



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!



Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year [A]

24th September 2023

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

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ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
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WEBSITES

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

07825 726904 (Ardrossan)
07585 656229 (West Kilbride)
07379 400568 (Saltcoats)
07498 501326 (Stevenston)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

St. Bride's: By request.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

Crosshouse: Fr Stephen McGrattan
crosshousehospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
01563 521832 ext:2

Ayr: Fr. Benjamin Mkeri 01655 882145
ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

**St. Peter in Chains
and St. Bride's,
are Parishes in the
RC Diocese of Galloway.
Scottish Charity
Registration SC010576**



Mustard Seeds

✝ God's Sign of the Cross

Alexander Solzhenitsyn had been in the Gulag, a Soviet prison camp. He had been forced to do back-breaking labour until he came to the point of exhaustion. With little food and little rest, he was constantly watched by guards and never allowed to communicate with another human being. Never permitted a newspaper or magazine from the outside, he came to believe that he was forgotten by everyone, even God. In his despair, he decided to commit suicide, but he could not reconcile that act with the teachings of his faith. Then he decided to end his misery by trying an escape, knowing that he would surely be shot. He rationalized that his death would then be at the hands of another and not his own doing. The appointed day came when he would put his fateful plan into action. Sitting under a tree during a brief respite from work, he glanced at the guards to see where they were positioned. Just as he started to jump and run, a prisoner he had never seen before stood in front of him. Looking into his eyes, Solzhenitsyn said he could see more love than he had ever seen before emanating from the eyes of another human being. The prisoner stooped down with a small twig in his hand and began to draw the symbol of the cross in the soil of Soviet Russia. When Solzhenitsyn saw the cross, he knew God had not forsaken him. He knew God was right there beside him in his deepest pit. Little did he realize that at that very moment, Christians all over the world were praying for his release, and within three days he would be sitting in Geneva, Switzerland, a free man. Crises are an opportunity for us to grow, there is more growth in the valleys than in the mountain tops. And we will have many of these opportunities. Someone has said we have a crisis every year and a major crisis every decade. Crises are an opportunity for us to grow in faith. The following was found written on a cellar wall in Cologne (Köln) after World War II: "I believe in the sun even when it is not shining. I believe in love even when I feel it not. I believe in God even when he is silent." When Solzhenitsyn saw the cross, he knew God had not forsaken him. He knew God was right there beside him.



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

THANKS!

25th Week of the Year 2023 [A]

St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk www.stbrideschurch.co.uk <i>Father Duncan McVicar</i> <i>assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i> <i>& Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i>		<i>Fr. Duncan McVicar</i> <i>assisted by</i> <i>Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)</i>	www.stevenstonstjohns.com www.rcsaltcoats.com <i>Canon Martin Poland</i> <i>assisted by</i> <i>Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i> <i>& Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i>	
Please note all Masses in St. Peter's are Live Streamed Masses may be subject to change.		St Bride's	St. John's	St. Mary's
Saturday 23 rd September	25th Sunday of the Year Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Margaret McAuliffe (MM), Harry Clarke</i>		Sunday Mass at 11.30am in St John's Church Hall	Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 24 th September	25th Sunday of the Year Mass at 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm		Mass at 10am (L)
Monday 25 th September	25th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Duncan McVicar Snr. (A)</i>			
Tuesday 26 th September	25th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Hugh Donohoe (A)</i>	Mass at 10am		10am Eucharistic Service
Wednesday 27 th September	Memorial of St Vincent de Paul Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Betty Craig (T), K. Collins (T)</i>			10am Eucharistic Service
Thursday 28 th September	25th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Jim & Cathie Donnelly (Diamond Wedding SI)</i>			10am Eucharistic Service
Friday 29 th September	Feast of Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, archangels Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Irene Coby (MM), Cathie Wilson (RD)</i> Exposition and Benediction 10.30am	Mass at 10am		10am Eucharistic Service
Saturday 30 th September	26th Sunday of the Year Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Dennis Atkins (SI), Iain Tarbet (A)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)

PRAYERS FOR MASS

BEFORE MASS

God our Father, you have called us today to join in the offering of Jesus Christ, your Divine Son, in this Mass. Grant that every action we do, every word we say every note we sing, may unite us more closely in our love for you and for one another. Help us to offer this Mass with love and attention. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



AFTER MASS

God our Father, continue in our lives the offering we have made in this Mass. Let Jesus your Son remain with us, so that we may help bring others to know, love and serve Him. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Harry Sammons, Betty Craig.

✦ Those who have died recently

*Margaret McAuliffe, Jim Conlan,
Cathie Wilson.*

✦ Those who died at this time of Year

*Patrick Breen 2015, Lindsay Brown 2021,
Alice Docherty 2017, Isabella Farrell 2012,
Mary McGraa 2002, Colin James Boyle 2017,
Jamie Clarke 2015, Margaret Gallacher 2016,
Bert Gilmour 2017, Tom McGhee 2011,
Sister Mary of Saint Joseph 1975,
Iain Tarbet 2016, Bernard Boyce 2012,
Cornelius Burke 1988, Thomas Lundie 2021,
Malcolm MacDonald 1999, Mary Clarke 1984,
John Mackay 2002, Thomas McGrattan 1917,
Daniel Murray 1981, Brian Ghosh 2002,
Maureen Johnson 2003, Brownlie Smyth 2014,
John Brodie 2001, Angela Brown 2008,
Peggy McKay 1992, Robert Leo Walsh 1968,
Mary Barr, Fiona McKellar 2015,
Finbarr Moynihan 2015, Dominic Burke 1988,
Dorothea Campbell 2011.*

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 17th September 2023: £520.44
Second Collection (Building Fund): £230.79

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 17th September 2023: £72.00

ST BRIDE'S MUSIC SYSTEM FUND

Cash Donations £719, Just Giving £216.72, Total £935.72

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

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

► **WEDDING OF MARK STEWART AND KAREN MCLEOD** We are delighted to announce the Wedding of Mark and Karen on Friday, 29th September at 1pm. We wish them a "love for a lifetime".

► **FUNDRAISER FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY UPDATE** Last month, Kathleen Quinn organised a fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Society in memory of her late husband, Pat. £1142 was raised at the event and further donations have increased the total to £1320. Kathleen has received a letter from the Society indicating the advances in research that such contributions make. She is very grateful to all who attended the concert and those who performed and helped.

► **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** You are cordially invited to the Parish Sing-Song, Quiz and Blether evening on Saturday 7th October, 7pm St Peter's Parish Centre, hosted by George and Michael £5, BYOB.

► **ST MATTHEW'S ACADEMY** The Parent Council of St Matthew's Academy are holding their AGM on Monday 25th September 2023, in the school library. It will start at 7pm and is expected to last no longer than 1 hour. All parents/carers/guardians of children attending St Matthew's are very welcome to attend. Please come along and see what the Parent Council is all about. It would be lovely to see you all.

► **ST BRIDE'S LARDER COLLECTION** The Larder Collection is on again until 8th October. All groceries welcome, but specifically Toilet Rolls, Biscuits and Weetabix.

► **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST PETER'S** Please put in your Diary two important dates towards the end of the year: Remembrance Sunday on 12th November with an ecumenical service at the EU Church in Glasgow Street at 1pm, followed by closing prayers in the Garden of Remembrance. The Ardrossan Churches are also trying to restart the Christmas Carol Concert after COVID on Thursday 7th December 7pm in the EU Church in Glasgow Street.

► **MORNING PRAYER FOR ADVENT - ST PETER'S** The most important prayer of the Church is the Holy Mass. The second most important is the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Breviary. We would like to reintroduce this beautiful prayer on the Tuesdays of Advent and Christmastime this year, at 9.30am before the start of Mass.

► **"WHEN YOU PRAY" MEETINGS - ST PETER'S** Following the great success of the "Sycamore Evenings", you are invited to two evenings of thought and discussion on growth in our prayer life. "When you pray - Trust, Surrender and the Transformation of your Soul" will be on Tuesday evenings, 24th October and 14th November, from 7pm until 8.30pm. Please invite others and come along.

► **REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS ON SUNDAY - ST PETER'S** There have been some initiatives to restart refreshments after Sunday Mass at St Peter's. Marade Griffin is getting some teams together. If you would like to go on a rota and join a team, please get in touch with Marade or the Parish Office.

► **HARVEST COLLECTION FOR THE FOOD BANK ARDROSSAN** Our last collection in October was a tremendous success and a real support for the Food bank in Ardrossan. This year we would do the collection again for the four Sundays of October. When you go shopping please buy an extra box of tea bags or small jar of coffee and place it in the baskets at the back of Church. The baskets will be brought down with the Offertory and placed in front of the altar. We will the pass on your donations to the Food Bank who are in desperate need of them. Please remember, strictly tea and coffee only. Thank you.

WHAT LOVE MEANS...

What Love means to 4-8 year old kids. A group of professional people posed this question to a group of 4 to 8 year-olds, 'What does love mean?' The answers they got were broader, deeper, and more profound than anyone could have ever imagined! See what you think:

'When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands have arthritis too. That's love.' Rebecca- age 8 'When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth.' Billy - age 4 'Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.' Karl - age 5 'Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your chips without making them give you any of theirs.' Chrissy - age 6 'Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.' Terri - age 4 'Love is when my mummy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.' Danny - age 8 'Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and just listen.' Bobby - age 7 'During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore.' Cindy - age 8 And the final one: The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbour was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked what he had said to the neighbour, the little boy said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry'.

JUST FOR A LAUGH... 🤔🤔🤔

So let me get this straight, I go to the grocery store and buy:



A pound of sliced ham in a plastic bag, a loaf of bread in a plastic bag, a gallon of milk in a plastic jug, a pack of napkins in plastic wrap, a store-made salad in a plastic tub, a plastic bottle of mustard and ketchup, but they won't give me a plastic bag to carry it home because the plastic bag is bad for the environment?

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