



# 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!



Feast of the Baptism of the Lord [C]

12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## 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. Tel: 01294 464063  
duncan.mcvicar@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

## PARISH OFFICE DETAILS

Telephone: 01294 464063  
ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk  
westkilbride@gallowaydiocese.org.uk  
St Peter's Centre: Fiona Brown 07907 389703  
stpetersparishcentre1@gmail.com

## WEBSITES

www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk  
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

## MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND LIFE OFFICE

www.marriagefamilyandlife.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

### ✠ Meaning of Baptism – You're meant to be an eagle, not a chicken

What if everyone who is meant to soar "like an eagle" would, finally, stop poking around on the ground? Baptism is not simply a celebration of a new life, or even an act of praying for and offering a child to God. It is, rather, the visible sign of the invisible grace of incorporation into the Mystical Body of Jesus. It changes an objective state of affairs, whether we acknowledge it or not. There is a well-known "parable" of the eagle's egg that tumbled out of the nest only to fall amidst a flock of chickens. When the eaglet was hatched, the only world he came to know was that of chickens, and hence he spent his first years pecking on the ground and never spreading his great wings. One day, I continued, a majestic eagle flew overhead and spotted his young confrere on the ground, acting like a chicken. "What's the matter with you?" he asked. "Don't you know who you are?" He then taught the eaglet how to deploy his wings and soar. So it goes on the day of our Baptism. Every baptised person is, objectively speaking, a child of God, divinised, and destined to be a great saint. But the problem is that most of those who have received this new identity promptly forget it and take on the beliefs and practices of the world. Following the prompts of television, movies, social media, pop stars, and secularist ideologues, we give ourselves over to the acquisition of wealth or power or material success or fame. These things aren't bad in themselves but considering them our highest value and running after them with all of our powers amounts to pecking on the ground like chickens. What we need is a strong community of people to remind us who we are. The Parish Community doesn't make us a child of God; Christ did that through the mediation of Baptism. But the Parish Family can teach us not to settle for being some pathetic shadow of who we are meant to be. Everything that they teach us, everything that they encourage us to do, should be directed to the great end of becoming a saint. I have sometimes wondered what this country would be like if everyone who is baptised in our country, lived up to his or her identity as a child of God. What if everyone who is meant to soar would, finally, stop poking around on the ground? It would be a true revolution.



# First Week of the Year [C]

<b>ST PETER-IN-CHAINS, ARDROSSAN</b> <a href="http://www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk">www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.stbrideschurch.co.uk">www.stbrideschurch.co.uk</a> <i>Father Duncan McVicar</i> <i>assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i> <i>&amp; Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i>		<i>Fr. Duncan McVicar</i> <i>assisted by</i> <i>Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)</i>	<a href="http://www.stevenstonstjohns.com">www.stevenstonstjohns.com</a> <a href="http://www.rcsaltcoats.com">www.rcsaltcoats.com</a> <i>Canon Martin Poland</i> <i>assisted by</i> <i>Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i> <i>&amp; Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i>	
<b>Please note all Masses in St. Peter's are Live Streamed.</b> <b>Masses may be subject to change.</b>		<b>ST. BRIDE'S</b>	<b>ST. JOHN'S</b>	<b>ST. MARY'S</b>
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD [C]</b> (End of Christmastide) <b>Vigil Mass 5.30pm</b> <i>Offered for Michael Cowan (RD),</i> <i>Margaret Gribben (RD), Janet Charmiss (A)</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD [C]</b> (End of Christmastide) <b>Mass 10.30am</b> <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass 12.15pm	Mass 11.30am (L)	Mass 10am (L)
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>FEAST OF ST KENTIGERN</b> <b>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am</b> <b>Mass 10am</b> <i>Offered for John Butcher (A), Gabrielle Cahill (MM)</i>			
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>1<sup>st</sup> WEEK OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Morning Prayer of the Church 9.40am</b> <b>Mass 10am</b> <i>Offered for Catherine (Kit) Kean (A), Yasmin's Family (SI)</i>	Morning Prayer of the Church 9.40am Mass 10am		Mass 10am (L)
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>1<sup>st</sup> WEEK OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am</b> <b>Mass 10am</b> <i>Offered for Sr Ursula &amp; Sr Anna (SI), Patrick Quinn (A)</i>		Mass 10am (L)	
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>1<sup>st</sup> WEEK OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am</b> <b>Mass 10am</b> <i>Offered for Margaret Gribben (MM),</i> <i>Nora Cullen (RD), Betty Craig (RD)</i>			Mass 10am (L)
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>MEMORIAL OF ST ANTHONY</b> <b>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am</b> <b>Mass 10am</b> <i>Offered for Jessie Brown (A), Tommy Clarke (RD)</i> <b>Benediction 10.30am</b> ( <i>Refreshments in our Café afterwards</i> )	Mass 10am	Mass 10am (L)	
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR [C]</b> <b>Vigil Mass 5.30pm</b> <i>Offered for Alison Trayner (A), James Crichton (A),</i> <i>Betty Walker (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

*Michael McCulloch, Jim Donnelly, Veronica McAuley,  
Sarah Fitzgibbon, Tony Smith, Rosemary Smith, Jim McEwan,  
Grant Mitchell, Wynter McNabb, Carolyn McGinn,  
Cathie Currie, Margaret McDonald.*

### ✚ Those who have died recently:

*Betty Craig, Kathleen Tracy, Kevin Wallace, Irene Moran,  
Alan McDonald, Fr. Bill Tollan, Catherine Finnigan.*

### ✚ Those who died at this time of Year:

*Hugh Adams 2019, John Aitken 2001, Anne Bowles 2017,  
John Butcher 2017, Kathleen Brown 2012, Christine Cassidy 1998,  
Mary Donnelly 2006, Eamon Lennon 2009, Kathleen Tritschler 2006,  
Cecilia McCurdie 2005, James McNamara 1982, Roy White 1993,  
Archbishop Philip Tartaglia 2021, Mary Guilfoyle 2005,  
Ishbel McCarroll 1983, Monica McDonald 1997, David Stirling 2004,  
Mary Coulter 1978, David Magee 2014, Margaret McLaughlan 2005  
Peter McCarroll 1940, Isabella McHugh 2019, Elizabeth Walsh 2005,  
David Gallagher 2011, Mary Boyce Gillies 2012, Tony Khan 1982,  
Theresa McDermott 2000, Anita Smallridge 2024,  
George Agostini 2006, Maureen McKenzie 2014,  
Janis McSkimming 2010, Canon Michael Farrington 2009,  
James Murray 1972, Rena Scullion 2008, Alison Trayner 2024.*

## ST PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection  
4<sup>th</sup> January 2025: £583.74  
Second Collection (Building Fund): £299.33  
Standing Orders for  
December 2024: £3776.00

## ST BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection  
4<sup>th</sup> January 2025: £97.00  
Standing Orders for  
December 2024: £1054.00

### STANDING ORDERS –

#### PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT

Please consider taking out a Standing Order.  
It would be of great benefit to our Parishes.  
Forms are available from the Parishes Office.  
[ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)  
or call 01294 464063.

*Many thanks for your support and generosity!*

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

- ▶ **ANNUAL SPECIAL COLLECTION** This weekend (11/12 January 2025) we will take up the annual special collection for Justice & Peace.
- ▶ **THANK YOU** St Peter's have received an anonymous donation of £100. A big thank you for your kindness and generosity.
- ▶ **ST PETER'S 50/50 CLUB** Happy New Year to all our members. Our annual membership fees of £15 per person are now due. Myriame will be available in the Foyer of the Parish Centre this weekend (11/12 January) after the 5:30 pm and 10:30 am Masses to collect subscriptions. Please note that the monthly draws cannot commence until all subscriptions have been collected. New members are welcome. Good luck and thank you for your continued support.
- ▶ **CHAIR DANCE WITH LOUIE AT ST PETER'S** Chair Dance will restart Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 12.15pm till 1pm in the Parish Centre, £3.00 entry.
- ▶ **KNIT & KNATTER AT ST PETER'S** Knit & Knatter will restart Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January at 1pm.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S MONTHLY DRAW** Congratulations to the January Winner of the Monthly Draw is number 21, Fr Gerry.

#### **THE BAPTISM OF JESUS**

Our artist, Joachim Patinir, lived and worked in Antwerp. From this painting from circa 1521, we can see that he was a unique and influential forerunner of modern landscape painting. It is one of the few surviving paintings that Patinir signed. On the central vertical axis we see God the Father appearing amongst the clouds holding a globe, sending down the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. Then we have the hand of John the Baptist directly above Jesus, who is looking straight at us. The river He is standing in opens up wide, into the world. On the left side we see Jesus appearing from the Sea of Galilee walking towards the multitude. The baby of the manger has grown into full adulthood, ready for His mission. Jesus is standing in the river where on that day His great ministry began, continuing all the way to the Cross... All four Gospels describe the start of Jesus' public life with Him receiving baptism in the Jordan from the hands of John. We can almost see the Father in our painting saying the words describe in our Gospel reading: And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.' That is why Jesus came into the world: to love us. He descended all the way down to earth in order to search out each one of us. He is like a lover in search of his beloved... each one of us! Jesus' baptism inaugurates His mission. In the same way, our own Baptism inaugurates our mission to serve God. Speaking at a general audience in Rome, Pope Francis said: "I would like to ask each one of you here, and you can respond in your heart: how many of you remember the date of your baptism?" He said we should find out our baptismal date and celebrate it each year, rather than just our birthdays. This would help remind us how important our baptism is and the mission we have embarked upon.



#### **BINGO NIGHT AT ST PETER'S**

Andrena Hughes is holding a Bingo night in aid of our Parish Lourdes Group and Youth for Lourdes on Sat 1st February in the Parish Centre at 7pm. Tea, coffee and cake included in the cost of the tickets, however BYOB and snacks are also an option. Andrena is also looking for donations for raffle prizes if anyone can help. Tickets available from Andrena or at the Parish office. Adults £2 and children £1 or pay at the door. Her mobile number is 07917732091. Please come along and enjoy a night of family fun.

#### **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

Every year we pray during this week for Christian Unity - from 18th January until 25th January 2025. We can pray this prayer every day in this special intention:

Heavenly Father,  
whose will it is that your Church  
should be one visible body,  
so that the world might see and believe:  
draw us and all your people closer to him  
who is the one Head, Jesus Christ,  
so that we may come closer to one another;  
and unite us all in a common concern  
to share your good news with others  
and further your kingdom here on earth,  
We ask you this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **JUST FOR A LAUGH...**

Jesus asked God, "Where have you been these past four years?" God replied, "In Ardrossan." Jesus was shocked by His Father's reply and replied, "The world has been wracked with war, there's been a terrible pandemic, and you have been in Ardrossan? Please Father, what have you been doing?" God leaned over and kindly whispered, "Working from home Son, working from home."



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