



ST. PETER IN CHAINS • ARDROSSAN
'Family of Parishes'
ST. BRIDE'S • WEST KILBRIDE



24th Sunday of Ordinary Time [A]

13th September 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

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WEBSITES

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

07722 246 169 (*Ardrossan*)
07910 194 401 (*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 prayers to unite yourself with the worship of the Universal Church, and your own Parish, this Sunday. If alone, read or say these prayers 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 Reading

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Reflection

This is a Gospel of exaggerations! "Seventy times seven" is a ridiculous number, not to be taken seriously: does Jesus really mean that we forgive someone 490 times, and then refuse to have mercy on the 491st? It simply means "Never stop forgiving." Similarly, the parable Jesus tells has a ridiculous exaggeration – the sum the first servant owes is 10,000 talents: lots of estimates can be found to work out what this would equal in modern money – anything between £3 billion and £7 billion! Obviously this is a debt that can never be repaid. This is what Jesus says our sins are like – a debt we owe to God that we can never hope to repay. But God's mercy not only forgives but wipes out the debt! The 100 denarii, on the other hand, is still a significant amount, though much less – perhaps about £10,000. This is what other people owe us – which we should forgive. Letting someone off a debt of £10,000 is not easy! Perhaps forgiveness is even harder!

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.

Twenty Fourth Week of Ordinary Time [A] 2020

September 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 12 th September	Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary Mass at 10am – Live Streamed <i>Offered for Geraldine Kent (SI)</i> 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time Vigil Mass at 5.30pm - Public <i>Offered for Kevin Rennie (SI)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	
Sunday 13 th September	24th Sunday of the Year Mass at 10.30am - Public <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass At 12.15pm	Mass at 11.30am	Mass at 10am	
Monday 14 th September	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Mass at 10am – Public <i>Offered for Ritano Betti (RD)</i> <i>Offered for Audrey Orlege (RD)</i>				
Tuesday 15 th September	Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows Mass at 10am - Live Streamed <i>Offered for Daniel McGoogan (RD)</i> <i>Offered for Angela Body (B)</i>			Mass at 10am	
Wednesday 16 th September	Feast of St. Ninian Mass at 10am – Public <i>Offered for Knit & Knatter Group (A)</i> <i>Offered for Frances Giblin (A)</i> <i>Offered for Mary McLellan (A)</i>		Mass at 10am		
Thursday 17 th September	24th Week of the Year Mass at 10am - Live Streamed <i>Offered for Hugh Donohoe (A)</i> <i>Offered for Marie Murray (SI)</i>			Mass at 10am	
Friday 18 th September	Special Mass in Time of Pandemic Mass at 10am – Public <i>Offered for Anne (Nancy) Sheehan (A)</i> <i>Offered for Jimmy Templeton (SI)</i>	Mass At 12.00pm	Mass at 10am		
Saturday 19 th September	Our Lady's Day Mass at 10am – Live Streamed <i>Offered for Margaret McCabe (B)</i> 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time Vigil Mass at 5.30pm - Public <i>Offered for Ronnie Cairns (A)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	
Sallywags Aftercare <i>[During Term Time]</i> Monday - Friday 3pm-6pm		Sallywags Aftercare <i>[during school holidays]</i> Monday - Friday 8am - 6pm		St Peter's Centre Bookings Fiona Brown New Number! 07907 389703	

A Simple Explanation of the Mass - Part XV

In the hand or on the tongue? We have the option of receiving Communion in the hand or on the tongue. Many Catholics who were raised in the pre-Vatican II Church think that receiving Holy Communion in the hand was a Vatican II initiative. It is not. Though we do not know for certain, we can safely assume that the Apostles at the Last Supper received the bread in their hands from Jesus. We also know that back in the first millennium, Catholic Christians usually received Communion in their hand. St. Cyril of Jerusalem describes the fourth century procedure in this way: "When you approach, do not go stretching out your hands or having your fingers spread out, but make the left hand into a throne for the right one, which shall receive the King, and then cup your open hand and take the Body of Christ, reciting the Amen." During the distribution of Holy Communion, an appropriate hymn is sung. Our participation in the singing of the communion hymn expresses our spiritual union with all communicants. At the end of the communion song, there is a period of silence for interior prayer and contemplation of the gifts received.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

John Clarke, Frances Stalker, Anthony Brennan, Cathie Currie, Cathie Sliman, Cathie Newale.

✚ Those who have died recently:

Ritano Betti, Audrey Orlege, Daniel McGoogan, Alice Morgan, John Boyle (Ireland), Margaret Harvey, Margaret Timmons (Dunfermline).

✚ Those who died at this time of Year:

John Burns 1997, Alberto Carrino 2009, Dolores Fairhurst 2014, Thomas Fernes 2011, James Love 1996, James Hughes 2010, Anne McCabe 1995, Sister Annette, Cross and Passion 2016, Joe Brady junior 1999, Joseph Brady 2006, Elizabeth Cawley 1997, Frances Giblin 2017, John Marshall 2000, Patrick Joseph O'Hare 1955, Thomas White 1995, Mathew Folan 1994, Tom Howieson 2007, Walter Jones 1985, James Lawson 1992, Kathleen Mullin 2012, Hugh Donohoe 2008, George Hall 2007, Alison Lawson née Giebler 2015, Frances McLaughlin 2008, Mary McLellan 2004, Victor and Charlotte Mitchell, Joshua O'Neill 2017, Jim Vernon 2014, Cornelius Burke 1988, Chris Glenn 2011, Eamon Lennon junior, Margaret Finnegan 2010, Patrick Joseph McKay 1989, Sister Pauline CP 1999, Father Alastair Tosh 2007, Brian Loy 2014, Patricia Trainer 2002.

St. Peter's Notices

- ▶ **WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS** Congratulations and special blessings for Heather Drysdale and John Lenaghan, who married last Thursday. We wish them a "love for a lifetime".
- ▶ **ST. PETER'S PARISH CENTRE** There is a new contact number for booking, etc. The new number for Fiona is: 07907 389703.
- ▶ **MASS LIVE-STREAMING** All our Celebrations of Mass and other Church services are live-streamed. You can access this every day by going on the Parish Websites. To get the live-streaming at St Peter's: Website: saintpeterinchains.co.uk - Click SERVICES on the red menu bar. Then MASS TIMES on the menu. Then scroll down to "Click here to view Mass". Website: saintpeterinchains.net - Go to top right-hand corner of the screen. Click "Live Streaming at Mass Times" Live-streaming begins five minutes before the start of Mass.
- ▶ **CHURCH PIETY STALL** If you should require anything from our Stall, i.e. Mass Cards, religious items, etc. Please ask Betty Craig and she will organise it for you.

JUST FOR A LAUGH...

After the Baptism of his baby brother in church, little Johnny sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "That priest said he wanted us brought up in a Catholic home, but I want to stay with all of you."

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

The Offertory Collection 6th September 2020: £655.98
Second Collection (Building Fund) £110.00

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Collection amount not available when going to print.

STANDING ORDERS - PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT

The Parishes have taken quite a "knock" through the Lockdown when public Mass was not available for sixteen weeks. This has had a huge impact on our Parishes Finances. 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 all your support and generosity!*

St. Bride's Notices

- ▶ **NEW WEBSITE** We are delighted to announce that our new website will be live from this weekend (12th September) A big thank you to Joe McAleavy for all his efforts to make this happen. If you would like to include any news or information, we will be happy to put it on the website. Please send it to howiephyllis@yahoo.co.uk.
- ▶ **HOLY MASS** We have enjoyed seeing and speaking to those Parishioners who have managed along to the Friday or Sunday Mass. We understand why some of you have not yet come along and have included you in our thoughts and prayers at Mass. We hope you are all safe and well.

Reminder...

Sunday obligation to attend Holy Mass remains suspended for the time being and availability is restricted for those wishing to attend. Some of our parishioners are working during the week and can only attend at the weekend. Therefore, to make Holy Mass available to everyone we would be grateful if you wish to attend Mass and are able to attend on a weekday, please do so leaving seats for those parishioners working during the week. *Thank you*

Collection for our Retired Priests

A special collection will be coming up on the last weekend of September for our Retired Priests in the Diocese.

Please collect the special donation envelopes.
Thank you for your support and generosity!

Food for Thought

"I often wondered as a young person what the secret was to being a good parent. Reflecting on my childhood now I can see clearly that my mother and father taught me with their actions. The secret: be there. Be there for your children. It is not about quality time; it's about quantity time."

Mustard Seeds

✦ The Necklace

The cheerful little girl with bouncy golden curls was almost five. Waiting with her mother at the checkout stand, she saw them, a circle of glistening white pearls in a pink foil box. Oh mummy, please, mummy, can I have them? Please, Mommy, please?" Quickly the mother checked the back of the little foil box and then looked back into the pleading blue eyes of her little girl's upturned face. "£10. If you really want them, I'll think of some extra chores for you and in no time you can save enough money to buy them for yourself." As soon as Jenny got home, she emptied her penny bank and counted out 17 pence. After dinner, she did more than her share of chores and she went to the neighbour and asked Mrs. McJames if she could pull out the weeds for £2. On her birthday, grandma did give her £5 and slowly she had enough money to buy the necklace. Jenny loved her pearls. They made her feel dressed-up and grown up. She wore them everywhere; school, Church, even to bed. The only time she took them off was when she went swimming or had a shower. Mother said if they got wet, they might turn her neck green. Jenny had a very loving daddy and every night when she was ready for bed, he would stop whatever he was doing and come upstairs to read her a story. One night as he finished the story, he asked Jenny, "Do you love me?" "Oh yes, daddy. You know that I love you." "Then give me your pearls." "Oh, daddy, not my pearls. But you can have Princess, the white horse from my collection, the one with the pink tail. Remember, daddy? The one you gave me. She's my very favourite." "That's okay, Honey, daddy loves you. Good night." And he brushed her cheek with a kiss. About a week later, after the story time, Jenny's daddy asked again, "Do you love me?" "Daddy, you know I love you." "Then give me your pearls." "Oh Daddy, not my pearls. But you can have my baby doll, the brand new one I got for my birthday. She is beautiful." "That's okay. Sleep well. God bless you, little one. Daddy loves you." And as always, he brushed her cheek with a gentle kiss. A few nights later when her daddy came in, Jenny was sitting on her bed with her legs crossed Indian style. As he came close, he noticed her chin was trembling and one silent tear rolled down her cheek. "What is it, Jenny? What's the matter?" Jenny didn't say anything but lifted her little hand up to her daddy. And when she opened it, there was her little pearl necklace. With a little quiver, she finally said, "Here, daddy, this is for you." With tears gathering in his own eyes, Jenny's daddy reached out with one hand to take the cheap necklace, and with the other hand he reached into his pocket and pulled out a blue velvet case with a strand of genuine pearls and gave them to Jenny. He had them all the time. He was just waiting for her to give up the cheap stuff so he could give her the genuine treasure. So it is, with our Heavenly Father. He is waiting for us to give up the cheap things in our lives so that he can give us beautiful treasures. Isn't God good? Are you holding on to things that God wants you to let go of? Are you holding on to harmful or unnecessary habits and activities that you have become so attached to that it seems impossible to let go? Sometimes it is so hard to see what is in the other hand but do believe this one thing... God will never take away something without giving you something better in its place.

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