



# 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!



Thirtieth Sunday of the Year [A]

29<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## 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  
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## WEBSITES

www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk  
www.saintpeterinchains.net  
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](mailto:crosshousehospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)  
01563 521832 ext:2

**Ayr:** Fr. Benjamin Mkeri 01655 882145  
[ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

**St. Peter in Chains  
and St. Bride's,  
are Parishes in the  
RC Diocese of Galloway.  
Scottish Charity  
Registration SC010576**



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BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU OR PASS IT  
ON TO SOMEONE ELSE. THANKS!**

## Mustard Seeds

### ✠ St Almachius Beats the Gladiators

This is one of the great differences between Christian saints and the wise spiritual heroes of other religions: the saints learn to be close to God, but they also learn to constantly go out of their way to serve their neighbours. One surprising example is the case of St Almachius. He lived in Palestine around the year 400. From an early age he felt called to love God wholeheartedly by following a life of prayer and penance. For many years he lived as a hermit in the desert wastelands, doing just that. Eventually, however, the Holy Spirit entrusted him with a surprising mission to his neighbours. Even though Christianity by this time was the Roman Empire's official religion, the infamous and very pagan gladiatorial combats were still regularly held in the Roman coliseum. The Romans loved those "sporting events," which inevitably resulted in unjust, bloody, and cruel deaths for valiant men. Many gladiators were prisoners or slaves being forced to entertain the crowds by their gruesome combat, as if they were no better than savage beasts.

It was a frontal assault against the human dignity of these men who had been created in God's image and redeemed by Christ. Driven by the Holy Spirit, Almachius made his way to Rome when one such event was in full swing. He entered the amphitheatre, climbed down to the arena floor, and interposed himself between the primary combatants, who were engaged in their death struggle. This scrawny hermit did his best to separate



them, invoking the name of the Lord. The fans, thirsty for blood, were furious. They hurled every manner of projectile at the unprotected monk, stoning him to death. Fortunately, the Emperor heard about the affair and took it as a sign from God. From then on, such games were forbidden; Christian love had been victorious.

### ✠ A Secret Weapon for Christ-like Love

In today's world, people are very busy. Sometimes we even feel much too busy to take time to reach out to neighbours in need. It is very possible, however, that at the end of our life we will see things quite differently. But even in the midst of our busy-ness, we can make an effort to love God by loving our neighbour, precisely in the way we interact with the people around us. A true Christian should always remember that people matter more than things. We should never be too busy for a kind word or a sincere smile. But those of us who really are super-busy can also make use of a secret weapon that allows us to do more in less time, to fulfil both of Christ's two great commandments in one action. And it doesn't add anything at all to our to-do list or calendar. What is this secret weapon? Praying for other people. When we pray for people we are exercising both loves at the same time: we show our love for God by talking to him and expressing confidence in his goodness and power, and we show our love for our neighbour by caring about them.

# 30<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year 2023 [A]

<b>St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan</b> <a href="http://www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk">www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.stbrideschurch.co.uk">www.stbrideschurch.co.uk</a> Father Duncan McVicar assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna & Canon Matt McManus (Retired)		Fr. Duncan McVicar assisted by Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)	<a href="http://www.stevenstonstjohns.com">www.stevenstonstjohns.com</a> <a href="http://www.rcsaltcoats.com">www.rcsaltcoats.com</a> Canon Martin Poland assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna & Canon Matt McManus (Retired)	
Please note all Masses in St. Peter's are Live Streamed Masses may be subject to change.		St Bride's	St. John's	St. Mary's
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> <b>Vigil Mass at 5.30pm</b> <i>Offered for Patricia Carson (A), Margaret McDermott (RD),                      Bridget MacWilliams Collins (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> <b>Mass at 10.30am</b> <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm	Mass at 11.30am (L)	Mass at 10am (L)
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Requiem Mass for Patricia Clarke</b> <b>Mass at 10am</b>			
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year</b> Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am <b>Mass at 10am</b> <i>Offered for Robert Depew (RD),                      Patricia Clarke (RD), Kathleen Dean (A)</i>	Mass at 10am	Vigil Mass at 7pm	Mass at 10am (L)
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	<b>All Saints Day (Holy Day of Obligation)</b> Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am <b>Mass at 10am</b> <i>Offered for Maretta Main (MM)</i> <b>Mass at 7pm</b> <i>Offered for Dr James Dalton (RD), Margaret Skirving (A)</i>	Mass at 10am	Mass at 11am with St John's PS	Mass at 9.30am in St Anthony's PS Mass at 7pm (L)
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	<b>All Souls Day</b> Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am <b>Mass at 10am</b> <i>Offered for McIver and Wright Families (A)</i>	Mass at 10am	Mass at 7pm	Mass at 10am (L)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	<b>Memorial of St Martin de Porres</b> Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am <b>Mass at 10am</b> <i>Offered for Margaret Barratt (A), Bannon Family (SI)</i> <b>Exposition and Benediction 10.30am</b>	Mass at 10am	Mass at 10am (L)	
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Year</b> <b>Vigil Mass at 5.30pm</b> <i>Offered for Hugh Conway (A), Kilbane Family (A)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)

## NOVEMBER LISTS

"We have loved them in life. Let us not forget them in death" [St Ambrose]. An elderly lady once said: "always remember to pray for the forgotten souls." Lest we forget, the Church designates the month of November as a special time to remember and pray for those who have died and gone before us. Please record your deceased relatives and friends on our November Lists and place this in the envelope. If you can please include a donation in their memory. The list will be brought down during the Offertory Procession at the Masses celebrated in November. November Lists and envelopes are available in Church.

## ARDROSSAN CEMETERY MASS

Our annual Mass at Ardrossan Cemetery will be on Sunday, 5th November at 2pm. We will offer the Mass for all our deceased loved ones, friends, and neighbours. Praying for the dead can invoke a great sense of solidarity with those who have died before us. As we're praying for them, we're kind of saying to ourselves, 'Well, I hope somebody will pray for me. Christ is our Saviour. Christ is the one who frees us from our sins. But since the Church is the Body of Christ, the Church also cooperates in that process. And that's why the prayer of Christians for the dead is so, so valuable and so important. Please come along if you can.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

*Harry Sammons, Maria Hilferty.*

### ✚ Those who have died recently

*Patricia Clarke, Margaret McDermott, Dr James Dalton,  
Robert Depew (Florida), Bridget MacWilliams Collins.*

### ✚ Those who died at this time of Year

*Mary Brodie 1997, Ellie Graham 2016,  
Patricia Hyslop 2021, Daniel Mathieson 1962,  
Bill Moore 1989, Joseph McGoogan 2008,  
Catherine Ramsay 2012, Gloria Rosendale 2014,  
William Delahunt 1986, Ian McNamara 1979,  
The Christians martyred in the Cathedral of  
our Lady of Deliverance in Baghdad 2010,  
John Finnigan 2020, John Martin 1979,  
Daniel Brown 1988, Peter Hanratty 2013,  
Rose McCann 2017, Josephine Lundie 2007,  
baby Lily Heron 2016, Thomas Kilbane 1983,  
Eileen Taylor 2005, Isobel Morrison 2019,  
Sarah Sammons 1970, Elizabeth Anne Tait 2004,  
Mary Timmons 2011, Sanny Ballantyne 1991,  
John Higgins 2020, Eilidh McCarroll 2022,  
Sadie Clegg 2011, Mary Haran 1995,  
Teresa Kelly 1978, Hugh McKay 1982,  
May Cusick 2009, Ralph Piacentini 2022.*

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

- ▶ **REQUIEM MASS FOR PATRICIA CLARKE** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Patricia Clarke, who died on 12th October 2023, aged 80 years. Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday, 30th October at 10am, followed by Interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. Her Month's Mind Mass will be on Monday, 13th November. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.
- ▶ **REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS ON SUNDAY - ST PETER'S** There have been some initiatives to restart refreshments after Sunday Mass at St Peter's. Marade Griffin is getting some team together. If you would like to go on a rota and join a team, please get in touch with Marade or the Parish Office.
- ▶ **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST PETER'S** Please put in your Diary two important dates towards the end of the year: Remembrance Sunday on 12th November with an ecumenical service at the EU Church in Glasgow Street at 1pm, followed by closing prayers in the Garden of Remembrance. The Ardrossan Churches are also trying to restart the Christmas Carol Concert after COVID on Thursday 7th December 7pm in the EU Church in Glasgow Street.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S SOUP SUNDAY** A huge thank you to everyone for the excellent soup Sunday event last Sunday. As a result of your hard work and generosity we are able to send £292.50 to the hungry people of Gaza through SCIAF .
- ▶ **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST BRIDE'S** Saturday 9th December, Christmas Dinner with entertainment at West Kilbride Golf Club. Wednesday 13th December Carol Service at St Bride's. Full details coming soon.
- ▶ **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - ST JOHN'S** Sunday 26th Nov - Visit of Wayside club to St Johns for their annual Christmas party. We are looking for donations of male and female toiletries, gloves, hats, new underwear and socks, and also items for our raffle (chocolate, sweets, gift sets etc) If you have anything to donate please contact Brenda 07812758415 or Michael 07813650411 or hand into the hall or back of church. Sunday 3rd Dec - St Johns Christmas / craft Fayre. If anyone would like to book a table to sell your own craft goods (£15) per table please get in touch with Brenda 07812758415, Lorna 07833347035 or Michael 07813650411 there are a few tables left. Sunday 31st Dec - Hogmanay Ceilidh (8pm - 1am) in aid of HCPT 207 and the Ukraine appeal. Tickets (£15 PP) these are limited so will be sold on a first come first served basis. This was a great night last year and was sold out early so book now to save disappointment. Contact Michael 07813650411 or Lisa 07988607098 .

### **ALL SAINTS DAY ON WEDNESDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER**

All Saints Day, on Wednesday, 1st November is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Masses are at 10am and also at 7pm. Looking to the saints reminds us that in the end Christ is always victorious, that the "gates of hell" cannot resist the power of God's grace. The origins of today's liturgical celebration are a striking example of that truth. The Church began celebrating this Solemnity in Rome, in the year 609, under Pope Boniface IV. At that time, one of the older residential areas of the city was located near a huge Roman temple called the Pantheon. The Pantheon had been built four centuries earlier by the emperor-architect Hadrian. It had held huge statues of all the gods most revered by the imperial family (thus its name, "pan-theon", "all the gods"). Between the time of the emperor Hadrian and that of Pope Boniface, the Roman Empire had become Christian, and the Pantheon had been abandoned. But by the year 600 it was becoming the object of frequent complaints from those who lived in its neighbourhood. When they walked by the old temple, strange things would happen. Eerie voices would threaten them; bricks would fall down menacingly; ice-cold breezes would accost them, along with worse things than mere breezes. In short, it was clear that the place was haunted by demons. Around the year 609, the complaints reached new heights, and the neighbourhood appealed directly to the Pope to do something about it. Razing the massive structure to the ground was too gargantuan a task, so Boniface IV found a creative solution. He decided to exorcise the temple and re-consecrate it as a Christian Church, dedicated not to "all the gods" but to "all the Roman martyrs" and to Mary, the queen of all saints and martyrs. This he did, and soon after, the complaints stopped. It still serves as a church today. The memorial of that consecration became so popular that Pope Gregory III extended its celebration to the whole Church. Thus "All Saints' Day" was born - an everlasting reminder that the powers of evil are no match for the power of Christ.

### **ALL SOULS DAY ON THURSDAY, 2ND NOVEMBER**

Thursday, 2nd November is the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed. We will read out the names of Parishioners who have died in the past year. How do you pray for the departed soul? Throughout the year, we can have Masses said for the souls in Purgatory, include them in our daily prayers and Rosary intentions, and pray for them when we're near a cemetery. "Every time you pass a cemetery, it's time for a little prayer: 'Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.' It's just common sense that you help some of them get out of Purgatory." Venerable Fulton Sheen said, "As we enter Heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming towards us and thanking us. We will ask who they are, and they will say 'a poor soul you prayed for in Purgatory.'"

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

Offertory Cash Collection 22<sup>nd</sup> October:

£647.41

Second Collection (Missio):

£520.93

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

Offertory Cash Collection 22<sup>nd</sup> October:

£161.00

*Many Thanks  
for your support and generosity!*

### **JUST FOR A LAUGH...** 🤔🤔🤔

Dear GOD, Did you mean for the giraffe to look like that or was it an accident? - Norma

Dear GOD, I went to this wedding and they kissed right in church. Is that okay? - Neil

Dear GOD, What does it mean You are a Jealous God? I thought You had everything. -Jane

Dear GOD, Thank you for the baby brother, but what I prayed for was a puppy. - Joyce

Dear GOD, If we come back as something - please don't let me be Jennifer Horton because I hate her. - Denise

Dear GOD, Maybe Cain and Abel would not kill each other so much if they had their own rooms. It works with my brother. -Larry

Dear GOD, I bet it is very hard for You to love everybody in the whole world. There are only four people in our family and I can never do it -Nan

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