



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!



First Sunday of Advent [B]

3rd 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

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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

✠ Keeping Jesus Warm

It would be easy for Jesus, the all-powerful and all-knowing Lord of history, to intimidate us. But Jesus has a different leadership style; it's called mercy. He has promised to come again in glory and power at the end of time, but in the meantime he has chosen to win over our trust by showing us his goodness, his gentleness, his readiness to forgive. This is one of the messages of Christmas that we should reflect on throughout these weeks of Advent. Once there was a priest who was once telling a group of young children about Christmas. He described how Jesus was born in a cold, bleak stable-cave in the middle of winter. He emphasised how cold it was. There was no fire; the wind whistled in through the opening of the cave; Jesus had only the straw to keep him warm. When he finished describing the birth at Bethlehem, he asked the children what they would have done if they had been in that cold stable-cave with the baby Jesus. One boy said he would build a big bonfire. Another boy said he would wrap his jacket around the baby Jesus. One girl said she would brew a pot of hot tea for the little Saviour. Finally, another girl raised her hand. "Father," she explained, "I would take the little Jesus in my arms, if the Blessed Virgin would let me, and I'd just love him." And that, of course was the best answer of all. Why did the Lord of history come among us in so humble a way, if not to give us a chance to love him, to take him in our arms, to walk by his side? He already is the Lord of history, but he wants to be the Lord of our hearts.

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.

1st Week of Advent 2023 [B]

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| 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> | | <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> | |
| 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 2 nd December | 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Matt Donnelly (A), Ann Buchanan (RD)</i> | | | Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L) |
| Sunday 3 rd December | 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B) Mass at 10.30am <i>Offered for our Parishes</i> | Mass at 12.15pm | Mass at 11.30am (L) | Mass at 10am (L) |
| Monday 4 th December | 1st Week of Advent Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Paul Kinnen (RD)</i> | | | |
| Tuesday 5 th December | 1st Week of Advent Morning Prayer of the Church 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for all, that we may experience a blessed advent</i> | Morning Prayer of the Church at 9.40am Mass at 10am | Funeral Mass at 10am John Conlan | Eucharistic Service at 10am |
| Wednesday 6 th December | Memorial of St Nicholas Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Baby Jamie Thomas Tinney (RD)</i> | | Mass at 10am (L) | Funeral Service at 1pm David McNamara |
| Thursday 7 th December | Memorial of St Ambrose Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for all those suffering through addiction, poverty or homelessness</i> | | | Mass at 10am (L) |
| Friday 8 th December | Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Anne Kelly (T), Jim Mathieson (A)</i> Exposition and Benediction 10.30am | Mass at 10am | Mass at 10am (L) | |
| Saturday 9 th December | 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Peace in Ukraine and the Middle East</i> | | | Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L) |

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

*Harry Sammons, Peter Ross, Tony Smith,
Maria Hilferty, Betty Fitzpatrick, Maria Dorrian.*

✦ Those who have died recently

Baby Jamie Thomas Tinney, Paul Kinnen, David Kiltie.

✦ Those who died at this time of Year

*Brian O'Hare 2009, Tom Reid 2006, Monica Tipping 2010,
John Welsh 2009, Jim Delahunt 2014, Mary Finnigan 2020,
Martin Lehane 2015, Mary Martin 1983, John Tracy 1999,
Isabella McGoogan 1998, Rebecca Rourke 2021,
Gordon Alexander Smith 1997, John Hughes 2010,
May Shanks 1990, Margaret Anne Shanks 1994,
Anne Thompson 1986, Ann McCubbin, Robert Walker 2012,
Susan Connor 2009, Thomas Connor 2006, Joyce Feeney 2012,
Jean Graham, Alexander Merrick 2001, Rose Smith 1999,
Sarah Braniff 1961, Katherine Fearon 1911,
Janet Ferris 2013, Robert Shanks 1996, Philip Gargan 2012,
Alexander Bartley 2017, Teresa Dorans 2006,
Francis Fitzpatrick 2020, Margaret Hughes 2006,
James Mathieson 1999, Gerard McCulloch 1990,
Anthony McGarvey 1996, John McKay junior 1972,
James McSorley 2010, May O'Farrell 2013,
George Forbes 2014, Agnes Martin 2007, Jim McIntosh 2019,
Father Alec Smith SDB 2008, Cassie Millen 2011.*

ENCOUNTERING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

The Holy Spirit performs an astounding miracle at every Mass: through the prayer of Jesus, simple earthly gifts of bread and wine are changed in their substance—although the appearance does not change, after the consecration there is no more bread there, no more wine there. What is there? Who is there? The divine life of Jesus Christ. All that Jesus is: his Body, his Blood, his human Soul, and his divine nature. When we receive him in the Eucharist with the right disposition, we are drawn into this divine life, and we become members of his mystical body, the Church. This immeasurable gift and mystery is how God desires to continue his life in the world, sharing his life with us so he can live in us. This is how, throughout history, he has transformed both individual hearts and entire cultures. And it is how he will do so again, right here in our country.

WE NEED YOU!

It is very important that we keep music in our Liturgy. If we don't recruit more volunteer musicians and cantors we will be faced with having some Masses without music. We have been blessed with many talented parishioners! If you would like to be a cantor, a choir member or are a musician, please speak to Father Duncan or contact the office.

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

- ▶ **CHRISTMAS FAYRE** Ardrossan Winton Rovers Football Club are having a Christmas Fayre in St Mary's Hall on Saturday 16th December 2023. Please come along and support your local club.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT** A beautiful time to get together and listen to the children from our Primary Schools sing is the Christmas Carol Concert in the EU Church, Glasgow Street, on Thursday 7th December at 7pm prompt. Come along if you can and let our children tell us about Christmas.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN AID OF HCPT LOURDES GROUP 376** Featuring Theresa Morrison, Paul Hume and friends. Sunday 17th December 2p.m St Peter- in-Chains Church. Ticket £6 includes afternoon tea. Tickets available after Sunday morning Mass at St Peters or contact Esther Coulter 07772433070.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S SSVV VILLAGE LARDER COLLECTIONS** St Bride's SSVV plan Collections for the Village Larder on the 3rd, 10th & 17th December. This allows time to get everything to the Larder before Christmas. Items needed are non-perishable items and Christmas specific items, mince pies etc., would be most welcome. A specific request list of items they particularly want will be on display in the Church.
- ▶ **CHANA - DONATIONS OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS** We are teaming up with the charity Night Before Christmas Charity (NB4CC) to provide those who are homeless and being supported by North Ayrshire Council a Christmas present. Last year NB4CC gave presents to 182 people, including 122 children in North Ayrshire. We would be delighted if people would contribute to this charity. This can be done by visiting NB4CC's "Justgiving" page: or putting your donation in an envelope marked "NB4CC" in the church collection <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/Nightbeforechristmascampaign>
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S CHRISTMAS PARISH DINNER** The Parish Dinner with entertainment will be on Friday, 8th December at 6pm at the West Kilbride Gold Club, 33 Fullerton Drive, Seamill, West Kilbride KA23 9HT.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS CARDS** There is a wide selection of beautiful Christmas Cards available now at St Bride's & St Peter's stall. Also available are a wonderful selection of cards, candles, statues, Mass cards and gifts etc.

Marriage, Family and Life Office

There is a national Commission for marriage, family and life and they now have their new website. Have a look - it is full of information and articles. Stuart and Cecilia Irvine from Dumfries are the representatives from the Galloway Diocese. www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk.

Oggie! Oggie! Oggie!

AGAP Theatre present the hit play, "Oggie! Oggie! Oggie!", a modern energetic twist on the Confessions of Saint Augustine. Written and Performed by Stephen Callaghan, the show was a huge hit at this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe. For one night only the Show will be performed in Saint Paul's Church Hall on Friday December 8th at 7.30 p.m. Tickets cost £5 and are available NOW by calling 07495 347884 or online at www.oggie-ayr.eventbrite.co.uk (online booking fee applies). Tickets will also be available to buy in the parish soon. Suitable for age 12+ due to adult themes.

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 26th November: £521.42
Second Collection (Building Fund): £267.49

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 26th November: £91.00

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

An Advent Message - It's a Wonderful Life

The popular Christmas movie, It's a Wonderful Life, illustrates this part of God's plan for the liturgical seasons. The actor James Stewart plays a small town savings and loan director named George Bailey. When the movie opens, George is in a crisis. He doesn't have any money to pay his bills, and a wave of depression is drowning him. He is on the verge of committing suicide, because he thinks the life insurance policy will take better care of his family and business than he can. At that moment, God intervenes. He sends an angel, named Clarence, to encourage George Bailey and stir up his hope. It's not easy, but the angel does the job, and the crisis is turned into joyful, life-transforming milestone. God knows that each one of us has needs and troubles, along with our hopes and dreams. Some of us may even be in an all-out crisis. Whatever our situation, God knows best what will help us move forward on life's journey. And he wants to send us an angel during this Advent to make that happen, to help us grow in grace. That's why he invented the liturgical seasons,



to give himself a good excuse to send us an angel - whether literally or in the form of special graces - at regular intervals, and to let us know that one is certainly on the way.

Just for a Laugh... After getting all of Pope Francis' luggage loaded into the limo, and he doesn't travel light, the driver notices that the Pope is still standing on the curb. 'Excuse me, Your Holiness,' says the driver, 'Would you please take your seat so we can leave?' 'Well, to tell you the truth,' says the Pope, 'they never let me drive at the Vatican, and I'd really like to drive today.' 'I'm sorry but I cannot let you do that. I'd lose my job! And what if something should happen?' protests the driver, wishing he'd never gone to work that morning. 'There might be something extra in it for you,' says the Pope. Reluctantly, the driver gets in the back as the Pope climbs in behind the wheel. The driver quickly regrets his decision when, after exiting the airport, the Pontiff puts his foot down, accelerating the limo to 105 mph. 'Please slow down, Your Holiness!!!' pleads the worried driver, but the Pope keeps the pedal to the metal until they hear sirens. 'Oh, dear God, I'm going to lose my license,' moans the driver. The Pope pulls over and rolls down the window as the policeman approaches, but the policeman takes one look at him, goes back to his motorcycle, and gets on the radio. 'I need to talk to the inspector,' he says to the dispatcher. The inspector gets on the radio and the policeman tells him that he's stopped a limo going a hundred and five. 'So arrest him,' says the inspector. 'I don't think we want to do that - he's really important,' said the policeman. The Inspector exclaimed, 'All the more reason!' 'No, I mean really important,' said the policeman. The Inspector then asked, 'Who have you got there, the Mayor?' Policeman: 'Bigger.' Inspector: 'Member of Parliament?' Policeman: 'Bigger.' 'Well,' said the Inspector, 'Who is it?' Policeman: 'I think it's God!' Inspector: 'What makes you think it's God?' Policeman: 'He's got the Pope as a chauffeur!'

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