



# ST. PETER IN CHAINS • ARDROSSAN

'Family of Parishes'

# ST. BRIDE'S • WEST KILBRIDE



2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent Year B

6<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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

## 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**



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

## THE LORD'S DAY AT HOME

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

### Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah: "Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way. A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight." and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

### Reflection

Cribs – or Mangers or Nativity Scenes – comes in all shapes, styles and sizes, from the tiniest that can be contained in a matchbox to life size versions in Cathedrals and public squares. But though they are all different, they all have the same "cast": Mary and Joseph, the baby, one or more shepherd with assorted sheep, an ox and an ass, and probably three wise men with at least one camel. One figure that you are not likely to see in a nativity scene is John the Baptist. Now while this is entirely understandable (since he was only a six-month-old baby himself when Jesus was born) we welcome John the Baptist into our Advent journey this week and next. Every year he fills up two Sundays so close to Christmas! He is calling us to recognise something important: Christmas is not just the birth of a baby, but the birth in the flesh of the One who is to come – the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, the one who baptises with fire. There are many people who will gaze at a crib this season and feel sweet and moving thoughts at the baby born in such circumstances – but are we willing to look where John points, and see beyond the baby to the mighty God of heaven who empties himself for us? And if we can glimpse that, what must we do to prepare his ways, to make his paths straight?

### 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.



# Second Week of Advent [B] 2020

December 2020	St Peter-in-Chains Ardrossan <i>Father Duncan McVicar</i>	St. Bride's West Kilbride <i>Father Duncan McVicar</i>	St John's Stevenston <i>Canon Martin Poland</i>	St Mary's Saltcoats <i>Canon Martin Poland</i>	St Peter's Parish Centre <i>Fiona Brown</i>
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Our Lady's Day for Advent</b> Mass at 10am – Live Streamed <i>Offered for Alistair MacMillan (D)</i> <b>Second Sunday of Advent, Year B</b> Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Public) <i>Offered for Kathleen Fraser (RD), Jean Strachan (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Second Sunday of Advent, Year B</b> Mass at 10.30am - Public <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 11.30am	Mass at 10am	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Memorial of St. Ambrose</b> Mass at 10am (Public) <i>Offered for Margaret Marshall (RD) and the Special Intentions of Alistair, Fiona, Clare and Elaine.</i>				
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary</b> Mass at 10am – Private <i>Offered for Mr &amp; Mrs Mc Pake (D) and Suzanne (SI)</i>	Mass at 10am		Mass at 10am	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Memorial of St. Juan Diego of Guadalupe</b> Mass at 10am (Public) <i>Offered for James McIntosh (A) Mr &amp; Mrs MacMillan (D)</i>		Mass at 10am		
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Loreto</b> Mass at 10am - Live Streamed <i>Offered for Theresa Loudon (RD) Isabella MacMillan (A) and for the special intentions of Vicky, Michelle and Suzanne.</i>			Mass at 10am	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Requiem Mass for John Clarke</b> Mass at 10am (Private)	Mass at 12.00pm	Mass at 10am		
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe</b> Mass at 10am – Live Streamed <i>Offered for Charlotte Hutchison (RD)</i> <b>Third Sunday of Advent, Year B</b> Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Public) <i>Offered for Stephen Weideger (RD), John Hutchison</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	

St Peter's Parish Centre: Fiona Brown 07907 389703

## NEXT SUNDAY IS "GAUDATE SUNDAY"

The Third Sunday of Advent has a special title "Gaudete Sunday" - which means the Sunday to rejoice as Christmas is getting near. We will light the rose-coloured candle.

**MASS LIVE-STREAMING** access by going on the Parish Websites. [saintpeterinchains.co.uk](http://saintpeterinchains.co.uk) - Click SERVICES on the red menu bar. Then MASS TIMES on the menu. Website: [saintpeterinchains.net](http://saintpeterinchains.net) - Go to top right-hand corner of the screen. Click "Live Streaming at Mass Times" Website: [www.stbrideschurch.co.uk](http://www.stbrideschurch.co.uk) Click on Live Streaming button at bottom right of the Home page.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Anthony Brennan, Cathie Currie, Maria Hilferty, Cathie Slimman, Mary Finnigan.

### + Those who have died recently:

Matthew (Matt) Donnelly, John Clarke, Stephen Weideger, Jean Strachan, Theresa Loudon, Joe McGhee, Seamus Reilly (Snr), Kathleen Fraser, Charlotte Hutchison, Margaret Marshall, Richard Haswell.

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

Susan Connor 2009, Thomas Connor 2006, Joyce Feeney 2012, Jean Graham, Alexander Merrick 2001, May Shanks 1990, Rose Smith 1999, Sarah Braniff 1961, Katherine Fearon 1911, Janet Ferris 2013, Ann McCubbin, Robert Shanks 1996, Alexander Bartley 2017, Teresa Dorans 2006, Philip Gargan 2012, Margaret Hughes 2006, James Mathieson 1999, Gerard McCulloch 1990, Anthony McGarvey 1996, John McKay junior 1972, James McSorley 2010, Cassie Millen 2011, May O'Farrell 2013, Father Alec Smith SDB 2008, John Tracy 1999, George Forbes 2014, Agnes Martin 2007, Jim McIntosh 2019, Laurence Poland 2010, Agnes Stevenson 1992, Agnes Tomelty 2017, Maria Cunningham 1997, Alex Fitzpatrick 1991, James McGlynn 2004, Catherine McGrattan 1969, Sheila McLaughlin 2010, Danny McMail 2016, Harry Quigg 1998, Bruna Conn 2009, Mary Hall 1999, John Ireland 2017, Maria Monaghan 1998, Margaret Newall 1994, Margaret Spencer 1992, Alexander Stewart 1982, James Taylor 2002, Desmond Walsh 2007, John Welsh 2017.

## St. Peter's Notices

► **REQUIEM MASS FOR JOHN CLARKE** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of John Clarke, who died on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020. His Requiem Mass will be on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December at 10am, followed by Interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

► **CHRISTMAS MASS BOOKINGS** We are waiting to see if there are any changes to the current government guidelines. Therefore, booking for Christmas Eve and Christmas day Mass will be available from Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

► **DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD:** Thinking about Diocesan Priesthood in 2021? The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information please contact Fr. Martin Chambers by email:

[martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

► **CHANA@Christmas** CHANA (Churches Homelessness Action North Ayrshire) has teamed up with the Ayrshire based charity Night Before Christmas. CHANA is asking people to support Night Before Christmas by putting cash in an envelope marked CHANA and put it in the church collection, or by donating to the Just Giving page

<https://www.justgiving.com/nb4cc> It would be good to have all donations by 7<sup>th</sup> December. Night Before Christmas will provide Christmas boxes for 46 children under 12, 10 teenagers and 60 adults who are in Supported Accommodation or the Hostel in North Ayrshire. CHANA has donated £400. Many thanks to those who have donated to CHANA and to the Just Giving Page.

► **PROJECT GAMBIA** "Following our visit to your parish we would like to give a huge thank you for your extremely generous response. As a result of this we were able to raise an amazing final total of £1,392. This has helped us tremendously in our mission to improve the lives of the children we support in West Africa."

### **ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

The Offertory Collection 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020: £553.36

### **ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

The Offertory Collection 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020: £140.00

### **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 Notices

► **ADVENT BOOKLET** We hope you are enjoying the booklet as we start our journey through Advent.

► **EXTRA MASS** Fr. Gerry Hamill will celebrate Mass every Tuesday at 10am. We are very lucky to have 3 Masses per week, Tuesday, Friday and Sunday. At present Mass attended through the week counts as your Sunday obligation.

► **CHRISTMAS MASS** Mass will be celebrated at 7pm on Christmas Eve and 9.30am on Christmas Day.

**JUST FOR A LAUGH...** The local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old lady in Ardrossan because she had just married for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her life, about what it felt like to be marrying again at 80, and then about her new husband's occupation. "He's a funeral director," she answered. "Interesting," the newsman thought. He then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments, needing time to reflect on all those years. After short time, a smile came to her face and she answered proudly, explaining that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when in her 40's, and a clergyman when in her 60's, and now - in her 80's - a funeral director. The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such diverse careers.

(WAIT FOR IT)

She smiled and explained, "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready and four to go."



## Mustard Seeds

### ✠ **Miracle of the Holy Night**

Once upon a time, many, many years ago, an old shoemaker and his wife lived in a tiny cottage. This humble shoemaker had few worldly possessions, but whatever he owned he shared with others. Symbolic of his generosity and love of his neighbour was a lighted candle he placed in the window of his cottage which, every night, shone forth as a welcome sign of hospitality to any weary traveller in search of shelter. War and near destruction fell upon this little village - but never once did the little candle fail to send its beams as a message of hope and cheer to all. Somehow, the shoemaker and his wife suffered far less than the other villagers. It seemed there was a special love guarding both of them. Discouraged and weary, the village peasants gathered together one evening to discuss the shoemaker's fortune. "Surely there is something special about him: He is always spared from all misfortunes. What does he do that we do not do?" "Perhaps it is his little candle!", said one of the villagers. "Let us all put a candle in our windows too, this Christmas, and see if that is the mysterious secret!" Now, it so happened that the day of the peasant's meeting was the day before Christmas, and the first night that a candle was lit in the window of every home was Christmas Eve. The candles burned all that night. When morning came, a soft mantle of snow covered all of the village and an air of hope and contentment filled the hearts of all the villagers. Before the first ray of the morning sun, a messenger rode into the village to bring the great news - the war was over, peace had come! Tiny silver church bells chimed - never before had there been such a feeling of Christmas glory and joy as there was on that day. The peasants were awed: "It was the candles," they whispered. "It was the candles! They have guided the newborn Saviour to our very doorsteps of our homes and families and have brought an answer to all of our prayers. We must never again fail to light our candles when we celebrate the Miracle of the Holy Night!"

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