

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Mass: 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
SUN	10.30am Holy Mass: 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
THURS	9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	9.30am Mass: Feast of St James, Apostle	
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Mass: 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Last week	Collection: £316.70	Attendance: 64
MINISTRIES	21/7/2024	28/7/2024
Church Cleaning	-	Grant & Moir
Counters	Mitchell	Collins
Welcome	Farrell/Harvey	Collins/James
Hall keeper	M Collins	K Gray
Sat Reader	R Smith	K Schouwenaars-Harms
Sat EME	R Hendry	M Collins
Sun Reader	E Danby, M Le Mero	E Reid, M Farrell
Sun EME	C Moir, I Grant	L Le Mero, R Harvey
Flowers	D Greenhalgh	E Danby

Useful contacts:

Parish Priest:	Fr Kingsley Chigbo	01542 832196
	email	cilk@rcda.scot
Assistant priest:	Fr Peter Ezekoka	01542 832196
	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	07387008498
	Aberdeen Fr Emmet O'Dowd	01224 482657
	or	ARI@rcda.scot
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ST. THOMAS R.C. CHURCH, KEITH
DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF ST JOHN OGILVIE



21st July 2024
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (B II) Psalter Week 4

THE ANNOUNCER!

The Lord our Shepherd is compassion and love. Today's readings draw our attention to the image of our Lord being the compassionate shepherd who leads with justice, reconciles, and cares deeply for the needs of the people.

In the first reading from the prophet Jeremiah, God gave a stern warning against the leaders of the people of Israel who were unfaithful shepherds to the people by not looking after them and scattering them. God promised to take care of his people himself. He will do that when He raises a virtuous branch from David's line, a shepherd and king who will rule with wisdom, honesty and integrity, who will gather God's flock wherever they had been scattered to safety – a shepherd who will care for their welfare.

In the second reading, Paul writing to the Ephesians speaks of how Jesus, through His sacrifice, breaks down the walls of hostility that divide people. People who are far from God have been brought closer to Him. Jesus creates one new humanity, making peace and reconciling everyone to God through the cross. Isn't that the image of the shepherd who gathers the scattered children of God? Jesus is the shepherd and saviour who has reconciled God's children to God.

In the Gospel of Mark, we see how much Jesus cared for his disciples when they needed rest after returning from their mission and how He cared for the people hungry for the word of God. He took the disciples to a 'lonely place', out on the sea, where they would rest and, at the shore, He cared for the people who had gathered yearning for God like a sheep without a shepherd. He became their shepherd and taught them at some length. Jesus' compassion was outstanding.

As we meditate on Christ's compassion, let us also reflect on our roles as leaders and followers of Christ. We are invited to care for and lead those under our authority with justice and integrity. We are invited to contribute our part towards uniting God's flock scattered all over the world, to reconcile those in enmity, to practice compassion like Jesus and bring the lasting peace of Him, the good shepherd – the peace that leads to the green pasture where goodness and mercy abide with us forever.

Fr Kingsley

Welcome: to all those visiting us while on holiday, feel free to look around our beautiful church, particularly the St John Ogilvie Chapel & Exhibition.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: available on Thursdays during Adoration and on request.

Home visits: Fr Peter is available to make home visits on the third Thursday of each month. If you would like him to call, please contact him directly or let Deacon Graeme or your normal Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion know.

RCIA: Please pray for Wendy & Pauline as they continue their preparations.

Fund raising: If you are a tax payer and have not yet signed up to Gift Aid your donations, please speak to Keith Gray or Ron Smith. The church can be refunded the tax you have paid on your donations, and this makes a sizeable addition in the course of the year. Please keep thinking about fundraising, our finances are not as healthy as they once were, the costs of heating the church are enormous and recent price rises have eaten into our funds dramatically. Any little fundraiser is valuable, so feel free!

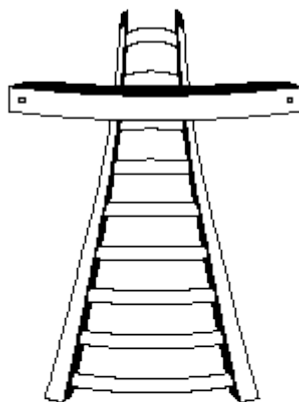
New Lectionary: thank you for your generosity, we have more than enough to cover the cost of the new lectionary, and it has been ordered, along with some other training & information materials. There are a few other materials which are not yet published, so any extra money will be used in the future to help with those.

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

Tea & coffee in the hall after Sunday Mass.



St Thomas' Church is open each day from 9am to 3pm for private prayer.



*That he might
Reconcile
With God
Through
The Cross*

Pope's prayer intention: July: For the pastoral care of the sick: Let us pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick grant the Lord's strength to those who receive it and to their loved ones, and that it may become for everyone an ever more visible sign of compassion and hope.

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 \(rcda.scot\)](https://www.rcda.scot) and the text of **In God's Image (V2)** is accessed by clicking on <https://www.bcos.org.uk/LinkClick.aspx?link=131&tabid=124&portalid=0&mid=584>

Diary Dates	
Fabric & Finance	21 st August 2024 7pm
PPC	28 th August 2024 7pm

