



ST. MARGARET'S PARISH

Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NE

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1st March 2026

Newsletter for the 2nd Sunday of Lent

SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY MASS:

St Margaret's: 10 am
All Saints, Inveraray, 12: 30
(Taynuilt Parish Mass: 4 pm)

WEEKDAYS MASS St Margaret's Church:

Mass Tuesday
10:30 am

Wednesday 5-6 pm
Adoration of the Holy Eucharist
(Taynuilt Parish Mass: 10:30am)

Mass Thursday
10:30 am

Friday 10:30 am
Exposition of the Holy Eucharist
at 10 am before Mass

Saturday 10:30 am
Exposition at 10 am

CONFESSIONS
from Tuesday to Saturday
9:00 am - 9:40 am
before Mass and on request

Please use the QR code
below to make offertory or
donate to the parish



Bank Details

Account Name:
RC Diocese of Argyll
and the Isles
Lochgilphead Mission.
Sort Code: 83-91-25
Ac. Number: 65627606

Welcome to all visitors at St. Margaret's Church and All Saints Church, Inveraray Mass Station. We are happy that you joined us for worship today. Please join us for tea or coffee in the mini hall after Mass. A big thank you to the Hospitality group for organizing this. God bless you.

Lent invites us to repent, a period of spiritual growth, nourishment, and transformation. During this time, we actively strive to deepen our faith through prayer, fasting, and acts of charity.

Stations of the Cross: During Lent, the Stations of the Cross will take place on Wednesdays at 6 PM, after the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Parishioners are also encouraged to pray the Stations of the Cross privately at home or visit the church, which is always open for quiet reflection.

Catechism: The catechism class for those preparing for Baptism and First Holy Communion will take place every Sunday after Mass. Children participating are asked to sit during Mass in the first pew at the front of the church.

SCIAF Lenten "Wee Boxes" are available from the church porch. Please take one home with you. The Lenten appeal this year focuses on Ethiopia. Use the QR code to donate directly to SCIAF.



Chrism Mass 2026: This year's Chrism Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on **Wednesday, 25th March at 12.30 pm**. Please note the earlier time, which will allow people to travel to and from Oban in daylight. The Chrism Mass is a liturgical highlight in our diocesan calendar, and parishioners need to participate; this is once a year.

LiturgyWorks: A weekend of liturgy-themed workshops, spiritual talks, liturgical singing, prayer and get-together with people from around the parishes of Argyll & the Isles. This will take place in Conforti Institute, Coatbridge from 1st to the 3rd of May. See the noticeboard for more information.

World Day of Prayer: The World Day of Prayer comes up on Friday the 6th of March, at 6.30pm! This year Christ Church, Lochgilphead is hosting, all are invited. The service has been written by the WDP committee of Nigeria.

Collections for last Sunday

St. Margaret and All Saints Inveraray:
Cash £262.00 Card Reader:£0.00 Total: £262.00

REFLECTIONS

Pastoral Letter on Final Assisted Suicide Vote

Sunday 1st March 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Scotland stands at a moment of profound moral consequence. In the coming weeks, the Scottish Parliament will cast its final vote on the Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill; legislation that would, for the first time in our nation's history, permit physician-assisted suicide. As your shepherds, entrusted with the care of souls and the protection of human dignity, we write to you with deep concern.

True compassion is not found in hastening death but in walking with those who suffer, ensuring they receive the medical, emotional, and spiritual care that affirms their inherent worth. Every person—regardless of age, illness, disability, or circumstance—is a gift from God. There is no such thing as a life without value. Our task as a society is not to eliminate suffering by eliminating the sufferer, but to surround every individual with love, support, and dignity until their natural end.

Over recent months, several Members of the Scottish Parliament who once supported the proposal have now either withdrawn, or are seriously considering withdrawing, their backing, recognising that the risks embedded within it are too grave to ignore. Their change of heart reflects a dawning awareness that coercion, especially the subtle, hidden coercion experienced by the most vulnerable, including the elderly, the sick, the disabled and those living with domestic abuse, cannot be reliably detected, let alone prevented.

Key protections that should form the very foundation of such legislation, however flawed the principle may be, have been removed or rejected. Proposals for mandatory training for doctors to recognise coercive control were voted down by the Parliament Health and Social Care Committee. Measures ensuring that patients are offered proper palliative and social care before considering assisted suicide were dismissed. An opt-out for hospices and care homes who object to assisted suicide was also rejected. Even the conscience rights of healthcare workers remain uncertain. As a result, MSPs are being asked to vote on a Bill that is incomplete and reliant on future intervention from Westminster—an arrangement that several parliamentarians have already described as unworkable and irresponsible.

Experience from abroad also offers a sober warning. In countries where assisted suicide has been introduced, narrow criteria have widened over time, placing ever more people at risk—not because of unbearable physical suffering, but because they feel abandoned, isolated, or burdensome. We must not allow such a trajectory to take root here in Scotland.

We therefore urge you, the Catholic faithful of Scotland, to act. Please contact your MSPs and respectfully ask them to oppose this legislation. Make your voice heard in defence of those who may not be able to speak for themselves. Resources to assist you—including Care Not Killing's online email tool—are available and we invite you to use them prayerfully and thoughtfully.

Let us also hold in prayer all those approaching the end of life, all who care for them, and all charged with shaping the laws of our land. May the Holy Spirit grant our nation the wisdom to choose the path of life, compassion, and genuine human solidarity.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ John Keenan, President, Bishop of Paisley

+ Brian McGee, Vice-President, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles

+ Andrew McKenzie, Episcopal Secretary, Bishop of Dunkeld

+ Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh

+ William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow

+ Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell

+ Hugh Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen

+ Francis Dougan, Bishop of Galloway

Refugees: Warm clothes, shoes, toys, and household utensils are welcomed by the Unity on the Community operation. Marian will deliver. We are always thanked profusely for our donations.

The Food Hub (MOMA) is reaching many who need a helping hand. Donations of food and toiletries in the box in the porch are always very welcome. Thank you.

Diocesan Workshop on Conversation in the Spirit: Pope Leo has strongly reiterated the call of Pope Francis for a more discerning and consultative Church. Building on his experience of the Conversation in the Spirit (CiS) method during the Synod of Bishops, Bishop Brian and Catriona Fletcher (Director, Ignatian Spirituality Centre) invite you to a Diocesan Workshop on Conversation in the Spirit on Saturday 21st March from 10 am-5 pm. CiS will be helpful for members of Pastoral Councils and other groups, as well as in settings such as schools and family life. The Workshop is online, and so you can join from the comfort of your own home, although people from the same parish or area may wish to gather for company, using the one device. The Workshop is free, but you must register in advance for this meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Kl8qed6KSn2hY9Gzy7w64g>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.