



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!



Sixteenth Sunday of the Year [B]

21st July 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

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

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St Peter's Centre: Fiona Brown 07907 389703
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

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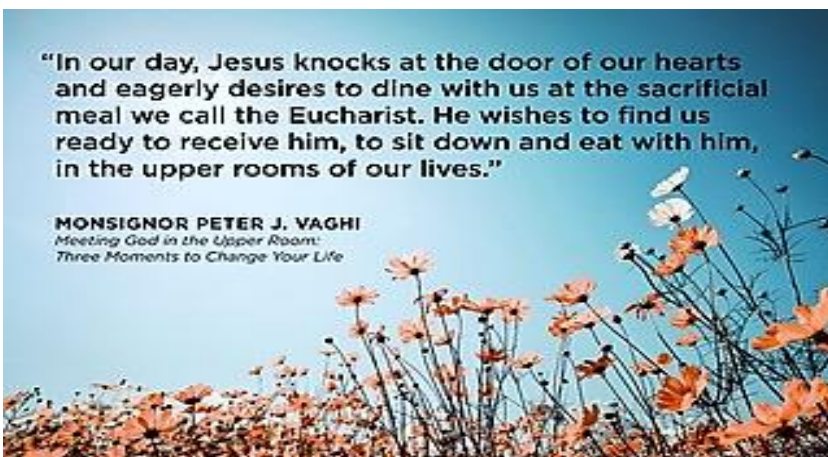
Mustard Seeds

✠ God in our Marriage

Wedding-planning stress is far from the minds of Steven and Amber. The couple is determined to maximise holiness on their wedding day, as they keep preparations focused on the sacrament that awaits them. This couple knew that they wanted God and their Catholic faith to be foundational in their relationship. "Our Catholic faith doesn't just play a role; it is the foundation of everything," Amber said. "It defines who we are, both together and individually. It directs what we spend our time doing, what brings us joy and shapes how we resolve conflict. It is the deepest part of our identities." Consequently, their wedding planning is in line with Pope Francis' advice in his exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love): "Short-term preparations for marriage tend to be concentrated on invitations, clothes, the party and any number of other details that tend to drain not only the budget, but energy and joy as well. The spouses come to the wedding ceremony exhausted and harried, rather than focused and ready for the great step that they are about to take... Here let me say a word to fiancés. Have the courage to be different. Don't let yourselves get swallowed up by a society of consumption and empty appearances. What is important is the love you share, strengthened and sanctified by grace. You are capable of opting for a more modest and simple celebration in which love takes precedence over everything else" (212). The priest who is marrying them wants to help the couple understand the supreme gift of sacramental matrimony: "One of the most important and beautiful benefits of entering into a sacramental marriage is that there are guaranteed graces bestowed from God upon the couple to be able to reach beyond themselves in order to love in a way that would otherwise be impossible. The thing that sets this day apart is their love for each other. They need to focus on that instead of event planning." Steven acknowledged that it takes courage to "swim against consumerism and what the secular media and bridal magazines are selling and to give witness to what really matters: that you are about to embark on an amazing and holy adventure modelled by Christ and his Church. "During the priest's homily at a friend's wedding, he encouraged the couple to ask each other every day, 'Will you marry me?'" Steven adds: "I'm not sure if he really thought they would do it, but we will, every day - it is a beautiful way to call upon the grace that God wants to give us."

"In our day, Jesus knocks at the door of our hearts and eagerly desires to dine with us at the sacrificial meal we call the Eucharist. He wishes to find us ready to receive him, to sit down and eat with him, in the upper rooms of our lives."

MONSIGNOR PETER J. VAGHI
*Meeting God in the Upper Room:
Three Moments to Change Your Life*



Sixteenth Week of the Year [B]

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</i> <i>(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 20 th July	16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) Vigil Mass 5.30pm <i>Offered for John Mitchell (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)	
Sunday 21 st July	16th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Mass 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass 12.15pm	Mass 11.30am (L)	Mass 10am (L)	
Monday 22 nd July	FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Anonymous (SI)</i>				
Tuesday 23 rd July	FEAST OF ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN Morning Prayer of the Church [Lauds] 9.40am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Marcello Orlandi (SI)</i>	Morning Prayer of the Church 9.40am Mass 10am		Mass 10am (L)	
Wednesday 24 th July	16th WEEK OF THE YEAR Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Collins & Upton Families (SI)</i>		Mass 10am (L)		
Thursday 25 th July	FEAST OF ST JAMES, APOSTLE Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Sarah Wright (BR)</i>			Mass 10am (L)	
Friday 26 th July	MEMORIAL OF SS JOACHIM AND ANNE (Prayer for Grandparents) Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Bruce Balmer (RD)</i> Benediction 10.30am <i>(Refreshments in St Peter's Caf� afterwards)</i>	Mass 10am	Funeral Mass 10am Ian Gargan		
Saturday 27 th July	17th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) Vigil Mass 5.30pm <i>Offered for Marie Lang (A), David Neilly (A)</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)	

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

*Tony Smith, David McMahon, Marie Mitchell,
George, Kenneth & Christine Slavincki, Jim Donnelly,
Rosemary Smith, Beryl Meechan, Grant Mitchell,
Jim McEwan*

+ Those who have died recently:

*Bruce Balmer, Katrina Scott, John Mitchell &
Claire Scott*

+ Those who died at this time of Year:

*Sister Mary Campion CP 2016, Bobby McLaren 2007,
Mary McPolin 1987, Joseph Mulgrew 2002,
Jim Murphy 2010, Canon Denis Quinlan 2015,
Elsie Brodie 2019, Jean Clark 2022,
Margaret Donnelly 1953, Rebecca Murray 2004,
Esther Ferry 2010, Moira Cook 2012,
Angus MacRae 2013, Jim McDermott 2023,
Julia Petrie 2009, Alex Quigg 1997, Annie Quigg 1972,
Isabella Aldridge 2010, Eddie Cunningham 1992,
Anne Higgins 2020, May Steele 2014,
Elizabeth Fitzsimmons 1999, Angus McMaster 2019,
Elizabeth Murray 2005, Annie Walsh 1969,*

Top Ten Favourite Excuses

That People Give For Not Going To Church

Here's the Eighth One: Having to Go To Church Is a Man-Made Rule - I'm not sure where this idea came from. I'm guessing from people who have never read the Bible. The second chapter of the first book of the Bible says that we are supposed to keep the Sabbath because God modelled it for us—not because He needed it, but because He knows that we do. In Exodus and Deuteronomy we have the Ten Commandments listed for us, which, number three is "keep holy the Sabbath." Then, we have Jesus at the Last Supper saying, "Do this in memory of me" (Lk 22:19) and every time he meets someone after the Resurrection, they recognise him in "the breaking of the bread." The Apostles, from the first days of the Resurrection set Sunday aside for Eucharist. It never wasn't a part of who we are. Do you know that some groups of Atheists today are now having weekly meetings for community and some sort of ritual? It's innate! We are hard-wired for community, prayer and God; and Mass is how Catholics do just that.

Number 9 Excuse next week!

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

► **SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** We welcome to the Family of the Church Chloe Jack, who will be baptised on Saturday. Congratulations to her parents and the Godparents.

► **PETER'S PENCE** We will take up our annual collection for Peter's Pence this weekend the 20th/21st July.

Prayer for our Grandparents

Friday is the Celebration of the grandparents of Jesus, Joachim and Anna. We can say this prayer for our grandparents on this day.

Virgin Mary,
Mother of faith and hope,
an example for this humanity
bent by indifference,
make me as willing as you
to accept the will of God,
to magnify and praise His Mercy.

Mary, Mother of fortitude,
you who knows my heart,
do not allow me to become discouraged.
I confidently surrender my life
into your hands.
Heal my wounds.
May your tenderness accompany me on the way.

Your presence, Mother of love,
brings us to experience the joy
of seeing our families united.
Help me to transmit the tenderness and love of God
to the grandchildren and youth,
so that, in addition to praying for them,
we can pray with them.

Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me:
Sustain my weakness;
breathe into my heart
the consolation
that I may leave traces
of faith among the young,
bearing witness to
the beauty of life,
knowing that life
has a limit
and that beyond it
lies before us our
Father's embrace.
Amen.



St Polycarp of Smyrna chooses the "better part"

One of the most famous martyrs in the history of the Church gave memorable testimony to what it means to put Christ first in our lives. His name was St Polycarp, and he was the bishop of Smyrna (in modern day Turkey) in the early second century. During one of the many waves of persecution that rocked the first centuries of Christianity, Polycarp was arrested and brought to trial before the local governor. He was already an old man, but still an active and revered bishop. It was around the year 166 AD. The governor ordered him to renounce his faith in Christ, to blaspheme Jesus. (The Roman authorities at the time persecuted the Christians not because they committed crimes, but because they refused to worship the Roman gods.) Polycarp answered: "I have served Christ these fourscore and six years, and he never did me any harm, but much good; and how can I blaspheme my King and my Saviour? ...Hear my free confession: I am a Christian." As a result of this profession of faith, Polycarp was sentenced to public execution by being burned alive. The flames failed to damage him. Eyewitnesses say that the flames rose to a great height, surrounding him like a transparent circular wall in the middle of the stadium. He seemed to glow with a golden light, but remained unharmed. Finally, the guards had to kill him with the thrust of a spear. Polycarp's answer to the governor shows that he knew all about "the better part". For him, Christ was a faithful friend who had never abandoned him in his 86 years of life.



ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 14th July 2024: £513.76

Second Collection (Building Fund): £280.20

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 14th July 2024: £82.60

**STANDING ORDERS –
PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT**

Many thanks for your support and generosity!

Just for a Laugh... 😄 😄 😄 A few minutes before Mass started, the townspeople were sitting in their pews and quietly praying. Suddenly, Satan appeared at the front of the church. Everyone started screaming and running for the front entrance, trampling each other in frantic effort to get away from the evil incarnate. Soon everyone had exited the church except for one elderly gentleman who sat calmly in his pew without moving, seeming oblivious to the fact that God's ultimate enemy was in his presence. So Satan walked up to the old man and said, "Don't you know who I am?" The man replied, "Yep, sure do." "Aren't you afraid of me?" Satan asked. "Nope, sure ain't." said the man. "Don't you realise I can kill you with a word?" asked Satan. "Don't doubt it for a minute," returned the old man, in an even tone. "Did you know that I could cause you profound, horrifying, physical agony for all eternity?" persisted Satan. "Yep," was the calm reply. "And you're still not afraid?" asked Satan. "Nope." More than a little perturbed, Satan asked, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?" The man calmly replied, "I've been married to your sister for over 48 years".

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