

TIMES	MEMORIAL OR FEAST	INTENTIONS
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Mass: 3 rd Sunday in Ord. Time	
SUN	10.30am Service of the Word & Communion: 3 rd Sunday in Ord. Time	
THURS	9.00am Eucharistic Adoration	
	9.30am Mass: Feast of Conversion of St Paul	
SAT	6.30pm Vigil Mass: 4 th Sunday in Ord. Time	
SUN	10.30am Mass: 4 th Sunday in Ord. Time	

Collection Last week: £ 270.94 **Attendance** 63

MINISTRIES	21/1/2024	28/1/2024
Church Cleaning	Danby & Harvey	-
Counters	Footie	Mitchell
Welcome	Gray/Harvey	Farrell/Coull
Hall keeper	K James	R Hendry
Sat Reader	K Schouwenaars-Harms	L Collins
Sat EME	R Hendry	M Collins
Sun Reader	J Munro, A Mitchell	T Coull, M LeMero
Sun EME	None required	A Mitchell, C Moir
Flowers	Artificial	Artificial

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
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	YouTube: St Margaret's RC Church, Huntly	
Email: chapelstthomas@yahoo.co.uk	Website: www.stthomaskeith.org	

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



ST. THOMAS R.C. CHURCH, KEITH
DIOCESAN SHRINE OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF ST JOHN OGILVIE
21st January 2024
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B II) Psalter Week 3
Sunday of the Word of God



THE ANNOUNCER!

Today is the Sunday of the Word of God. It is a special day to meditate on the relevance of the Word of God in our lives; how the Word of God transforms us, helps us to understand the nature of our existence and how we ought to live, and ultimately draws us closer to God.

In Today's first reading, we read how Jonah obeyed God's word and went into the City of Nineveh to deliver a message of the impending destruction of the city due to their evil behaviour. When the people heard the message, they responded with urgency from the greatest to the least, declared a fast, and put on sackcloth, an act depicting acknowledgement of sin and repentance. Thus, God, in His mercy, relents from the disaster He had planned.

In the second reading, St Paul emphasizes the transient nature of this world. He urges believers to live in light of the imminent return of Christ, recognising that the things of this world are passing away. His message reminds us how we can be so much into pursuing the transient things of the world that we forget the brevity of this life and lose the mindfulness of our ultimate citizenship of heaven.

In the gospel reading, we heard about the beginning of Jesus' public ministry after the arrest of John the Baptist. He preached the urgent gospel of repentance. During this time of preaching the message by the sea of Galilee, he called some of His disciples who were fishermen and brothers: Simon and Andrew, James and John. They responded to the call with an expression of urgency; they left everything and followed Jesus.

This Sunday of the Word of God is an opportunity for us to reflect on how we assimilate the Word of God promptly and without delay. Our life on earth is short. We need to make the best use of it by doing what God's word tells us with a sense of urgency. His word tells us today to repent of our sins because He is coming soon, His kingdom is close at hand, and He will reward each of us according to our deeds.

Fr Kingsley

Welcome to those joining us to worship, please feel free to visit the St John Ogilvie Exhibition & Chapel in the South corridor.

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

Fr Peter is scheduled to return from his holiday at the end of this week. As Fr Kingsley says, it seems he has only been away “for the blink of an eye”! Please continue to keep his safety in Nigeria and safe travel in your prayers. Thanks again to Fr Kingsley and Deacon Graeme for filling in the gaps.

RCIA: we have 3 people preparing to join the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please welcome, and keep in your prayers, Stephanie McPhee, John Mitchell and Keith Cruickshank.

Thank you: to the family of the late Margaret Main RIP, who have made a donation of £220 to the Maintenance Fund from the collection at their mother’s funeral.

Good News & Bad News: The bad news is, as we know, Ron & Christine have decided to wind up the wee repository shop in the porch. The good news is, they have put all the remaining items up for sale at reduced prices on the table in the porch. Please have a look, and snap up a bargain! Anything left will go through to Aberdeen.

SCIAF: As usual, we will have Wee Boxes arriving in time for Lent, so perhaps you could start collecting your loose change in advance, and then add on your almsgiving during the weeks of Lent?

Sacrament of Confirmation: classes will begin soon for our youngsters. Please contact Deacon Graeme if you have a child in P7 or above who is willing to begin preparation for Confirmation.

Burns Night: sadly, due to a lack of numbers, this will not go ahead this year. There are a lot of events going on at that time already. We will try again in the spring to have a parish gathering, perhaps once the weather perks up!

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

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



Pope’s prayer intention: January: FOR THE GIFT OF DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH Let us pray that the Spirit help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Diary Dates	
Burns Supper	Cancelled
Fabric & Finance	11 th February 2024 7.00pm in the hall
PPC	21 st February 2024 7.00pm in the hall

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>

Coronavirus restrictions: *Although these have now been lifted, please respect the wishes of those who are continuing to be extra careful.*



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