



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Rev. Bruno Murphy – Parish Priest
Rev. Christopher Doig – Assistant Priest

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Diocesan Safeguarding: <https://www.rcda.scot/safeguarding>

Safeguarding Policy, *In God's Image*: <http://www.bcos.org.uk/safeguarding>

Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Mrs. Theresa Allan: mountcarmelpsc@rcd-abdn.org

Website: <https://banff.rcda.scot>

The parish is part of the RC Diocese of Aberdeen Charitable Trust, a registered Scottish Charity, SC005122

31st May 2026 Holy Trinity Sunday

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Thursday
No public Mass

Friday – morning
9:30am Mass

Saturday – morning
9.30 am Mass

Saturday
6:00pm Vigil Mass (Polish)

Sunday
9:30am Mass (English)

CONFESSION

5:30pm Saturday; before/after any Mass; or on request

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday 1st June

St Justin Martyr

Tuesday 2nd June

Ss Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs

Wednesday 3rd June

Ss Charles Lwanga and companions

Thursday 4th June

Feria of 9th week in Ordinary Time

Friday 5th June (**First Friday**)

St Boniface, bishop and martyr

Saturday 6th June (**First Saturday**)

St Norbert, Bishop

Sunday 7th June

CORPUS CHRISTI

Sunday Collections

17th May:

cash £198.40

gift aid: £20

24th May:

Cash: £104.50

Second Collection: £91.00

Shaping Our Future: Diocesan Consultation Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent parish discernment meetings across **Fraserburgh, Banff, and Peterhead**. Your highlighted feedback has been compiled into a final report for the diocesan office. Here are the core insights from our conversations:

Our Strengths & Joys

- **Warm Welcome, Caring Environment:** Visitors consistently praise our parishes' hospitality. The care our priests offer the sick and housebound is also much appreciated.
- **Faith Initiatives:** Programs like the Children's Rosary are promising. At the diocesan level, the outreach of the Dominican Sisters in Elgin, particularly to young people, is deeply valued.
- **Cultural Diversity:** Our varied backgrounds enrich our shared Catholic identity. This is one of our key strengths.

Challenges to Overcome

- **Time & Economy:** The cost-of-living crisis leaves families with very little time to nurture faith at home.
- **Parish Resources:** We face a shortage of volunteers, and particularly a lack of catechists. Church buildings – which contain our Lord, really present in the Blessed Sacrament! – often remain locked due to a lack of people able to open and watch over them.
- **Priestly Burdens:** Heavy administrative tasks (finance, safeguarding, health and safety, property maintenance...) take our priests away from their core spiritual ministries: preaching, pastoral care/guidance, prayer.

The Path Forward

- **Support Families:** We need simple online resources to help parents build the "Domestic Church" at home.
- **Diocesan Structure:** There was unanimous opposition to the merging dioceses in this part of Scotland. Instead, parishioners recommend appointing an **auxiliary bishop** to assist our bishop, or creating a **new Highland diocese** centred around Inverness to manage our vast geographical area effectively.

This report highlights that while our geography and the number of active personnel bring challenges, our community's faith and desire for connection remain vibrant.

IMPORTANT DATES: 31st May – First Holy Communions; 21st June – Parish Barbecue; 28th June – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Pluscarden Abbey; 16th July – Parish Patronal Feast

June, the month of the Sacred Heart

The devotion to the Sacred Heart has a very rich and long tradition, stretching back to the Middle Ages; it is more well-known because of the special revelations given to **St Margaret Mary Alacoque** in the late 1600s. Her confessor, **St Claude de la Colombiere SJ** was instrumental in promoting the contents of those revelations. There are several fine hymns in honour of the Sacred Heart, a Litany, prayers of consecration and, of course, *the First Nine Fridays* (Jesus promises great things to those who do this!) The Heart of Jesus is a focal point that helps us meditate on the great love He has shown and continues to show to sinful humanity. Let us warm ourselves this month by the fire of the Sacred Heart.

The Church celebrates the Sacred Heart this year on **Friday 12 June**.

*"Sweet Heart of Jesus, we implore
O make us love Thee more and more!"*

*Ss Ignatius of Loyola and Aloysius Gonzaga
adoring the Sacred Heart, by José de Paez*

