

ST. PETER IN CHAINS • ARDROSSAN

'Family of Parishes'

ST. BRIDE'S • WEST KILBRIDE

Meeting people where they are... leading them where God calls them to be!



Seventh Sunday of the Year [C]

20th February 2022

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESSES

St Peter in Chains Church
1 South Crescent Road
Ardrossan, KA22 8DU

St. Bride's Church
9 Hunterston Road,
West Kilbride, KA23 9EX

PARISH PRIEST ADDRESS

Father Duncan McVicar
St Peter's Presbytery
1 South Crescent Road
Ardrossan, KA22 8DU
01294 464063
duncan.mcvicar@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE DETAILS

Telephone: 01294 464063
ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
westkilbride@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

WEBSITES

www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk
www.saintpeterinchains.net
www.stbrideschurch.co.uk

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

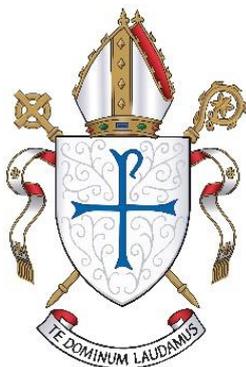
07722 246 169 (*Ardrossan*)
07585 656 229 (*West Kilbride*)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Peter in Chains: Saturday
between 4.45pm-5.15pm.

St. Bride's: Friday
between 11am-12noon
And by request.

**St. Peter in Chains,
and St. Bride's,
are Parishes
in the RC Diocese
of Galloway.
Scottish Charity
Registration Number:
SC 010576**



Mustard Seeds

✠ God is under the Bed

My brother Kevin thinks God lives under his bed. At least that's what I heard him say one night. He was praying out loud in his dark bedroom, and I stopped outside his closed door to listen. "Are you there, God?" he said. "Where are you? Oh, I see. Under the bed." I giggled softly and tiptoed off to my own room. Kevin's unique perspectives are often a source of amusement. But that night something else lingered long after the humour. I realised for the first time the very different world Kevin lives in. He was born 30 years ago, mentally disabled as a result of difficulties during labour. Apart from his size (he's 6'2"), there are few ways in which he is an adult. He reasons and communicates with the capabilities of a 7 year old, and he always will. He will probably always believe that God lives under his bed, that Santa Claus is the one who fills the space under our tree every Christmas, and that airplanes stay up in the sky because angels carry them. I remember wondering if Kevin realizes he is different. He doesn't know what it means to be discontent. His life is simple. He will never know the entanglements of wealth or power, and he does not care what brand of clothing he wears or what kind of food he eats. He recognises no differences in people, treating each person as an equal and a friend. His needs have always been met, and he never worries that one day they may not be. His hands are diligent. Kevin is never so happy as when he is working. When he unloads the dishwasher or vacuums the carpet, his heart is completely in it. He does not shrink from a job when it is begun, and he does not leave a job until it is finished. But when his tasks are done, Kevin knows how to relax. He is not obsessed with his work or the work of others. His heart is pure. He still believes everyone tells the truth, promises must be kept, and when you are wrong, you apologise instead of argue. Free from pride and unconcerned with appearances, Kevin is not afraid to cry when he is hurt, angry or sorry. He is always transparent, always sincere. And he trusts God. Not confined by intellectual reasoning, when he comes to Christ, he comes as a child. Kevin seems to know God -- to really be friends with Him in a way that is difficult for an "educated" person to grasp. God seems like his closest companion. In my moments of doubt and frustrations with my faith, I envy the security Kevin has in his simple faith. It is then I realise that perhaps he is not the one with the handicap -- I am. My obligations, my fears, my pride, my circumstances -- they all become disabilities when I do not submit them to Christ. Who knows if Kevin comprehends things I can never learn? After all, he has spent his whole life in that kind of innocence, praying after dark and soaking up the goodness and love of the Lord. And one day, when the mysteries of heaven are opened, and we are all amazed at how close God really is to our hearts, I'll realise that God heard the simple prayers of a boy who believed that God lived under his bed. Kevin won't be surprised at all.



**PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE
BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU OR PASS
IT ON TO SOMEONE ELSE. THANKS!**

Seventh Sunday of the Year [C] 2022

February 2022	St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk www.stbrideschurch.co.uk <i>Father Duncan McVicar</i>	<i>Fr. Duncan McVicar assisted by Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)</i>	www.stevenstonstjohns.com www.rcsaltcoats.com <i>Canon Martin Poland assisted by Sr Marie Monique, Sr Ursula and Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i>	
	Please note all Masses in St. Peter's are Live Streamed	St Bride's	St. John's	St. Mary's
Saturday 19 th February	7th Sunday of the Year Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Norma Clarke (A), Susan Hughes (SI), Patrick Mulholland (RD), Cathie Sweeney (SI)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 20 th February	7th Sunday of the Year Mass at 10.30am <i>Offered for our parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm	Mass at 11.30am (L)	Mass at 10am (L)
Monday 21 st February	7th Week of the Year Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Jerry Higgins (RD), The Ward Family (T)</i>			
Tuesday 22 nd February	Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Mark Tulloch (RD), Jim Thorburn (RD), John & Catherine Cahill (A)</i>	Adoration 9.30 Mass at 10am		Eucharistic Service at 10am
Wednesday 23 rd February	Memorial of St Polycarp Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Tony Brady (RD), Theresa McDermott & Family</i>		Eucharistic Service at 10am	Funeral Mass at 12 Noon Caroline Young
Thursday 24 th February	7th Week of the Year Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Henry Duffy (RD), Robert Shanks (RD)</i>			Mass at 10am (L)
Friday 25 th February	7th Week of the Year Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Adrian Collison (RD), Marie Louise Paterson (RD)</i>	Adoration 11.30 Mass at 12 noon	Mass at 10am (L)	
Saturday 26 th February	8th Sunday of the Year Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Bill McLaughlin (RD), John Collins (A)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
All Masses may be subject to change				



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 2nd March

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by life? Do you feel crushed by your struggles, your fears, and the weight of your sin? The beauty of the Christian faith is the knowledge that God knows your suffering intimately. He knows what keeps you awake at night and what weighs heavily at the back of your mind. This Lent, He invites you to come close to Him. He desires to replace your sorrows with joy and transform your sin into a deep everlasting love for Him. That's why Lent is more than a season in the Church's liturgical calendar. It's more than giving up sugar in your tea, or chocolate, it's a time of renewal and transformation. This Lent will be under the theme: "Reclaiming Sunday" - looking again at why Sunday is, in a special way, the special day for Christians.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Jim Boyle, Harry Sammons, Rena Fitzpatrick, Susan Hughes, Robert Smallridge, Anita Smallridge.

✚ Those who have died recently:

*Adrian Collison (USA), Henry Duffy, Bill McLaughlin (Arran), Caroline Young, Patrick Mulholland, Jerry Higgins,
Mark Tulloch, Jim Thorburn, Tony Brady, Robert (Bobby) Shanks, Marie Louise Paterson, Malcolm McLean.*

✚ Those who died at this time of Year:

*Norma Clarke 2018, John Patrick Collins 2012, Rose Folan 2012, Patrick Haggarty 2017, George Monaghan 2004,
Margaret McCarroll 2015, Patsy McDonald 1993, Frank Coulter 2018, Guilia Marchetti 1998, Justine McAllister 2000,
Brian O'Reilly 1993, Robert Stevenson 2021, Mary McCluskey 1980, Bessie Murphy 2008,
Margaret Mary Adamson 2005, Brendan Dorrian 2001, John Bell 2008, Brian Griffin 1980, Jimmy Carson 2019,
Father James Coyle 1975, Betty Lowe 2008, Maureen McIlhatton 1993, Annie Montgomery 2012,
Canon Michael O'Connor 1966, James Smith 1986, Jim Wilson 2011, Agnes Delahunt 1944,
Elizabeth Delahunt 1976, William John Dorian 1935, John Moore 2000.*

St. Bride's & St. Peter's Notices

- ▶ **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** We welcome to the Family of the Church Jack Thomas Cane, who will be baptised on Saturday, 26th February at 11am. Congratulations to his parents and Godparents.
- ▶ **PILGRIMAGES TO MEDJURGORJE** We're back up and running! There are two pilgrimages this year. See poster at the back of the church for more details.
- ▶ **SYCAMORE MEETING AT ST BRIDE'S** The next Sycamore Meeting will be on Monday, 21st February at 7.30pm in the Community Room. Everyone is welcome!
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 22 February at 2 pm in the Community Room at St Bride's to which all parishioners are most welcome. The main topic will be how to implement Synod response from St Bride's West Kilbride.
- ▶ **A WORD OF THANKS FROM TOM PATERSON** Tom would like to sincerely thank neighbours, friends and parishioners for all the support, prayers, Mass cards, and phone calls at the death of Marie Louise. The Collection for SCIAF at the end of the Requiem Mass came to £875. Many, many thanks!

Catholic Trivia - Did you know?

"Robbing Peter to pay Paul" - Edward VI endowed St Paul's Cathedral with the manor of Paddington, which he had first taken from the Abbey of St Peter at Westminster.

"When in Rome do as the Romans do" - To conform to local custom. Originally this was a saying of St Ambrose: "When I am in Rome I do as the Romans do" [Epistle XXXVI].

Miss me, but let me go

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me,
I want no tears in a gloom-filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little – But not for long
And not with your head bowed low,
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me – But let me go.

For this is a journey we all must take,
And each must go alone,
It's all a part of the Master's plan
A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to your friends that we know,
And bury your sorrows
in doing good works,
Miss me – But let me go.



Why pray the Stations of the Cross?

The Stations of the Cross is a popular devotion, and we are invited to pray it in our Parishes every Lent. Here are five reasons to pray the Stations of the Cross: 1. They offer strength in times of suffering - Praying the Stations of the Cross reminds us that we are not alone in our suffering: Jesus suffers with us. He chose to embrace every aspect of human life, including suffering and death. 2. They instil in us a compassion for those who suffer - We see in the Stations of the Cross how some people mocked Jesus, revealing the worst reactions to the suffering of others. Yet we also have the example of Mary, who stayed close to her Son throughout. In the Stations of the Cross, we are gifted with the ability to see Jesus in those who suffer and therefore to treat the suffering with compassion. 3. They remind us of the vast love of God - Seeing the horror of Jesus' suffering reminds us of something wonderful: how much He loves us. Jesus endured His Passion because of the love He had for each individual person that would ever live, and so the Stations of the Cross remind us of how much we are loved. 4. They give us a sign of great hope - We know why Jesus suffered and we know what happened afterwards. His suffering and death was not the end of the story. He came back in glory. This is a powerful reminder that for us too, suffering and death are not where it ends. There is so much more. 5. They enable us to feel Jesus' suffering - For our faith to grow, we need to be able to empathise with Jesus suffering on the cross and feel His pain as though it were happening to ourselves or someone we care deeply about. The Stations of the Cross help us do this by giving us fourteen focal points to meditate on.

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 13th February 2022: £529.70
Second Collection (Building Fund): £213.62
Standing Orders for January 2022: £ 4061.00

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 13th February 2022: £90.00
Standing Orders for January 2022: £ 1224.00

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

Just for a Laugh...

→ Man: What is a million years like to you? God: Like one second.
Man: What is a million pounds like to you? God: Like one penny.
Man: Can I have a penny? God: Just a second.

→ Why did the priest giggle during his homily?
He had Mass hysteria!

→ A priest was driving and gets stopped for speeding. The police officer smells alcohol on the priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car. He says, "Father, have you been drinking?" "Just water," says the priest, fingers crossed. The officer says, "Then why do I smell wine?" The priest looks at the bottle and says, "Praise be to God! He's done it again!"

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