



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!



Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year [B]

8th September 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

Telephone: 01294 464063
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

PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE
BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU OR PASS IT
ON TO SOMEONE ELSE. *THANKS!*

Mustard Seeds

✠ The Sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross is a simple gesture yet a profound expression of faith. As Catholics, it's something we do when we enter a church, after we receive Communion, before meals, and every time we pray. But what exactly are we doing when we make the Sign of the Cross? Here are seven things: **1. Pray** - We begin and end our prayers with the Sign of the Cross, perhaps not realizing that the sign is itself a prayer. If prayer, at its core, is "an uprising of the mind to God," as St. John Damascene put it, then the Sign of the Cross assuredly qualifies. No empty gesture, the sign of the cross is a potent prayer that engages the Holy Spirit as the divine advocate and agent of our successful Christian living. **2. Commit the whole self to Christ** - In moving our hands from our foreheads to our hearts and then both shoulders, we are asking God's blessing for our mind, our passions and desires, our very bodies. In other words, the Sign of the Cross commits us, body and soul, mind and heart, to Christ. "Let it take in your whole being—body, soul, mind, will, thoughts, feelings, your doing and not-doing—and by signing it with the cross strengthen and consecrate the whole in the strength of Christ, in the name of the triune God," said twentieth century theologian Romano Guardini. **3. Affirm the Trinity** - In invoking the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we are affirming our belief in a triune God. This is also reinforced by using three fingers to make the sign, according to Pope Innocent III. **4. Crucify ourselves with Christ** - Whoever wishes to follow Christ "must deny himself" and "take up his cross" as Jesus told the disciples in Matthew 16:24. "I have been crucified with Christ," St. Paul writes in Galatians 2:19. Proclaiming the sign of the cross proclaims our yes to this condition of discipleship. **5. Reaffirm our baptism**- In using the same words with which we were baptised, the Sign of the Cross is a "summing up and re-acceptance of our baptism," according to then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger. **6. Ward off the devil** - The Sign of the Cross is one of the very weapons we use in that battle with the devil. As one medieval preacher named Aelfric declared, "A man may wave about wonderfully with his hands without creating any blessing unless he make the sign of the cross. But, if he do, the fiend will soon be frightened on account of the victorious token." In another statement, attributed to St. John Chrysostom, demons are said to "fly away" at the Sign of the Cross "dreading it as a staff that they are beaten with." (Source: Catholic Encyclopedia.) **7. Witness to others** - As a gesture often made in public, the Sign of the Cross is a simple way to witness our faith to others. "Let us not then be ashamed to confess the Crucified. Be the Cross our seal made with boldness by our fingers on our brow, and on everything; over the bread we eat, and the cups we drink; in our comings in, and goings out; before our sleep, when we lie down and when we rise up; when we are in the way, and when we are still," wrote St. Cyril of Jerusalem.



In the name
of the **Father**,
and of the
Son,
and of the
Holy,
Spirit, Amen.

Twenty-Third 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> 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</i> <i>Fr. Gerry Hamill (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>	
		St Bride's	St. John's	St. Mary's
Saturday 7 th September	23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) (Vocations Awareness Week) Vigil Mass 5.30pm <i>Offered for peace in the world and all those suffering through war</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 8 th September	23rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) (Vocations Awareness Week) Mass 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass 12.15pm	Mass 11.30am (L)	Mass 10am (L)
Monday 9 th September	23rd WEEK OF THE YEAR Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am, Mass 10am <i>Offered for Hugo Harper (RD)</i>		Prayers of Reception 6pm James Ferguson	
Tuesday 10 th September	REQUIEM MASS AT 10AM (Not Livestreamed) IAN McGALE	Morning Prayer of the Church 9.40am Mass 10am	Funeral Mass 10am James Ferguson	Eucharistic Service 10am
Wednesday 11 th September	DEDICATION OF OUR DIOCESAN CATHEDRAL Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am, Mass 10am <i>Offered for Sarah Wright (A)</i>		Mass 10am (L) Mass 1.30pm in St John's PS	
Thursday 12 th September	MEMORIAL OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am, Mass 10am <i>Offered for Sandra Convery (RD)</i>			Mass 10am
Friday 13 th September	MEMORIAL OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am, Mass 10am <i>Offered for Theresa Bothwell (SI)</i> Benediction 10.30am <i>(Refreshments in St Peter's Caf� afterwards)</i>	Mass 10am	Eucharistic Service 10am	Funeral Mass 10am June Trundle
Saturday 14 th September	24th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) (Blessing of Crosses at Mass) Vigil Mass 5.30pm <i>Offered for Beryl Meechan (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass 4.30pm (L)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Tony Smith, David McMahan, Marie Mitchell, Francis Adie, Michael McCulloch, Jim Donnelly, Rosemary Smith, Alan & Margaret McDonald, Jim Timoney.

✚ Those who have died recently:
Hugo Harper, Ian McGale, Sandra Convery, Beryl Meechan.

✚ Those who died at this time of Year:
Jim Boyle 2022, Catherine Campbell 2003, James Duffin 1960, Margaret Logan 2013, William Loudon 1977, Joan McKnight 1976, Margaret Walsh 2015, Helen Burns 2022, Harry Kaye 2000, Susannah Kemp 1948, James Moore 1998, Florence Slavin 1998, Father Martin McCluskey 1996, Tom McLaren 2014, Lillian Bonnar 2022, Cathie Hilferty 2009, Mary Mitchell 2004, Gladys Moore 2006, Mary Otto 2008, Mr and Mrs Daniel Brown, Samuel Cambridge 2005, Mary Crossan 1981, John Hazelton 1974, Jane McKeachan 1998, Bridget McLaughlin 1997, John Burns 1997, Sister Annette Cross and Passion 2016, Alberto Carrino 2009, Dolores Fairhurst 2014, Thomas Fernes 2011, James Hughes 2010, James Love 1996, Anne McCabe 1995.

Please keep all the Deceased in your Prayers

"At the death of a Christian, whose life of faith was begun in the waters of Baptism and strengthened at the Eucharistic table, the Church intercedes on behalf of the deceased because of its confident belief that death is not the end, nor does it break the bonds forged in life. The Church also ministers to the sorrowing and consoles them in the funeral rites with the comforting Word of God and the Sacrament of the Eucharist."

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP
 Offertory Cash Collection 1st September 2024: £483.64
 Second Collection (Building Fund): £282.25
 Standing Orders for August 2024: £3717.00

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP
 Offertory Cash Collection 1st September 2024: £66.00
 Standing Orders for August 2024: £1030.00

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

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

- ▶ **REQUIEM MASS FOR IAN MCGALE** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Ian McGale who died on 22nd August 2024, aged 71 years. His Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday, 10th September at 10am, followed by Interment at Kilwinning Cemetery. His Month's Mind Mass will be on Monday, 23rd September 2024 at 10am. May he rest in peace and rise in glory
- ▶ **SUNDAY TEAS AT ST PETER'S** Thanks to our SVP Teams, we started the Refreshments after Sunday Mass at St Peter's on Sunday 1st September, and will now take place on the first Sunday of every month. This is a great opportunity for our Parish Community to get together after Mass. Everyone welcome!
- ▶ **SUNDAY TEAS AT ST BRIDE'S** Teas will be served in the community room after Mass on Sundays. Everyone Welcome!
- ▶ **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING - COMING SOON AT ST BRIDE'S** The "How can I help?" Sheets are now coming in. If you would like to hand one in still, please do so this weekend and we will take the next step at the coming Pastoral Council Meeting in the Community Room at 7pm on Monday 14th October.
- ▶ **RETIRED PRIESTS FUND** Next weekend 15th & 16th September 2024 we will take up the special collection for the Retired Priest Fund. As always, we would like to thank you for your continued generosity.
- ▶ **ST PETER'S KNIT & KNATTER** The Knit & Knatter Group meet in the Snug in the Parish Centre every Wednesday from 1:00 - 3:00pm. New members are very welcome.

Constitutional right to abortion

SNP members have voted in favour of a motion to enshrine the right to abortion in the constitution of an independent Scotland. The motion, which was proposed by the party's Elgin branch, states "legal abortion is a fundamental aspect of healthcare and bodily autonomy" and adds: "the right to choose [an abortion]... should be a guaranteed and protected right within the highest legal framework of our nation." The successful motion is now expected to become party policy and will mean that SNP Ministers in any future government in an independent Scotland will be expected to enshrine the right to abortion in a constitution. Should this materialise, it paves the way for abortion up to birth for any reason. Rather than pursuing a radical proposal like a constitutional right to abortion, it would be much better if efforts were instead focused on trying to understand why women are having abortions in the first place and explore ways in which government and third sector organisations can provide care and support to those in need.

Blessing of our House Crosses

Saturday is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Please bring any crosses you have on the wall at home and place them on the altar, or in front of the altar, and they will receive a special blessing at the Vigil Mass in St Peter's and at the Sunday Mass in St Peter's/St Bride's. Through the crucifix in our homes, we remind ourselves that our home is a Holy Place and we need God's love and protection.

Do You Love Me

There is a song from a famous Broadway musical that gives a great insight into this truth. The musical is about a poor Jewish family living in Russia in a small village in the early 1900s. The parents, Tevye and Golde are in the middle of seeing their five daughters marry and go off to start their own families. One day Tevye and Golde are alone in the house. Tevye, the husband, in the midst of his nostalgia at saying goodbye to his daughters, asks Golde, his wife, if she loves him. She is exasperated by the question and tells him to go inside and lie down. But he insists, he keeps asking: do you love me? But she won't give him an answer. Finally she sings: "For twenty-five years I've washed your clothes, cooked your meals, cleaned your house, Given you children, milked the cow, After twenty-five years, why talk about love right now?" Then they banter back and forth, and he keeps insisting, and finally she muses to herself: "Do I love him? For twenty-five years I've lived with him, fought with him, starved with him... If that's not

love, what is?" It's an entertaining song, but it contains a deep truth. True love is more than feelings, true love is about giving oneself. The same goes for our love for Christ. If we want to become mature Christians and grow in wisdom and grace, it needs to become a real friendship that engages and affects our whole lives.



SUNDAY MISSAL – PRE ORDER

We can now order the Order of the Mass for Sundays Missal with the new ESV-CE Lectionary Translation and the Abbey Psalms. The normal cost is £19 but we will be offering at a cost of **£16**. To order a Sunday Missal, put your name on the envelope provided in the church stall and please ensure you enclose payment.

Thank you.

Notable Date

On 8th September 2017
Father Duncan McVicar
became Parish Priest of St Peter in Chains.

Just for a Laugh... 😄😄😄

☆ Reporters interviewing a 104-year-old woman: "And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?" the reporter asked. She simply replied, "No peer pressure."

☆ An elderly woman decided to prepare her will and told her Parish Priest she had two final requests. First, she wanted to be cremated, and second, she wanted her ashes scattered over Morrisons Supermarket. "Morrisons?" the priest exclaimed. "Why Morrisons?" "Then I'll be sure my daughters visit me twice a week."

☆ The Senility Prayer - God, Grant me the Senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones that I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference. Amen

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