



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!



Fourth Sunday of the Year [B]

31st January 2021

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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01294 464063
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PARISH OFFICE DETAILS

Telephone: 01294 464063
ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
westkilbride@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

WEBSITES

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

07722 246 169 (Ardrossan)
07585 656 229 (West Kilbride)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

St. Bride's: Friday
between 11am-12noon
And by request.

**St. Peter in Chains,
and St. Bride's,
are Parishes
in the RC Diocese
of Galloway.
Scottish Charity
Registration Number:
SC 010576**



THE LORD'S DAY AT HOME

If you are housebound or self-isolating at this time, please use this Gospel reading to unite yourself with the worship of the Universal Church, and your own Parish, this Sunday. If alone, read or say this Gospel reading quietly to yourself. If with another, or in a family, someone should read, and others respond. It might be suitable to find a special, quiet place at home for your Sunday prayers.

Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority. In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Reflection

There is a lot of talk nowadays about the "erosion of authority." Whereas once upon a time, not that long ago, certain figures in society had an "automatic" authority (police officers, doctors, judges, teachers, priests) nowadays people frequently question that authority, or at least do not assume it. We doubt our doctors' diagnoses, we see corruption in our police forces, we are suspicious of priests. These suspicions originate both in the "democratization of information" brought about by the digital information revolution, and also in the ways in which that authority has unquestionably been abused by some individuals. Nevertheless, we still need "authentic authority" – which is what Jesus displays in the Gospel today. We can trust the authority of Jesus. But recognising his authority should mean that we obey his voice (just like the unclean spirit!) – how much do we allow Jesus to teach us? We should also pray for all those who have authority over us: may they practise an authenticity of life, that will allow their teaching and guidance to "have a deep impression on us."



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.



I love you above all things
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you
now and forever. Amen.

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE
PARISH BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU.**

THANKS!

Year of
ST. JOSEPH



Fourth Week of the Year [B] 2020

January/February 2021	St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk <i>Father Duncan McVicar</i>	St John's, Stevenston: www.stevenstonstjohns.com St Mary's Saltcoats: www.rcsaltcoats.com Please visit the above websites for further information	
		<i>Canon Martin Poland</i> <i>assisted by Father Benjamin Mkeri</i> St John's St Mary's	
Saturday 30 th January	4th Sunday of the Year [B] Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Sadie Gallagher (RD), Robert Montgomery (D) and Valerie Welsh</i>		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (Live Streamed Only)
Sunday 31 st January	4th Sunday of the Year [B] Mass at 10.30am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 11.30am (Live Streamed Only)	Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)
Monday 1 st February	Memorial of St Bride Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Josephine Motroni (RD)</i>		Funeral Mass at 10am (Live Streamed)
Tuesday 2 nd February	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Blessing of Candles) Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Jimmy and Emily McLaughlin (A)</i>		Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)
Wednesday 3 rd February	Requiem Mass for Ann Taylor Mass at 10am (Private)	Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)	Funeral Mass at 2pm
Thursday 4 th February	4th Week of the Year Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Nicholas Donnelly (RD)</i>		Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)
Friday 5 th February	Memorial of St Agatha Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Tom Slimmon (RD)</i>	Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)	
Saturday 6 th February	5th Sunday of the Year [B] Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Mary McSpurran (RD)</i>		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (Live Streamed Only)

NEW SAFEGUARDING WEBPAGES

The diocesan website has been updated to reflect the current work of the Safeguarding Team. The pages can be accessed by visiting www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk and selecting "Safeguarding". This will bring you to a new page with a further menu providing information on different aspects of Safeguarding within the diocese. Please note that any volunteers who still require training can visit the "Training" page and contact any trainer to arrange a session or can join a session scheduled in the calendar.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Bill Holden, Jim Boyle, Canon Archie Brown.

✝ Those who have died recently:

Ann Taylor, Josephine Motroni, Nicholas Donnelly, Tom Slimmon, Mary McSpurran, Michael McManus (Brother of Canon Matt).

✝ Those who died at this time of Year:

Marie Coyle sister of Father Joe Boland 2017, Joseph Lynn 1997, John McKay, Ellen McCarroll 1980, James McDermid 2005, Peggy McKeachan 2018, Rachel Cairnie 1988, Canon Shaun Crowley 2001, Joseph Foran 1994, Jessie Flynn, Rena Heneaghan 1976, Mary Kelly 2006, Marie Matthews 2005, Emily McLaughlin 2014, Ronnie Sliwinski 2016, Sadie Burns 2009, Rachel Cairnie 1998, Janet Cunningham 1999, Father Joe Davie SDB 2002, Sister Margaret of Jesus (Theresa Campbell) 2016, Tony Tourish 1993, Mary C McManus 1973, Margaret Mitchell 2004, Mae Murray 2018, Michael Barrett 1972, Paul Hamilton 2020, Kathleen McIlroy 2009, Archie McLaren 2009, Peter Mitchell 1973, Joseph Brodie 1961, Eileen Busbridge 1978, Lilli McCulloch 2011, Catherine McIlroy 2009, James Meechan 2019, Marjory O'Connell 1986

St. Peter's Notices

► **REQUIEM MASS FOR ANN TAYLOR** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Ann Taylor, who died on 10th January 2021, aged 88 years. Her Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday, 3rd February 2021 at 10am, followed by Interment at the High Road Cemetery, Stevenston. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

► **SAFEGUARDING PARISH AUDIT FOR 2020 - ST PETER'S** Sincere thanks to Myriame Sammons and George Poole for preparing and delivering the Parish Safeguarding Audit for last year. Thanks for all the hard work and commitment!

St. Bride's Notices

► **PARISH FEAST DAY OF ST BRIDE** On Monday, 1st February, we celebrate the Feast of St Bride, our patron saint. Born in 453 AD she founded a monastery in Kildare and is famed for her strength of character, charity, depth of faith, healing and poetry. She died on 1st February 525 and we ask her to give our Parish Family a special blessing from on high.

► **SAFEGUARDING PARISH AUDIT FOR 2020 - ST BRIDE'S** Sincere thanks to Laura McLean for preparing and delivering the Parish Safeguarding Audit for last year. Thanks for all the hard work and commitment!

BLESSING OF CANDLES

This coming Tuesday, 2nd February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord [also known as Candlemas], where we bless the candles for use in the Church.

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 or call 01294 464063.
Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

JUST FOR A LAUGH...

✓ **LOT'S WIFE** - The Primary School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mummy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "And she turned into a telephone pole!"

✓ **DID NOAH FISH?** - A school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," replied Johnny. "How could he, with just two worms."

✓ **THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD** - A teacher decided to have her young class memorise one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line. On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation at Mass, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

✓ **UNANSWERED PRAYER** - A parishioner's 5year-old daughter noticed that the Parish Priest always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked her mum why. "Well," she began, proud that her daughter was so observant. "He is asking the Lord to help him preach a good sermon." "How come God doesn't answer it?" she asked.

Mustard Seeds

✠ In Church for the First Time

I saw him in our church for the first time on Wednesday. He was in his mid-70's, with thinning silver hair and a neat brown suit. Many times in the past I had invited him to come to church. Several other friends had talked to him about God and the Sacraments and had tried to share our faith with him. He was a well-respected, honest man with so many characteristics a Catholic should have, but he had never accepted Christ, nor entered the doors of the church. "Have you ever been to Mass in your life?" I had asked him a few years ago. We had just finished a pleasant day of visiting and talking. He hesitated. Then with a bitter smile he told me of his childhood experience some sixty years ago. He was one of many children in a large, impoverished family. His parents had struggled to provide food, with little left for housing and clothing. When he was about ten, some neighbours invited him to come to Mass. He had never heard such songs and stories before! He had never heard anyone read from the Bible! After Mass was over, one of the parishioners took him aside and said, "Son, please don't come again dressed as you are now. We want to look our best when we come into God's house." He stood in his ragged, unpatched overalls. Then looking at his worn-out shoes, he answered softly, "No, missus, I won't-ever." "And I never did," he said, abruptly ending our conversation. There must have been other factors to have hardened him so, but this experience formed a significant part of the bitterness in his heart. I'm sure that parishioner meant well. But did she really understand the love of Christ? What if she had put her arms around the dirty, ragged little boy and said, "Son, I am so glad you are here, and I hope you will come back every chance you get to hear more about Jesus and pray with us." I reflected on the awesome responsibility a parishioner, a teacher, a priest or a parent has to welcome little ones in His name. How far-reaching her influence was! I prayed that I might be ever open to the tenderness of a child's heart, and that I might never fail to see beyond the appearance and behaviour of a child to the eternal possibilities within. However, I did see him in the church for the first time on Wednesday last. As I looked at that immaculately dressed old gentleman lying in his coffin before the altar, I thought of the little boy of long ago. I could almost hear him say, "No, missus, I won't-ever." And I wept for him and for me also.

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