



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!



Sixth Sunday of the Year [B]

14th February 2021

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESSES

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Ardrossan, KA22 8DU

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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 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

Reflection

At Mass in Church this Sunday the first reading is rather peculiar – until you get to this Gospel. It is the instructions laid down by Moses for treating someone who has contracted leprosy (what today we call Hansen's disease): they are to be considered "unclean" and must live outside the camp, away from everyone else. Knowing this is important, so that we really understand what Jesus is doing – this story works on several levels. This miracle first shows the simple kindness and love of Jesus for a person in need: the man has faith in him, but perhaps because of ill treatment from others in the past (people who have only been following the Law of Moses), he is diffident, hesitant, unsure – "If you want to, you can cure me." How beautiful are the words of Jesus, resonating through the centuries to anyone who turns to him in time of need: "Of course I want to!" But there is another, deeper layer to this story: despite Jesus' warning, the man talks about the miracle everywhere, with the surprising result that Jesus almost seems to become a leper himself – "he could no longer go openly into any town but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived." This is exactly the condition the man he cured had to endure before he was made whole again. So while Jesus restores his health (as well as probably returning the man to his home, his family and his job), he takes something of his suffering - his isolation - on himself. This is entirely consistent with what we believe of the Mission of Jesus: remember how in Lent and Holy Week we focus on the cross, the moment when Jesus "takes our sins upon himself" so that we can be renewed. Let's think today of the remarkable compassion of Jesus, who carries our sufferings, who bears our sins.



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



Sixth Week of the Year [B] 2020

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 13 th February	6th Sunday of the Year [B] Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Jeanette Burry (RD) and family, Frank Barrett (RD) and Peggy McKeachan (A)</i>		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (Live Streamed Only)
Sunday 14 th February	6th 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 15 th February	6th Week of the Year Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Pat Maxwell (A) and Paul Quay (RD)</i>		Funeral Mass (Live Streamed Only)
Tuesday 16 th February	Votive Mass to St. Joseph Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Thomas Twigg (SI) and Nicholas Donnelly (RD)</i>		Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)
Wednesday 17 th February	Ash Wednesday (Fasting and Abstinence) Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Annie Docherty (RD) and Michael McManus (RD)</i>	Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)	Mass at 7pm (Live Streamed Only)
Thursday 18 th February	Thursday after Ash Wednesday Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Josephine Atkins (RD) and Jo Carswell (RD)</i>		Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)
Friday 19 th February	Special Mass for those who have suffered abuse Stations of the Cross at 9.30am (Live Streamed Only) Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)	Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)	
Saturday 20 th February	1st Sunday of Lent [B] Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Norma Clarke (A) and Millicent Ward (A)</i>		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (Live Streamed Only)

The Season of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, 17th February

When you give up chocolate for 40 days, you lose a pound or two. When you learn how to pray and develop a daily habit of conversation with God... your whole life changes and, in fact, the person you are changes! This year, don't just give up chocolate for Lent. Do something life-changing. After all, Lent isn't about what you give up. It's about who you become. Here are a few Resources to help us get the most out of Lent this year:

- A Penitential Prayer for Ash Wednesday if you cannot receive Ashes on the day.
- A Booklet from EWTN with Reflections for the Sundays of Lent
- A Prayer Booklet of the Stations of the Cross so that you can pray with them faithfully during the weeks of Lent.
- The Leaflet "40 Ways to get more out of Lent".
- I'm hoping to send you a daily short Lenten Meditation every day of Lent. They will start on Ash Wednesday.
- Develop a personalised prayer routine, that will continue after Lent finishes.
- Find a lasting peace rooted in Christ! Don't let another Lent go by without immersing yourself in the history, tradition and beauty of this wonderful time of preparation and growth! We are NEVER alone... we support each other and God's grace is always at our disposal.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Jim Boyle, Canon Archie Brown, Robert Stevenson.

✝ Those who have died recently:

Josephine Atkins, Frank Barrett, Paul Quay, Nicholas Donnelly, Annie Docherty, Michael McManus, Jo Carswell.

✝ Those who died at this time of Year:

Mary Hall 1989, Patricketta Maxwell 2004, Canon Tom McGread, Winnie McLaughlin 2015, Catherine Morrison 1977, John Carrick 2010, Edward McCann 2019, James McLaren 1964, Isabel Rodgers 2020, Patrick Kelly 1989, Lucia Valenti 1972, Rose Walker 1985, Jack Conlan 2013, Nathan Murray-Collier 2005, Ellen Reilly 1954, Eileen Watkins 2015, Jean Wylie, Francis Clark 1953, Helen Clark 1973, Hugh McGinn 2013, Kelly Smith 2007, Norma Clarke 2018, John Patrick Collins 2012, Rose Folan 2012, Patrick Haggarty 2017, George Monaghan 2004.

► **EMERGENCY ON-CALL AT HOSPITALS** Father Duncan will be on emergency call-out for the Ayrshire Hospitals from Sunday 14th until Sunday 21st February. Please keep all the sick in your prayers at this time.

► **GIFT AID AT ST BRIDE'S** St Bride's received the Gift Aid from last year amounting to £5056. Sincere thanks for all the generosity and support.

Stations of the Cross for Lent - The Stations of the Cross refers to the fourteen images depicting Jesus' Passion that we see in many churches. The purpose of the exercise is to make a spiritual pilgrimage through what is arguably the most dramatic moment of Christ's life. The Stations reveal the lowest point in Jesus' life and, in turn, the Stations resonate with the difficult times we experience in life as well as the tough times that we hold in our memories. In this way, the Stations appeal more to the heart than they do to the head. When we take Jesus's suffering into us and ponder the events he experienced in our hearts, we are stirred from spiritual sleepwalking. The point of the exercise is to nudge us into thinking about how, as Christians we are supposed to be imitating Christ's life. The Prayers of the Stations of the Cross can be found on our Parish websites and the Prayer of the Stations will be live-streamed every Friday of Lent before Mass at 9.30am.

Mustard Seeds

✠ At the Foot of the Cross

Fearing the battle was over
and I'd already lost the war,
I was tired of trying and failing.
I just couldn't fight anymore.

So, dragging my battle-scarred body,
I crawled to the foot of the cross.
And I sobbed. 'Oh please, Lord forgive me.
But I tried...I tried... and still lost.'

Then the air grew silent around me.
I heard his voice just as clear as the dawn:
'Oh, my child, though you are tired and weary,
You can't stop, you have to go on.'

At the foot of the Cross, where I met Him,
At the foot of the Cross, where He died,
I felt love, as I knelt in His presence.
I felt hope, as I looked in His eyes.

Then He gathered me lovingly to Him,
As around us God's light clearly shone.
And together we walked through my lifetime
To heal every wound I had known.

I found bits of my dreams, long forgotten,
And pieces of my life on the floor.
But I watched as He tenderly blessed them,
And my life was worth living once more.

I knew then why I had been losing.
I knew why I had not grown.
At the foot of the Cross came the answer:
I'd been fighting the battle alone.

At the foot of the Cross, where I met Him,
At the foot of the Cross, where He died,
Then I knew I could face any challenge
Together – just my Lord and I.

Litany for the Year of Saint Joseph

The litany of St. Joseph, one of only six approved by the Church for public as well as private use, sums up qualities that made him such an important part of the Holy Family. Although he does not appear much in scripture, this "just man" (as he is called in Matthew 1:19), a humble carpenter, served our Lord and the Blessed Virgin Mary faithfully as His "foster-father" and her "chaste guardian," as he is called below. In referring to St. Joseph as a "diligent protector" of Christ, this litany brings to mind his important role in taking Mary and the infant child Jesus to Egypt to protect our Lord from being killed by King Herod (Matt 3:13-16). The Litany of St. Joseph, in referring to him as a "patron of the dying" gives one of many examples of his patronage.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Christ, hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us.
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy on us.
God the Holy Spirit, have mercy on us.
Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us (after each line)

Saint Joseph,
Renowned offspring of David,
Light of Patriarchs,
Spouse of the Mother of God,
Chaste guardian of the Virgin,
Foster-father of the Son of God,
Diligent protector of Christ,
Head of the Holy Family,
Joseph most just,
Joseph most chaste,
Joseph most prudent,
Joseph most strong,
Joseph most obedient,
Joseph most faithful,
Mirror of patience,
Lover of poverty,
Model of artisans,
Glory of home life,
Guardian of virgins,
Pillar of families,
Solace of the wretched, Hope of the sick,
Patron of the dying,
Terror of demons,
Protector of Holy Church,

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,
Spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us.

V. He made him the lord of His house:
R. And ruler of all His substance.

Let us pray.

O God, who in Thine unspeakable providence didst vouchsafe to choose blessed Joseph to be the spouse of Thine own most holy Mother: grant, we beseech Thee, that we may deserve to have him for our intercessor in heaven, whom we reverence as our defender on earth: who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.



JUST FOR A LAUGH...

Some Tommy Cooper Jokes

- ✓ My friend drowned in a bowl of muesli. A strong currant pulled him in.
- ✓ 'Doc I can't stop singing The Green, Green Grass of Home' 'That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome. 'Is it common?' 'It's not unusual.'

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