

ST. MATTHEW'S FAMILY PARISH MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH



**21ST DECEMBER 2025
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
READINGS:**

**FIRST — Is 7 : 10 - 14
PSALM — 24 (23)**

“LET THE LORD ENTER, HE IS THE KING OF GLORY!”

**SECOND — ROM 1 : 1 - 7
GOSPEL — MT 1 : 18 - 24**

**28TH DECEMBER 2025
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH
READINGS:**

**FIRST — SIR 3 : 2 — 6, 12 - 14
PSALM — 128 (127)**

**“BLESSED ARE ALL WHO FEAR THE LORD,
AND WALK IN HIS WAYS”**

**SECOND — COL 3 : 12 - 21
GOSPEL — MT 2 : 13 — 15, 19 - 23**

Parish Clergy: Fr. Mpagi Alex KISASA, Parish Administrator, Rev. Deacon Anthony Murphy

☎ 0141 772 1619 ☎ 07424 575827 Email: stmatthew@rcag.org.uk (also for Hall hire)

Items for inclusion in the newsletter can be sent to: newsletterstmatthews@gmail.com

Items must be received before the Friday prior to publication!

MASS TIMES & CONFESSIONS

Sunday Masses : Vigil 5:30pm, 9:30am and 11:00am.

Holiday of Obligation Masses : Vigil 6pm and 10:00am.

Weekday Masses : Monday to Friday, 10:00am.

Daily Adoration : Monday to Friday 9:30 am. (Confessions on request during adoration).

Confessions : Friday after 10:00am Mass and 5:00pm before Vigil mass.

4th WEEK OF ADVENT

Monday 22 nd	Weekday in Advent
Tuesday 23 rd	Weekday in Advent / Saint John of Kanty, Priest
Wednesday 24 th	Weekday in Advent / Christmas Eve
Thursday 25 th	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY) Holy Day of Obligation!
Friday 26 th	Saint Stephen, First Martyr
Saturday 27 th	Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



Christmas Eve	– Wednesday 24 th December	– 5.00pm and 7.00pm
Christmas Day	– Thursday 25 th December	– 9.30am and 11.00am
Boxing Day	– Friday 26 th December	– 12.00pm
New Year	– Thursday 1 st January 2026	– 12.00pm

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

A short Carol Service will be held before each of the Vigil Masses on Christmas Eve!

Starting 15 minutes before Mass!

CHRISTMAS OCTAVE

Monday 29 th	5 th Day in the Octave of Christmas / Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Tuesday 30 th	6 th Day in the Octave of Christmas
Wednesday 31 st	7 th Day in the Octave of Christmas / Saint Sylvester I, Pope
Thursday 1 st	THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD
Friday 2 nd	Saint Basil the Great and Saint Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Saturday 3 rd	The Most Holy Name of Jesus!

DAILY ADORATION



This takes place prior to the weekday masses at 9.30am. Volunteers to lead Morning Prayer and/or Rosary are invited. The Sacrament of Confession is available at request during adoration.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



The Children's Liturgy is open to children of all ages. Thank you to all our parents who bring their children to mass.

If you are able to help please contact **Jennifer McPherson on 07748 707842**. Thank you!

DIVINE MERCY



Let's pray the **3 O'Clock** prayer and The Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Souls who spread the honour of My Mercy I shield through their entire lives as a tender mother her infant, and at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Saviour (Diary 1075).

This is what the Lord Jesus promised to everyone who will proclaim His Mercy, spread its honour in any way. Anyone interested in leading the Divine Mercy Devotion in our parish, please see Fr. Alex. Thank you!



CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

Come and let us sing together as a parish; You are all warmly invited to participate in our Parish Carol Service on **Sunday 21st December at 7pm.** Come and join us for a joyful evening of well-loved carols and take the opportunity to pause amid the busyness of the season to celebrate together! Thank you!

PARISH COLLECTIONS

14th December: First collection - £1117.45
 Second collection - £680.65 for St Nicholas Care fund

Thank you for your continued generosity!

This Sunday the second collection will be for the Church Renovations.

PARISH LOTTERY

Next draw is due to take place on **Sunday 28th of December.**

If you wish to join the Lottery, please complete the form at the back of the church, or contact John Feechan on 07526 335497

SVDP ADVENT APPEAL

The **SVDP** conference requests your support for our **2025 Advent Appeal**. This year, the appeal is for toiletries for the Ozanam Centre where they will be distributed to homeless and needy people who go there for help with clothing, etc. They have asked us for small sizes of the toiletries listed below for men or women. Boxes will be available to collect items at the rear of the church from Saturday 29th November. We would be grateful if you could provide the following: -

Soap - Roll on deodorant - Shaving Gel - Toothpaste - Shampoo - Shower gel. Thank you!

The **SVDP** conference would like to thank the Staff, Pupils and Parents from St. Matthews' Primary school for their generous donation of **£369.71**, the proceeds from the Collection at their recent concert!

We will put this money to good use, supporting the needy people who come to us for help. Thank you all!

OUR LADY'S STATUE IN OUR ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH!



Our Lady receives a permanent place in our church...many thanks to a beautiful soul who erected the statue of Our Lady in a firm place!

HOLY COMMUNION



If any parishioner (for any reason) feels they are unable to walk down to receive communion, please feel free to remain in your pew during Communion.

To assist you, the Priest/Eucharistic Minister will bring Communion to you.

For ease of access, we kindly ask that you sit near the end of the pew if possible!

Please let a passkeeper know beforehand? Thank you!

INAUGURAL STELLA MARIS LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Mon 25th – Sat 30th May 2026:

We warmly welcome serving or retired seafarers, fishers and their family members or carers to spend six grace-filled days of Prayer, Healing, and Fellowship in the beautiful sanctuary of **Our Lady of Lourdes**.

This pilgrimage will be fully funded (including travel, accommodation, and meals).

For further information please contact:

Dcn. John Fogarty: john.fogarty@stellamarismail.org | 07986 723015;

Hugh Ramsay: hugh.ramsay@stellamarismail.org | 07432 654032

ST. ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE

...are proud to introduce something truly special:

The Ignatian Academic Excellence Scholarship. A commitment to nurturing potential, celebrating achievement and supporting pupils who thrive through curiosity, dedication and a love of learning. This Scholarship will offer pupils entering S1 or S2 up to 50% off fees from when they start until they finish in S6. To find out more, please visit staloysius.org or email Tony Gilroy, agilroy@staloysius.org

MESSAGE FROM FR. ALEX....

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, as the Holy Season of Christmas dawns upon us once more, I extend to each one of you my heartfelt Prayers and Blessings. This year, whatever joys you celebrate or burden you carry, know that the Lord is near!

Deacon Tony and I are deeply grateful for all your Christmas cards, messages and gifts.

Your prayers, generosity, and quiet acts of kindness are living signs of God's presence in our community.

May the Peace of Christ and the Blessing of God be with you always!

A Blessed and Joyful Christmas to you and your loved ones!

MARYS MEALS – WEST HIGHLAND WAY CHARITY RUN

One of our parishioners, Chris Paterson, is running the 100 miles of the West Highland way between Milngavie and Fort William to raise funds for Marys Meals. Full details on:

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/fundraising#/detail/701P500000dQacXIAS>

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Holy Masses will be offered for the sick during Christmas, and Christmas Mass Bouquets.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Eileen Harper, Beatrice Hannah, Frances Morrison, Elizabeth Watson, Michael Keenan, Natalie Hogg, Baby Aidan McGuire, Jim Docherty, The McNeil Family, Annie Brown, Rosemary McCann, Claire Williams, Louise Franklin, Barry Pottle, Jack Cassidy, Catherine Boyle, Louise Franklin and for all our sick parishioners, friends and relatives who are in Hospital and Care Homes and we Pray especially for babies who are sick! We pray for all their families for hope and strength. Thank you!

Please pray for the repose of the souls of the following:

RECENT DEAD

Bernadette Shannon, Sean McGinlay, Andy Harper, Helen Thomson, Thomas Robertson, George Thomson, Thomas McCrossan, Elizabeth MacDonald, Raymond Stewart, Michel Brown, John Cairns, Raymond Stewart, Billy Chambers, Rod Lowrie, Jim Smith, Dr. Neil Stewart, Katriona Connelly, Gerald Quinn, Elena Muirhead, Pamela Hogg, John Quigley, Michael Brown.

ANNIVERSARY

Thomas and Catherine Fitzpatrick, Frances & Sarah McConnell, George & Agnes Barclay, Eileen McCann, John & Margaret Smillie, Eamonn Lawlor, Sebastian Da Silva, Margaret Lee, Stephen Robertson, Peter Kelly, Patrick Brown, Mary Malia, Sheila Duffy, Margaret McNaughton, Margaret & Harry Downie.

+Requiescant in pace+

FUNERAL

George Thomson – 23rd December – 10am

Patricia McFarlane – 30th December – 10am

THANK YOU

To all our parishioners who continually support our bereaved families throughout the year. Your prayers and attendance at our funeral masses is unwavering and greatly appreciated.

FURTHER INFORMATION & ADDITIONAL NOTICES

Can be found on the Parish Website : <https://stmatthewsbishopbriggs.co.uk/> or our Facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewsbishopbriggs/>