragement. They were living in exile and felt hopeless and dead as a people. God made them this promise: "I will open your graves and raise you from your graves... I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live." No grave is too deep for God's power, and no situation is beyond his ability to bring new life.

The second reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans continues this message of hope in resurrection. Paul explains that those who live according to the Spirit have Christ in them and the Spirit of God. Anyone in whom the Spirit of God dwells, God will raise their mortal bodies from the dead as Jesus Christ was raised. This is a message of hope to all of us who trust in the Lord. In John's gospel narrative, Lazarus became an instance of the hope that awaits those who befriend God and have the spirit of Christ in them. Lazarus, the friend of Jesus, took ill and died. Word was sent to Jesus about his condition. He died, and it took four days before Jesus could arrive at their house. His sisters, Martha and Mary, were overwhelmed with grief. Jesus consoled and wept with them, for He feels with our human conditions. Ultimately, He raised Lazarus from the dead.

This miracle is a sign of hope for all of us. Jesus has authority over the darkest reality of human life. Death does not have the final word, but God. There are times when we feel like Lazarus in the tomb – dead in us, or like Martha and Mary – overwhelmed with sadness and grief, yet with faith in the Lord. Let us keep listening for Christ's voice calling us back to life that our joy may be full.

Last week Collection: £ tba SCIAF: £101.68 Att: 66

MINISTRIES	22/3/2026	29/3/2026
Church Cleaning	Danby & Harvey	-
Counters	Collins	Smith
Welcome	Farrell/Harvey	Collins/James
Hall keeper	K Cruickshank	R Hendry
Sat Reader	K Cruickshank	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sat EMoHC	K Schouwenaars-Harms	R Hendry
Sun Reader	E Reid, M Farrell	A Mitchell, J Munro
Sun EMoHC	-	Passion voices E Danby
Flowers	None	C Moir, M Moir
Teas	Liz & Ron	None
		Carol & Graeme

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.

Palm Sunday: next Sunday, we will begin in the hall and process to the church.

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.

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 Reflect with SCIAF This Lent, your prayers and donations are making a BIG DIFFERENCE to families in Ethiopia and in vulnerable communities worldwide. As we prepare for Easter, SCIAF has created prayers and reflections to support your Lenten journey. Please visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox to download your prayer resources today. 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: 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



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