

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!



Solemnity of Christ the King [A]

26th November 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

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St Peter's Presbytery
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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 (Stevenson)

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**



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

Mustard Seeds

✠ The Obelisk in St Peter's Square.

In St Peter's Square, in Rome, there stands an ancient Egyptian obelisk - a single block of marble almost 100 feet high, in the shape of the Washington monument, and weighing 330 tons. The obelisk was originally erected around the year 1850 BC as a monument to the Pharaoh of Egypt. At the time of Christ, after Rome had conquered Egypt, the Roman Emperor Caligula brought the obelisk to Rome as a sign of Rome's superiority to Egypt. Centuries later, when the barbarians invaded Rome and the city fell into disrepair, the obelisk fell. Ivy grew around it. It was half-buried near the old Basilica of St Peter. But the Church converted the barbarians, and when a new Christian culture emerged and flourished, and St Peter's Basilica was rebuilt and expanded, Pope Sixtus V had the obelisk erected in the centre of St Peter's Plaza, where it still stands today. No longer is it a reminder of the long-perished empires of Egypt and Rome and the barbarian hords. Now it has been put at the service of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. Now it is topped with a bronze cross, and inside that bronze cross is mounted a small fragment of the true cross, the cross on which Christ was crucified - his throne. An inscription has been carved on the base of that obelisk, to remind us that this throne is different than Pharaoh's throne or Caesar's throne. The part of the inscription facing out, facing the rest of the world, reads: [Ecce crux domini, fugite partes adversae, vincit leo de tribu judae], Behold the cross of the Lord, let his enemies flee, the lion of the



Tribe of Judah has conquered!
The part of the inscription facing the Basilica reads: [Christus vincit! Christus regnat! Christus imperat!] Christ conquers! Christ rules! Christ reigns! Christ the King has conquered indeed, and his Kingdom will last forever.

✠ Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist is like touching Heaven.

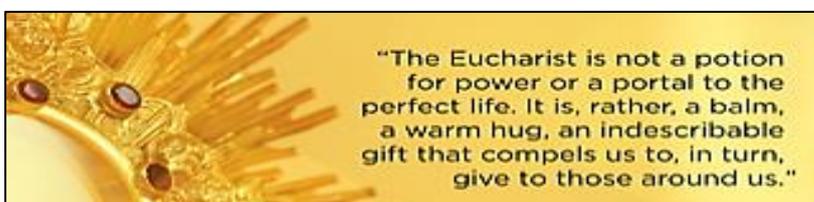
Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist should be like touching Heaven, and that should change the way we live here on earth! For most of Jesus' public life people crowded around him. If he was teaching in the synagogue, they crowded around him. If he was walking in the street, they crowded around him. If he was having a meal in a home, they crowded around him. But there were two times when people fled from Jesus. The obvious one was after his arrest and crucifixion. Where were all the crowds that had followed him? Where were all those people who witnessed his miracles? Where were all the people he had cured and fed? Where were the crowds of people who cheered him into the city less than a week ago? Nowhere to be found. The other time people fled from Jesus was when he spoke to them about the Eucharist. He said, "I am the bread of life ... Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you." (John 6:48,53) Will you flee from Jesus or remain by his side? The Eucharist is at the core of our faith.

34th Week of the Year 2023 [A]

St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk www.stbrideschurch.co.uk Father Duncan McVicar assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna & Canon Matt McManus (Retired)		Fr. Duncan McVicar assisted by Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)	www.stevenstonstjohns.com www.rcsaltcoats.com Canon Martin Poland assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna & Canon Matt McManus (Retired)		
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 25 th November	Solemnity of Christ the King Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for John Aitken Clarke (A)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)	
Sunday 26 th November	Solemnity of Christ the King Mass at 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm	Mass at 11.30am (L)	Mass at 10am (L)	
Monday 27 th November	34th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Kenneth Donnelly (A), John Maxwell (A)</i>				
Tuesday 28 th November	34th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Edna McKinnon (MM), Harriet Elizabeth Dorrian (MM),</i>	Mass at 10am		Mass at 10am (L)	
Wednesday 29 th November	34th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for John Douglas (MM), Bruce Wallace (SI)</i>		Mass at 10am (L)		
Thursday 30 th November	Solemnity of St Andrew, Patron of Scotland Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Harriet Dorrian (RD), Mrs Jane McGonigle (A)</i>			Mass at 10am (L)	
Friday 1 st December	34th Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Natalina, Arturo & Cosimo Farro (A)</i> Exposition and Benediction 10.30am	Mass at 10am	Eucharistic Service at 10am	Mass at 10am with St Anthony's PS	
Saturday 2 nd December	First Sunday of Advent (Year B) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Matt Donnelly (A), Ann Buchanan (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)	

WE NEED YOU!

It is very important that we keep music in our Liturgy. If we don't recruit more volunteer musicians and cantors we will be faced with having some Masses without music. We have been blessed with many talented parishioners! If you would like to be a cantor, a choir member or are a musician, please let us know.



"The Eucharist is not a potion for power or a portal to the perfect life. It is, rather, a balm, a warm hug, an indescribable gift that compels us to, in turn, give to those around us."

Adoration and Benediction on Fridays at St Peter's

Over the past several months, Pope Francis has been reminding the Church again and again about the importance of Eucharistic adoration—especially the silence of adoration. Why is silence so critical? Because it is the sacred space where the Holy Spirit works within us individually and among us as the Body of Christ. The Pope noted, "Filling with tenderness the wounds and voids produced by sin in man and society, begins by getting down on one's knees before Jesus in the Consecrated Host, and remaining there for a long time." We love God through adoration and service. Every Friday, after Mass, at 10.30am, followed by refreshments in St Peter's Cafe.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Harry Sammons, Peter Ross, Tony Smith, Mary Cole.

✦ Those who died at this time of Year

*John Clarke 2020, Declan Kelly 2016,
 Jim Brodie 2011, Kenneth Donnelly 2008,
 Hannah Kirk 1989, John Maxwell 2002,
 Sarah McNamara 1980, Liz Berti 2018,
 Shannon Elizabeth Byrne 2000, Mary Higgins 1992,
 Peggie Duffy 2022, Sarah Heaney 1955,
 Jemima McAuliffe 2001, Eddie McNamara 2014,
 Lilian Paterson 2011, Maria Reid 2013,
 Peggy Dorian Smith 1991, Martin Vernon 2011,
 James Allen 2003, Molly Ball née Cahill 2011,
 Gordon Burns 2021, Ann Hackett 1998,
 Sarah McLaughlin 2021, Andy Stevens 1995,
 Natalina Farro 2022, Gribben family,
 Janie McGonigle 2012, Mary Bridget Timmons,
 Jack Collins 1970, Margaret Hamilton 1992,
 Collette McKibben 2003, Matt Donnelly 2020,
 Alison Harkness 2020, John McNamara 1997,
 Elizabeth Theresa Walsh 1970, Jim Wallace 2014.*

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

- **FIRST RECONCILIATION FOR P3** There will be a Meeting for parents on Wednesday, 29th November at 6pm in St Peter's Centre for all the children who will be making their First Reconciliation this Advent.
- **MISSIO SCOTLAND THANK YOU** We have received letters of thanks from Missio Scotland for the generous donations of £520.93 (St Peter's) and £225.00 (St Bride's). Your ongoing support and donations are much appreciated.
- **COMBONI MISSIONARY SISTERS THANK YOU** We have received a letter of thanks from the Comboni Sisters for the generous donation of £286.10 from the selling of calendars in St Peter's. The sisters commented how much they enjoyed seeing such a lively parish and how much the music and everyone joining in the singing makes such a big difference in the Liturgy. The sisters will continue to keep us in their prayers.
- **ST BRIDE'S SSVP VILLAGE LARDER COLLECTIONS** St Bride's SSVP plan Collections for the Village Larder on the 3rd, 10th & 17th December. This allows time to get everything to the Larder before Christmas. Items needed are non-perishable items and Christmas specific items would be most welcome. A specific request list of items they particularly want will be on display in the Church, and in next week's bulletin.
- **CHANA - DONATIONS OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS** We are teaming up with the charity Night Before Christmas Charity (NB4CC) to provide those who are homeless and being supported by North Ayrshire Council a Christmas present. Last year NB4CC gave presents to 182 people, including 122 children in North Ayrshire. We would be delighted if people would contribute to this charity. This can be done by visiting NB4CC's "Justgiving" page: or putting your donation in an envelope marked "NB4CC" in the church collection <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Nightbeforechristmascampaign>
- **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST BRIDE'S** Friday 8th December, Christmas Dinner with entertainment at West Kilbride Golf Club. Wednesday 13th December. Carol Service at St Bride's. Full details coming soon.
- **CHRISTMAS CARDS** There is a wide selection of beautiful Christmas Cards available now at St Bride's & St Peter's stall. Also available are a wonderful selection of cards, candles, statues, Mass cards and gifts etc.

Christmas concert in aid of H.C.P.T Lourdes Group 376.

Featuring Theresa Morrison, Paul Hume and friends.
Sunday 17th December 2p.m St Peter- in-Chains Church.
Ticket £6 includes afternoon tea. Tickets available after Sunday morning Mass at St Peters or contact Esther Coulter 07772433070.

Marriage, Family and Life Office

There is a national Commission for marriage, family and life and they now have their new website. Have a look - it is full of information and articles. Stuart and Cecilia Irvine from Dumfries are the representatives from the Galloway Diocese. www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk.

Oggie! Oggie! Oggie!

AGAP Theatre present the hit play, "Oggie! Oggie! Oggie!", a modern energetic twist on the Confessions of Saint Augustine. Written and Performed by Stephen Callaghan, the show was a huge hit at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe. For one night only the Show will be performed in Saint Paul's Church Hall on Friday December 8th at 7.30 p.m. Tickets cost £5 and are available NOW by calling 07495 347884 or online at www.oggie-ayr.eventbrite.co.uk (online booking fee applies). Tickets will also be available to buy in the parish soon. Suitable for age 12+ due to adult themes.

The Advent Challenge 2023

As we prepare for Christmas, often our to-do lists are long, and our stress levels feel high. But Advent is a time for us to slow down and—even in the busyness—hear Jesus say to you, "I am here." I invite you to spend a few minutes each day this Advent preparing to celebrate Christmas and the gift of Jesus, by joining the Advent challenge today! By joining the challenge, you'll be preparing for Christmas a little each day! Three suggestions for this Advent:

1. Say the Advent Prayer every day of Advent;
2. Make an Advent Wreath with the five candles for your house;
3. Joyfully arrive at the celebration of Christmas ready to receive Jesus who says to you, "I am here".

Here is a suggested prayer:

*Heavenly Father, this Advent season,
we especially are in need of peace.*

War rages on in our world.

*It impacts the daily lives of millions
in different ways.*

*This year, as much as ever, we need Jesus,
Prince of Peace, in our world and in our hearts.*

*During these days of Advent,
we pray that Jesus transforms our world
as we await His coming again. Amen.*

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 19th November: £386.39

Second Collection (Building Fund): £292.75

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 19th November: £135.00

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

Just for a Laugh...

Jesus and Satan were having an ongoing argument about who was better on his computer. They had been going at it for days, and God [the Father] was tired of hearing all of the bickering. Finally God said, "Cool it. I am going to set up a test that will run two hours and I will judge who does the better job." So down Satan and Jesus sat at the keyboards and typed away. They moused. They did spreadsheets. They wrote reports. They sent faxes. They sent e-mail. They sent out e-mail with attachments. They downloaded. They did some genealogy reports. They made cards. They did every known job. But ten minutes before their time was up, lightning suddenly flashed across the sky, thunder rolled, the rain poured and, of course, the electricity went off. Satan stared at his blank screen and screamed every curse word known in the underworld. Jesus just sighed. The electricity finally flickered back on, and each of them restarted their computers. Satan started searching frantically, screaming "It's gone! It's all gone! I lost everything when the power went out!" Meanwhile, Jesus quietly started printing out all of his files from the past two hours. Satan observed this and became irate. "Wait! He cheated, how did he do it?" God shrugged and said, "Jesus saves."

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