



University of St Andrews

CANMORE CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY

MARTINMAS SEMESTER

2026

The Chaplaincy Team

Fr Patrick Burke



Father Patrick was born in Africa and grew up in England before coming to St Andrews to study Theology. He then moved to Italy where he trained for the priesthood at the Scots College, Rome, gaining a PhD from the Gregorian University. Between 2005–2014 he worked in the Vatican and previously served as Vicar General of the Archdiocese and Administrator of St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh.

Fr Chris Selvaraj

Father Chris was born in Pinjivakkam, in Tamil Nadu. He studied at the Salesian University in Chennai and was ordained to the priesthood in 2007 for the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (CPPS) Congregation. He obtained his PhD in English Literature from Madras University and previously served as Vice-Rector of St Thomas' Collegiate Seminary and as Dean of Arts at Christ College, Kilachery.



Dr Mary Stevens



Mary is an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of St Andrews. She was born in England and holds a PhD in Divinity. She brings extensive experience in spirituality, faith formation, and pastoral listening, and works especially with postgraduate students at the Chaplaincy.

Lucia Burgio – Facilities Manager

Lucia is originally from Italy, but lived much of her life in the Middle East. She settled in St. Andrews a number of years ago and both her daughters graduated from the University. She is responsible for the smooth running of Canmore and making the Chaplaincy a home away from home for students.



Kate Aitken – Chaplaincy Secretary



Kate was born and grew up in St. Andrews. Having worked briefly in Edinburgh, she spent most of her working career in London working for BNP Paribas. She returned to St. Andrews in 2011 and has been Parish Secretary at St. James' for almost 14 years.

Contact Details:

office.stjamesstandrews@staned.org.uk

Canmore



“Canmore” is the name of the Catholic Chaplaincy building at the University of St Andrews. It is a beautiful and historic building situated at **24 The Scores**, opposite St. James’ Catholic Church, and overlooking the stunning West Sands.

The Chaplaincy is open to **all students and staff of the University** and is particularly intended to offer a place for Catholic students to study, pray, and spend time together.

Canmore offers a beautiful common room for students to socialise in, two first class reading rooms equipped with the University Wi-Fi, and an oratory where there is a daily routine of prayer. As well as self-service coffee available in the common room throughout the day, there is a **daily coffee break at 11 am** where students and staff get together with the Chaplaincy Team.



The Chaplaincy is a busy centre of activity with events going on almost every evening. **All are welcome.** Call in and say hello!

Daily Prayer in Canmore (The Divine Office)

Lauds (Morning Prayer) - 8.30am

Prayer During the Day - 1pm

Compline (Night Prayer) - 8pm



**Come and join us for
coffee everyday at 11 am!**

The Catholic Society

"On behalf of the Catholic Society, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new and returning students! Whether you are already a familiar face at CathSoc or simply curious, we would be delighted to have you join us. Throughout the year, we have talks, discussions, social events, dinners, and plenty of other opportunities to meet fellow students. We look forward to welcoming you to CathSoc and hope to see you soon!"



**Romas Moore,
Cathsoc President**



Canmore
Chaplaincy for
University
Catholics



@standrewscathsoc

Semester Calendar

**Make sure to follow us on
Social Media for more
information on all our
talks and social events!**

Freshers' Week (7-13 Sept.)	Mon 7th - Pub Crawl 7.30pm Fri 11th - Wine & Cheese 7pm Sun 13th - Welome BBQ, immediately after 5pm Mass	Week 6 (19-25 Oct.)	Independent Learning Week
Week 1 (14-20 Sept.)	Wed 16th - Talk One	Week 7 (26 Oct.-1 Nov.)	Wed 28th - Talk Six
Week 2 (21-27 Sept.)	Wed 23rd - Talk Two	Week 8 (2-8 Nov.)	Wed 4th - Talk Seven
Week 3 (28 Sept.-4 Oct.)	Mon 28th - EGM Wed 30th - Talk Three	Week 9 (9-15 Nov.)	Thurs 12th - St Margaret of Scotland Lecture
Week 4 (5-11 Oct.)	Wed 7th - Talk Four	Week 10 (16-23 Nov.)	Wed 18th - Talk Eight
Week 5 (12-18 Oct.)	Wed 14th - Talk Five Fri 16th - Balgove Dinner Dance	Week 11 (23-29 Nov.)	Wed 25th - Talk Nine Sat 29th - Christmas Wine & Cheese

Part I: Foundations of Faith

16 Sept.



The Case for God:
Can we be sure that God exists?
Fr Stephen Dingley

23 Sept.



Who are we really?
What makes us human?
Fr Nick Welsh

30 Sept.



Why the World Hurts:
Original Sin & the Problem of Evil
Fr Jamie McMorrin

7 Oct.



Made for Forever:
The Promise of Eternity
Fr Nicholas Crowe, OP

14 Oct.



The Missing Link:
Jesus Christ
Fr Joshua Moir

Part II: So Great a Crowd of Witnesses

Unstoppable Love:
St John Vianney
Bishop Mark Davies



28 Oct.

The Fire of Love:
St John of the Cross
Bishop John Keenan



4 Nov.

Heart Speaks to Heart:
St John Henry Newman
Sr Caroline Johnson, FSO



18 Nov.

The Cost of Courage:
Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Monsignor Patrick Burke



25 Nov.

Wednesday Talks

Save the Date

St Margaret of Scotland Lecture by Bishop Erik Varden



Thursday 12 November, 2026
6.15pm

Erik Varden is a Trappist monk who has served as the Bishop of Trondheim, Norway, since 2019. He studied at Cambridge and in Rome and has previously served as the abbot of Mount Saint Bernard Abbey in Leicestershire. His writings have been extensively published and his books are read throughout the world. In 2026, he was asked by Pope Leo XIV to preach the Lenten Retreat to the Pope and the Roman Curia.

Faith Winter Conference
Stonyhurst College, Lancashire

2-4 January, 2027



CathSoc Retreat
Pluscarden Abbey, Elgin

1-4 March, 2027



Post-Grads

Postgraduate life brings new opportunities, ideas, and experiences, as well as its share of questions and challenges. In the chaplaincy we offer Masters and Doctoral students the chance to meet other Post-Grads, make friends, explore faith and spirituality, and find space for prayer and conversation. The Post-Grads meet regularly during term time. Check the Parish Newsletter for details or contact:

postgrads.canmore@gmail.com



Choir

Join our vibrant student choir to help lead beautiful, prayerful music at the Sunday 5pm Student Mass. We sing a rich mix of sacred music and rehearse on Friday evenings and Sundays before Mass. All voice parts are welcome! For more information, reach out to Victoria at:

stjamesmusicprogramme@gmail.com

RCIA

If you are not a Catholic, or if you are a Catholic who has never been confirmed, the way to be received into the Church or to be confirmed is through the RCIA programme. RCIA meets at 7pm every Monday evening in term time in the Parish Hall. If you would like to join in or want more information, please contact

us at:

office.stjamesstandrews@staned.org.uk

MASS TIMETABLE

SUNDAY

5 pm (Sat)

Vigil

8 am

11 am

5 pm

Student Mass

WEEKDAYS

Mon - Fri

5.30 pm

Sat

10 am

ADORATION & CONFESSION

Mon - Fri

4.30 - 5.30 pm

Sat Confessions

10.30 am & 4.30 pm

Readers

If you would like to read at Mass please speak to Fr Patrick or email Irene on:

irenemcm@googlemail.com

Servers

If you would like to volunteer as an altar server please speak to Fr Chris or email:

FrChristopher.Selvaraj@staned.org.uk