



# 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!



Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth [B]

31<sup>st</sup> December 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  
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.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

### ✠ Finding a Home at Christmas

In fact, it really is the little things that make a home. Sometimes you find families who forget about this. They have all the big things – a two-car garage, a home film theatre, a garden the size of a football pitch – but they are distant from each other; something essential is missing. There is a powerful story about a family from the south that was struggling to survive during a time of great uncertainty and worry. The father lost his job, and they moved to the city to find work. They couldn't afford to buy their own house, so they lived in the basement of someone else's house, paying a large rent for the tiny space. It was not the most comfortable situation – mum, dad, and five children cramped into a mouldy basement. But they made the best of it by pouring as much love as they could into the little things. They kept the place neat and clean. They had their small and sparse meals together every day. They said their prayers each morning and evening as a family. And whenever they could, they even pitched in to help other families who were in even more difficult situations. One day, one of the children's teachers came by to visit the family. She was shocked at the cramped quarters and the poverty in which the family was forced to live. The next day at school the teacher took the little girl aside and tried to comfort her. She said, "I am so sorry that you don't even have a home to live in!" But the little girl was surprised and answered, "Oh no! We have a wonderful home; we're just still looking for a house to put it in!" It's the little things in life that can make the biggest difference.

### The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
(All bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

# Weekdays of Christmastime [B]

|   |   |  |  |                             |
|---|---|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan</b><br><a href="http://www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk">www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.stbrideschurch.co.uk">www.stbrideschurch.co.uk</a><br><i>Father Duncan McVicar</i><br><i>assisted by Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i><br><i>&amp; Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i> |   | <i>Fr. Duncan McVicar</i><br><i>assisted by</i><br><i>Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)</i> | <a href="http://www.stevenstonstjohns.com">www.stevenstonstjohns.com</a><br><a href="http://www.rcsaltcoats.com">www.rcsaltcoats.com</a><br><i>Canon Martin Poland</i><br><i>assisted by</i><br><i>Sr Ursula, Sr Anna</i><br><i>&amp; Canon Matt McManus (Retired)</i> |                             |
| <b>Please note all Masses in St. Peter's are Live Streamed.</b><br><b>Masses may be subject to change.</b>  |   | <b>St Bride's</b>  | <b>St. John's</b>  | <b>St. Mary's</b>           |
| Saturday<br>30th<br>December  | <b>Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth</b><br><b>Vigil Mass at 5.30pm</b><br><i>Offered for Theresa McGuire (A), Margaret McLoughlin (RD),</i><br><i>For all the people killed or injured in war, especially the children</i>  |  |  | Vigil Mass at<br>4.30pm (L) |
| Sunday<br>31st<br>December  | <b>Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth</b><br><b>Mass at 10.30am</b><br><i>Offered for our Parishes.</i>   | Mass at 12.15pm  | Mass at 11.30am<br>(L)   | Mass at 10am<br>(L)         |
| Monday<br>1st<br>January  | <b>Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God</b><br>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am<br><b>Mass at 10.00am</b><br><i>Offered for Peter Hamilton (MM), Templeton Families (CB),</i><br><i>Bacon Family (CB), Nan Reid (RD)</i>  | Mass at 10am   | Apologies.<br>Mass times<br>for St. John's<br>& St. Mary's<br>not available<br>at time of<br>printing.   |                             |
| Tuesday<br>2nd<br>January   | <b>Memorial of Ss Basil and Gregory Nazianzen</b><br>Morning Prayer of the Church 9.30am<br><b>Mass at 10am</b><br><i>Offered for Mary &amp; Seamus Reilly Snr. (A),</i><br><i>McCauley Family (CB), Lizzie Paterson (A)</i>  | Morning Prayer<br>of the Church<br>9.40am<br><br>Mass at 10am                        |  |                             |
| Wednesday<br>3rd<br>January   | <b>Memorial of the Holy Name of Jesus</b><br>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am<br><b>Mass at 10am</b><br><i>Offered for Francis Shields (RD), John Conlan (RD),</i><br><i>Betty Craig (CB), McWhinnie Family (CB)</i><br><b>Prayers of Reception for Thomas McCann at 6pm</b> |  |  |                             |
| Thursday<br>4th<br>January  | <b>Requiem Mass for Thomas McCann</b><br><b>Mass at 10am</b>  |  |  |                             |
| Friday<br>5th<br>January  | <b>Weekday of Christmastime</b><br>Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am<br><b>Mass at 10am</b><br><i>Offered for O'Brien Family (CB), Gough Family (CB)</i><br><i>Angela, Rick &amp; Benjamin Beckford (SI)</i><br><b>Exposition and Benediction 10.30am</b>                     | Mass at 10am   |  |                             |
| Saturday<br>6th<br>January  | <b>Solemnity of the Epiphany</b><br>(Day of Prayer for Justice & Peace)<br><b>Vigil Mass at 5.30pm</b><br><i>Offered for Howie Family (CB), Murphy Family (CB),</i><br><i>Mary &amp; Pete Byrns (SI)</i>  |  |  | Vigil Mass<br>at 4.30pm (L) |



**Next Sunday - Epiphany**

Next Sunday, 7th January 2024, is the Solemnity of the Epiphany.  
 Chalk will be blessed and distributed for the traditional House Blessing.  
 It is also a Day of Prayer for Justice and Peace.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

*Harry Sammons, Peter Ross, Maria Hilferty, Betty Fitzpatrick, Maria Dorrian, Dawn Clark.*

**✦ Those who have died recently:** *Thomas McCann, Nan Reid, Francis Shields.*

**✦ Those who died at this time of Year:**

*Alfonso Agostini 1955, Brian Connick 2010, Father Joseph Glendinning 1993, Catherine McAteer 2014, Joleen McIndoe 2015,*  
*William Twigg 1983, Isabella Dougherty 2010, Charles Patrick Hendry 1967, John McMillan 2022, Helen McCluskey 2004,*  
*Father Andrew Karwemera 2002, Lizzie Macnamara, James Murphy 1997, Thomas Bell 2019, Hugh Brown 1980,*  
*Betty Burns 2023, Susan Burns 1986, Maura Lapsley 2019, Mary Reilly 2023, May Rollie 2007, Frank Clark 2009,*  
*Catherine Marroni 2012, Helen McGinn 2012, John McTiernan 2016, James Burns 1955, Sister Imelda CP 2000,*  
*Sister Marie Celeste CP 2000, Gerry Brown 2010, Tom McAvennie 2011, Charles Retzbach 2000, Patrick Braniff 1991,*  
*Gary Cahill 2012, June Doherty 2010, Margaret Griffin 1997, Isabella Keenan 1939, James Monan 1969, Celia Ralston 2007,*  
*Leda Biagioni 2007, Dorothy Welsh 2014, Patrick Cawley 2001, Canon Peter Fitzpatrick 1952, Cornelius Welsh 2021.*

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

- ▶ **REQUIEM MASS FOR THOMAS PETER MCCANN** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Thomas McCann who died on 19th December 2023, aged 85 years. His reception into Church will be on Wednesday, 3rd January 2024 at 6pm. His Requiem Mass will be on Thursday, 4th January 2024 at 10am, followed by cremation at Clyde Coast Cemetery, Dalry. His month's mind Mass will be on Friday 19th January 2024 at 10am. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.
- ▶ **HCPT LOURDES GROUP 376** Esther Coulter will be taking part in the New Year Day dip in the sea at 12noon in Ardrossan Bay, opposite the church. If you wish to sponsor her or give a donation, she will be at the back of the church after morning Mass on Sunday.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S THANK YOU** We would like to acknowledge a very generous anonymous donation of £2000 for St Bride's. Sincere thanks for your support and generosity it is very much appreciated.

### **Morning Prayer - a New Year's Resolution?**

As we approach the end of the year, it is a great time to consider what resolutions we can make to improve our spiritual lives in 2024. It is helpful to set aside small periods of time throughout the day for prayer, so that a rhythm of praising and listening to the voice of God is created. On the Tuesdays of Advent and Christmas Time we have we praying together before Mass the Morning prayer of the Church. Here are 7 Reasons why we should pray the Liturgy of the Hours in 2024:

**1.** It unites us to Jesus Christ. As Vatican II taught, the Liturgy of the Hours "is the very prayer which Christ Himself, together with His body, addresses to the Father." **2.** The Liturgy of the Hours allows you to pray with the Church by joining clergy and laity from every people and nation as well as the entire communion of saints in heaven into one single prayer to God. **3.** The Liturgy of the Hours is the highest form of prayer after the Mass. It is the unified, sacred prayer of the whole Church, uniting all the faithful in echoing the very Word of God back to the Father. **4.** The Liturgy of the Hours is thoroughly biblical, focusing especially on the Psalms, as well as drawing from the rest of Sacred Scripture. **5.** The Liturgy of the Hours will mature and deepen the rest of your spiritual life. After praying the Hours for some time, you will begin to see the world differently with a renewed spiritual vision, seeing the world as God sees it—and are changed as a result. **6.** The Liturgy of the Hours allows you to "pray without ceasing" by allowing you to lock in times of prayer throughout the day. At every moment, someone somewhere is offering these prayers to God. So, while we might not be able to pray continually as individuals, we can do so together as a Church. **7.** The Liturgy of the Hours makes God the centre of your day. When you pray the Liturgy of the Hours, prayer becomes the new hinge of your day, reorienting your mind so that you give highest priority to the things of God. This is a very powerful way of enriching our spiritual life in the new year with the Liturgy of the Hours.

### **End of the Christmas Season**

On Monday 8th January 2024 we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Then on Tuesday, Ordinary Time begins with the unfolding of the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. Green is the colour of the season.



### **Are you enjoying strictly?**

#### **Would you like to start your own Strictly Journey?**

If the answer is yes to the above Questions...

Then come along to St Peter's Parish Centre and join my classes, starting January 2024. You do not need a partner to come along. FREE taster class Saturday 13 January at 14.30. Or contact me for a FREE private lesson... Yvonne 07592 067057.

### **Thank you from the Priests.**

Father Gerry, Canon Matt and Father Duncan would like to say a big "Thank you": to everyone who sent a card or a gift to the Presbytery for Christmas. It was very much appreciated - Thank you for all your support and friendship and for all the kind thoughts and wishes throughout the year!

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

Offertory Cash Collection 24<sup>th</sup> December: £550.97  
Second Collection (Building Fund): £248.73  
Christmas Collection 25<sup>th</sup> December: £1379.33

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

Christmas Collection 25<sup>th</sup> December: £77.80

#### **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!*

#### **Christmas Cracker Jokes...**

**What do you call a well-balanced horse?** Stable.

**What do you call an angry carrot?** A steamed veggie.

**Where do polar bears keep their money?** In a snowbank.

**How do you make an egg-roll?** You push it!

**What would bears be without bees?** Ears.

**What do you call a pile of cats?** A meow-ntain.

**Why do cows wear bells?** Because their horns don't work.

**Why did the bicycle fall over?** Because it was two tired.

**What did the triangle say to the circle?** You're pointless.

**Why was Cinderella so bad at football?**

She kept running away from the ball!

**What do elves learn in school?** The elf-abet.

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