



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 the Epiphany of the Lord [C]

5th 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

✠ The Thing I value Most

It had been some time since Jack had seen the old man. College, girls, career, and life itself got in the way. In fact, Jack moved clear across the country in pursuit of his dreams. There, in the rush of his busy life, Jack had little time to think about the past and often no time to spend with his wife and son. He was working on his future, and nothing could stop him. Over the phone, his mother told him, "Mr. Belser died last night. The funeral is Wednesday." Memories flashed through his mind like an old newsreel as he sat quietly remembering his childhood days. "It's been so long since I thought of him. I'm sorry, but I honestly thought he died years ago," Jack said "Well, he didn't forget you. Every time I saw him he'd ask how you were doing. He'd reminisce about the many days you spent over 'his side of the fence' as he put it," Mum told him. As busy as he was, he kept his word. Jack caught the next flight to his hometown. Mr. Belser's funeral was small and uneventful. He had no children of his own, and most of his relatives had passed away. The night before he had to return home, Jack and his Mom stopped by to see the old house next door one more time. Standing in the doorway, Jack paused for a moment. It was like crossing over into another dimension, a leap through space and time. The house was exactly as he remembered. Every step held memories. Every picture, every piece of furniture. Jack stopped suddenly. "What's wrong, Jack?" his mum asked. "The box is gone," he said. "What box?" Mum asked. "There was a small gold box that he kept locked on top of his desk. I must have asked him a thousand times what was inside. All he'd ever tell me was 'the thing I value most,'" Jack said. It had been about two weeks since Mr. Belser died. Returning home from work one day Jack discovered a note in his mailbox. "Signature required on a package. No one at home. Please stop by the main post office within the next three days," the note read. Early the next day Jack retrieved the package. The small box was old and looked like it had been mailed a hundred years ago. The handwriting was difficult to read, but the return address caught his attention. "Mr. Harold Belser" it read. Jack took the box out to his car and ripped open the package. There inside was the gold box and an envelope. Jack's hands shook as he read the note inside. "Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Bennett. It's the thing I valued most in my life." A small key was taped to the letter. His heart racing, as tears filling his eyes, Jack carefully unlocked the box. There inside he found a beautiful gold pocket watch. Running his fingers slowly over the finely etched casing, he unlatched the cover. Inside he found these words engraved: "Jack, Thanks for your time! - Harold Belser." "The thing he valued most was... my time!" Jack held the watch for a few minutes, then called his office and cleared his appointments for the next two days. "Why?" Janet, his assistant asked. "I need some time to spend with my wife," he said. "Oh, by the way, Janet, thanks for your time!"



Christmas Time[C]

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> Please note all Masses in St. Peter's are Live Streamed. Masses may be subject to change.		<i>Fr. Duncan McVicar</i> <i>assisted by Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)</i>	www.stevenstonstjohns.com www.rcsaltcoats.com <i>Canon Martin Poland</i> <i>assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i> <i>& Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i>		
		ST. BRIDE'S	ST. JOHN'S	ST. MARY'S	
Saturday 4 th January	SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD [C] (Blessing of chalk for the traditional House Blessing) Vigil Mass 5.30pm <i>Offered for McWhinnie Family (CB), Mary & Esther Madden (A), Michael, Philomena & June Doherty (A)</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)	
Sunday 5 th January	SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD [C] (Blessing of chalk for the traditional House Blessing) Mass 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass 12.15pm	Mass 11.30am (L)	Mass 10am (L)	
Monday 6 th January	WEEKDAY OF CHRISTMAS TIME Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Margaret (SI), Murphy Family (CB)</i> Prayers of Reception 6pm Gabrielle Cahill				
Tuesday 7 th January	REQUIEM MASS 10am GABRIELLE CAHILL				
Wednesday 8 th January	WEEKDAY OF CHRISTMAS TIME Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Irene Gallacher (RD), Cathy Lynn (RD), Owen Bogue (A)</i> Prayers of Reception 6pm Margaret Gribben				
Thursday 9 th January	REQUIEM MASS 10am MARGARET GRIBBEN				
Friday 10 th January	WEEKDAY OF CHRISTMAS TIME Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass 10am <i>Offered for Bernard Walsh (A), Gwen & Bert Body (A)</i> Benediction 10.30am (<i>Refreshments in our Caf�e afterwards</i>)				
Saturday 11 th January	FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD [C] (End of Christmastide) Vigil Mass 5.30pm <i>Offered for Michael Cowan (RD), Margaret Gribben (RD), Janet Charmiss (A)</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, Sr. Margareta, Jim McEwan, Grant Mitchell, Wynter McNabb, Betty Craig, Carolyn McGinn, Cathie Currie, Alan & Margaret McDonald, Kathleen Tracy.

✦ Those who have died recently:

Margaret Gribben, Gabrielle Cahill.

✦ Those who died at this time of Year:

Dorothy Welsh 2014, Patrick Braniff 1991, Gary Cahill 2012, Margaret Griffin 1997, Isabella Keenan 1939, James Monan 1969, Celia Ralston 2007, Leda Biagioni 2007, James Burns 1955, Patrick Cawley 2001, Canon Peter Fitzpatrick 1952, Helen McCluskey 2004, John McMillan 2022, Cornelius Welsh 2021, John Cahill 1989, Danny Higgins 2009, Frank Kelly 2013, Patricia Brennan 2005, Robert Colvin 1998, Jimmy Crichton 2019, Gerard Fairhurst 2003, Bernard McLaughlan 1984, Derek Tomelty 2003, Joseph Gibbons 1973, Hugh Henry 2008, Jean Lamont 2016, Jimmy McAloon 2020, Jennifer McGregor 2014, George Nicol 1983, Joan McCallum 2001, William McLaughlin 2018, Rosina McPeake, Terry Murphy 1989, Annie Taylor 2021, Mario Marchetti 2013, Kathleen McSkimming 2019.

ST PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection
 29th December 2024: £567.05
 Second Collection (Building Fund): £260.05
 Christmas Collections: £1326.57

ST BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection
 29th December 2024: £74.60
 Christmas Collections: £257.50

Many thanks for your support and generosity!

"Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car."
 - G. K. Chesterton



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

- ▶ **REQUIEM MASS FOR GABRIELLE CAHILL AT ST PETER'S** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Gabrielle Cahill who died on 13th December 2024, aged 88 years. Her Reception into Church will be on Monday, 6th January 2025 at 6pm. Her Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday, 7th January at 10am, followed by interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.
- ▶ **REQUIEM MASS FOR MARGARET GRIBBEN AT ST PETER'S** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Margaret Gribben who died on 16th December 2024, aged 95 years. Her Reception into Church will be on Wednesday, 8th January 2025 at 6pm. Her Requiem Mass will be on Thursday, 9th January at 10am, followed by interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.
- ▶ **SUNDAY TEAS AT ST PETER'S** Tea/Coffee will be served by SSVp after Sunday morning Mass this weekend.
- ▶ **CHAIR DANCE WITH LOUIE AT ST PETER'S** Chair Dance will restart Thursday 16th January at 12.15pm till 1pm in the Parish Centre, £3.00 entry.
- ▶ **KNIT & KNATTER** Knit & Knatter will restart Wednesday, 15th January at 1pm.

PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE - JUBILEE YEAR CANDLE

Please make sure that you get the special candle with the logo of the Jubilee Year of Hope at Mass today. Pope Francis has declared that the year 2025 will be a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church – an event that takes place once every 25 years. The theme for the 2025 Jubilee is “Pilgrims of Hope”, an invitation to showcase the hope of our Christian faith to people right across the world at a time when there is so much suffering from the impact of war, poverty, climate change, and the lasting effects of the COVID pandemic. The Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee presents each one of us with an opportunity to reignite the flame of our faith in our own hearts and to share the light of that faith with those in darkness.

Sincere thanks to Beverley Macrae for preparing the candles for us.



NEXT SUNDAY IS THE FEAST OF BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Next Sunday, we close the season of Christmas with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. The baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world”. At his baptism “the heavens were opened” – the heavens that Adam's sin had closed – and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit, a prelude to the new creation.

THANK YOU

Father Duncan, Canon Matt, Father Gerry,
Sister Ursula, Sister Anna,
Office and House Staff thank you for Christmas cards & gifts.
We wish you a very Happy New Year
and every blessing in the Jubilee Year 2025

BLESSING OF CHALK FOR HOUSE BLESSING

At the end of Mass today, we will be blessing and distributing the chalk for the traditional house blessing on the Feast of the Epiphany. You will receive a small piece of chalk and the prayer for the blessing at home and how to write the blessing on our doorposts.

JUST FOR A LAUGH...

A man went to the doctor for an examination and got a very bad report. The doctor said, “You are in terrible shape. I need to visit with your wife about your condition.” So the man's wife went into the doctor's office, closed the door, sat down, and the doctor said, “Your husband is in terrible condition. He has malnutrition of the worst order and he must have three hot, home-cooked meals every day. Furthermore, he is allergic to dust and so the house must be dusted and vacuumed completely every week. And, the soap the laundry is using in his clothes has affected him adversely and you must begin to wash and iron his clothes at home yourself. He has a terrible inferiority complex. He needs love and attention on a daily basis. If you do not do these things, your husband will be dead in six months.” The lady left the doctor's office and her husband asked, “What did he say?” She said, “He said you have just 6 months to live.”



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