



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!



Third Sunday of the Year [B]

21st January 2024

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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PARISH OFFICE DETAILS

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ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
westkilbride@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

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

✠ Tips for Growing in Your Faith in 2024

A New Year has already begun! Well, as Catholics we really celebrate the beginning of the new liturgical year or calendar at the onset of Advent, but we still thought you might appreciate some spiritual resolutions for 2024. So while you are brainstorming and crafting professional and personal goals for the coming months, make sure some faith-based goals make it on your list, too. Here are a few ideas for you - seven New Year's Resolutions for Catholics:

1. Commit to (at least) 15 minutes of prayer time every day. There are 1,440 minutes in a day. One percent of that time is 14 minutes and 24 seconds, so roughly 15 minutes. What would happen if you dedicated just one percent of your life every day to God? The more time we give to God, the more we will feel God giving us back time.

2. Read one spiritual book. Okay, the Bible can count as one, and if you read from the Catechism of the Catholic Church regularly throughout the year, then you're already 2/3 of the way to reaching this goal!

3. Go to Confession once a month. This one will really give your spiritual life a boost. You've often heard the verse from John quoted: "the truth will set you free" (8:32). Well, this verse is very applicable here: acknowledging the truth of your sinfulness before God and recognising your need for His grace to help you become the person He wants you to be will really, truly set you free. The words of absolution in the Confessional are beautiful: "I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Jesus is waiting to forgive you—all you have to do is ask! Don't miss out any longer on the healing power of Confession.

4. Invite someone to Mass. People often tell us that the reason they return home to the Church is "because you invited me." Invite at least one person - fallen-away Catholic or non-Catholic - to join you for Mass soon.

5. Do several corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Do you remember what they are? *The Corporal Works of Mercy:* Feed the hungry, Give drink to the thirsty, Clothe the naked, Shelter the homeless, Visit the sick, Visit the imprisoned, and Bury the dead. *The Spiritual Works of Mercy:* Admonish the sinner, Instruct the ignorant, Counsel the doubtful, Comfort the sorrowful, Bear wrongs patiently, Forgive all injuries, and Pray for the living and the dead.

6. Participate more fully in our parish - attend a parish event regularly, volunteer, join an adult faith formation programme or study, encourage your parish priest, reevaluate your financial contribution, start a new ministry... be creative!

7. Celebrate solemnities throughout the year with your family to help promote a stronger Catholic culture in your home!



Third Week of the Year [B]

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)		<i>Fr. Duncan McVicar</i> assisted by <i>Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)</i>		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 20 th January	3rd Sunday of the Year (B) (Sunday of the Word of God) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for June Doherty (A), James Hammond (RD), Bridie Stewart (RD)</i>				Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 21 st January	3rd Sunday of the Year (B) (Sunday of the Word of God) Mass at 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes.</i>	Mass at 12.15pm	Mass at 11.30am (L)		Mass at 10am (L)
Monday 22 nd January	3rd Week of the Year Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Peter Opiolka (RD), Uncle Armando (6MM)</i>				
Tuesday 23 rd January	3rd Week of the Year Morning Prayer of the Church 9.40am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Terrence McDermott & Family (SI)</i>	Morning Prayer of the Church 9.40am Mass at 10am			Mass at 10am (L)
Wednesday 24 th January	Memorial of St Francis de sales, Bishop Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Fr. Leo Muldoon (A)</i>		Mass at 10am (L)		
Thursday 25 th January	Feast of the Conversion of St Paul Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Martin Foster (RD)</i>				Mass at 10am (L)
Friday 26 th January	Memorial of Ss Timothy and Titus, Disciples of St Paul Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Ian Michael Falsay (A)</i> Exposition and Benediction 10.30am	Mass at 10am	Eucharistic Service at 10am		Funeral Mass at 9.30am Ella Henderson
Saturday 27 th January	4th Sunday of the Year (B) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Marie Louise Paterson (A)</i>				Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

*Harry Sammons, Peter Ross, Maria Hilferty,
Betty Fitzpatrick, Maria Dorrian, Dawn Clark,
Ellen Quirk, Tony Smith, Freddy Kean.*

✦ Those who have died recently:

*Paul McNulty, Mary Cole,
Peter Opiolka (Ayr), Martin Foster (Canada).*

✦ Those who died at this time of Year:

*Margaret Jane Brennan 1964, Betty Kelly 2011,
Hugh Taylor 2016, John Curran 2013,
Annie Monan 1998, James Cunningham 1986, Michael Lynn 2005,
James McCormack 1999, Catherine Welsh 2005, Joe Marshall 2013,
Sally McKane 2021, John McKay 1957,
Bernard Burns 1963, Annie Carson 1995,
Avril Cullis 2009, Brookelyn Angel Donnachy 2006,
James Jennings 2013, Andrew McCormick 2009,
Alfie Willis 2015, Barbara Scott 2010,
Willie Forsyth 2012, John McKay senior 1957,
Patricia Murphy 1988, Joseph Retzbach 1940.*



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

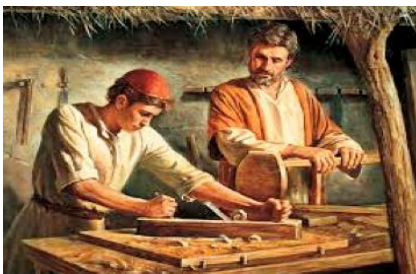
- ▶ **EMERGENCY ON-CALL FOR THE HOSPITALS** Father Duncan will be on emergency on-call for the Hospitals for this week. Please keep those who are sick or in hospital at this time in your thoughts and prayers.
- ▶ **AN EVENING OF SCOTTISH ENTERTAINMENT WITH A SING-SONG, A QUIZ AND A TOUCH OF BURNS** Following last October's successful Sing-Sing, Quiz and Blether, there will be a similar event on Saturday 27 January from 7pm prompt to 10pm in the Parish Centre. Because it takes place around 'Robert Burns Weekend', there will be light references to the poet as well as the opportunity to blether with friends. George and Michael and Bill Andrew will provide entertainment. Patrons are asked to bring their own refreshments. Tickets, costing £5 each, will be available at the Church in the coming weekends. Your support will be appreciated.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S MONTHLY DRAW** Congratulations to Lillian McPake, (No 5) who wins £26.50 in the January Monthly Draw.

Update from St Peter's Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council met on Thursday, 11th January. We spoke about the celebration of Christmas and how beautiful the nativity scene and the tree and decorations looked. We also discussed the Scottish Night and the Floral Afternoon and what a huge success they were with a great attendance of Parishioners, friends and visitors. The next Scottish Night will be on Saturday, 27th January at 7pm. Parishioners seem to enjoy the Morning Prayer of the Church on Tuesdays and we will continue the prayer up till the beginning of Lent, where we will start praying the Stations of the Cross on Tuesdays. The Morning Prayer is at 9.40am before Mass, and the Stations of the Cross will be at 9.30am before Mass. Many thanks to Margaret Munn for organising the weekly Readers. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 14th February and a special prayer card with a short morning and evening prayer for Lent will be distributed at St Peter's and also at St Bride's. We had a more detailed update about the new Bishop Elect Frank Dougan's ordination at St Peter's on Saturday, 9th March at 11am. As more information becomes available, we will keep you all informed. From Advent 2024, all the Parishes will be using the new Lectionaries with the updated translation of Scripture. The Books themselves are extremely expensive to buy. There will be some initiatives throughout this year to fund-raise for the new Books. Watch this space! We also spoke briefly about some Adult Formation Meetings this year. One theme that was considered as a suggestion was the Social Doctrine of the Church. The next Meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday, 11th April at 7pm in the Presbytery. If you have any items for discussion, please hand them in to the Parish Office by then. Thanks.

Grandpa Nybakken's glasses

The more convinced we are that the God who created and loves us is also all-powerful, the more our fears, frustrations, and discouragement will dwindle away, because WE KNOW HE IS IN CHARGE! Grandpa Nybakken worked as a carpenter in Chicago. He volunteered to build some crates to hold the clothes his church was sending to an orphanage in China. When he finished building the crates, he helped pack them full of clothing and load them on the trucks that would take them to the shipping docks. He felt glad that he could contribute to the project, even in a small way. On his way home, he reached into his shirt pocket to find his glasses; they were gone. He mentally replayed his earlier actions and realized what had happened. The glasses had slipped out of his pocket unnoticed and fallen into one of the crates. His brand new glasses were heading for China! The old carpenter had very little money, certainly not enough to replace his glasses. He was upset at the thought of having to buy another pair. "It's not fair," he told God as he drove home in frustration. "I've been very faithful in giving of my time to your work, and now this happens." Several months later, the director of the Chinese orphanage came to speak at the old carpenter's small church. He began by thanking the people for their faithfulness in supporting the orphanage. "But most of all," he said, "I must thank you for the glasses you sent last year. You see, the Communists had just swept through the orphanage, destroying everything, including my glasses. I was desperate. Even if I had the money, there was simply no way to replace those glasses. My coworkers and I were much in prayer about the situation. Then your crates arrived. When my staff removed one of the covers, they found a pair of glasses lying on top." The missionary paused long enough to let his words sink in. Then, still gripped with the wonder of it all, he continued, "Folks, when I tried on the glasses, it was as though they had been custom-made for me! I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity!" The congregation listened, pleased about the miraculous glasses. But the missionary surely must have confused their church with another, they thought; there were no eyeglasses on their list of items to be sent overseas. But sitting quietly in the back, with tears streaming down his face, was an ordinary carpenter who on an ordinary day experienced the extraordinary goodness of the all-powerful Master Carpenter himself.



ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 14th January 2024: £570.06
Second Collection (Building Fund): £322.90

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 14th January 2024: £154.70

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

Just for a laugh...

After explaining the commandment to honour your father and mother, a Sunday School teacher asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters. One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

How did the torch feel when its batteries ran out?

De-lighted!

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