



# St Michael's Catholic Church Linlithgow NEWSLETTER

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2026

CYCLE A

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## Public Mass Sunday 9.15 am and 11.00 am

All the readings remind us that we are closer to the saving waters of Baptism.

### Readings this Sunday

*Ezekiel 37:12-14* A prophecy of the rebirth of a people-the return from Exile.

*Psalms* With the Lord there is mercy, in him there is plentiful redemption.

*Romans 8:8-11* The 'spirit' is God's spirit of love. The 'unspiritual' is self-centredness, the opposite of love. Only the spiritual leads to life.

*John 11:1-45* The Word of God is stronger than death and gives us life. In the days and weeks ahead, there will be a lot of readings from John's Gospel, where the opponents of Jesus are described simply as "The Jews". This sounds antisemitic to our ears/ But Jesus was a Jew and never stopped being Jewish. The apostles and early disciples were Jewish. The author of John's Gospel was Jewish and known to the High Priest. What was going on was a debate within Judaism between Jews who accepted Jesus and those who did not. The real enemies of Jesus were those belonging to the priestly religious establishment in Jerusalem. "The Jews" were most likely Jewish leaders opposed to Jesus.

### PUBLIC MASSES IN THE COMING WEEK

Monday	10.00am	John Topping
Wednesday	10.00am	Elizabeth King
Thursday	10.00am	Alison Hastie
Friday	10.00am	Rose McGlenn
Saturday	10.00am	Special Intention
Sunday	9.15am	People of the Parish
Sunday	11.00am	Sick of the Parish

Please note that Mass on Sunday is always for the people of the parish. Private intentions are remembered at weekday Masses.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ON WEDNESDAY 5.30 – 7PM During this time there will be the opportunity to go to Confession, Compline (Night Prayer of the Church) at 6.50pm

## WEDNESDAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION.

Please remember to return your SCIAF Boxes next Sunday. Thank You.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION LAST SUNDAY FOR PAPAL AND EPISCOPAL CHARITIES (MOSTLY SCIAF) AMOUNTED TO £684.97p**

**Anniversaries: Michael Tierney, Dorothy Mackintosh, Charlene Wallace, Mark Austin, Ellen Porter, Robert Old, James McMeechan, Derek Edgar, Mary Carstairs Donnelly, Nan Maguire.**

### READERS

22<sup>nd</sup> Mar. 9.15am 1st Kirsty/Simon Constable 2<sup>nd</sup> Caroline Gormley. 11am 1<sup>st</sup> Derek Green 2<sup>nd</sup> Stevie Gallacher.

**FEBRUARY 2026 ACCOUNTS** Offertory income £4,686 Expenditure £4,690.

**2025 ACCOUNTS** Copies of a summary of accounts are available in the porch.

**STALL** .Easter Cards available. We have recycled Bottle Bags/New Gift Bags.

**CHURCH CLEANING** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March after Mass. Mrs. Robertson Mrs McElroy, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Matonti.

**WEDNESDAY TEAS/COFFEES** available after Mass. The money goes to Mary's Meals and SCIAF. All Welcome.

**ST. PATRICK'S MUSIC NIGHT** A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the St. Patrick's Music Night on Saturday, and to everyone who bought tickets, came along on the night sang a song, and donated raffle prizes! We had a fantastic night celebrating Irish music, and raised £732 for SSVP. Go raibh mile maith agat.

**THE GIFT AID ENVELOPES FOR 2026/27** are available for collection at the back of the Church. If there are any changes to your details, eg address, tax status please let Ann know. If any other UK taxpayer would like to make their offertory donation through the Gift Aid Scheme please see Ann Chirnside (07440294432)

**LADIES CLUB** The AGM is on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm This is an important meeting where all members are encouraged to attend to discuss matters relating to the future of the club. The meeting will be followed by a Beetle Drive. Tea/Coffee and a free raffle.

**West Lothian's SPRED (Special Religious Development )** group for adults aged 21+ meets on Tuesday evenings at the Lanthorn Community Centre in Livingston. The spiritual programme for adults with special needs fosters communion with Jesus Christ within the Catholic community of faith. Please contact Sister Mary Benedicta Maier, RSM at [smary.benedicta@staned.org.uk](mailto:smary.benedicta@staned.org.uk) if you are interested in becoming a SPRED catechist or seeing if your adult child would like to join the group.

**THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** weekend for those suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood 27-29 March, Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. Contact Louise before 13 March at 07786687633 or [beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com](mailto:beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com)

**Children's Liturgy** Latest resources for each Sunday can be found in the resources section at <https://archedinburgh.org/pastoral-governance/catechetics/>

**HEALTH AND SAFETY** All church volunteers are encouraged to follow online those online Health and Safety courses that are relevant to them. Access to these courses can be found <https://staned.astutelearning.com/Content/MicroLearning/Home.aspx>

**Prayer for peace in Ukraine and Middle East** O Loving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, came into the world to do your Will and leave us His Peace. Through the intercession and example of our Blessed Mother Mary, Queen of Peace, grant us the wisdom and humility to reflect that peace to the world. Inspire our thoughts, words, and deeds to bear witness to your presence in our hearts. May your Holy Spirit fill us with every grace and blessing so that we may pursue what leads to peace for all humanity. Amen.

*St Michael's is a Parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, Charity No. SCO08540*