



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!



The Epiphany of the Lord [B]

3rd January 2021

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESSES

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Ardrossan, KA22 8DU

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

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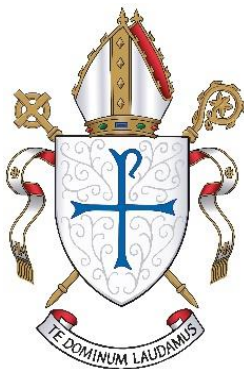
07722 246 169 (*Ardrossan*)
07585 656 229 (*West Kilbride*)

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**



**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 readings to unite yourself with the worship of the Universal Church, and your own Parish, this Sunday. If alone, read or say these readings 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

Matthew 2:1-12
After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Reflection

Today, we hear that when the Magi saw the star, they came into the house. Then what did they do when they saw the Christ child in the arms of his mother? They fell down and worshiped him. How often in our lives do we go about our daily business seeing Christ in other people, in his Word, in the Eucharist, but our hearts do not respond in the same manner? Especially this week as we celebrate the Epiphany, let's pray that God makes our hearts sensitive to his presence. For many of us, it's natural to go to adoration. And the moment we see Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, we fall to our knees. But in daily life, do we bow when we see a manifestation of his presence in the good works of others, or even in our local parish? Blessed John Paul II said that we must be careful of falling into "practical atheism," professing to believe in God but living our lives as though he doesn't exist. Throughout the course of your day, at home, at work, and with your friends, when you hear about the good things of Jesus and his Church, don't pass by them without taking a moment to bow in your heart and worship. Faith is the natural response to God revealing himself in the world, no matter how small that revelation might be. Let faith rise up in your heart, and bow down to him even in the course of the mundane. In the village of Nazareth, people went about their mundane lives, not recognizing the extraordinary event that the Magi had travelled countless miles to witness: the King of Kings was in their midst. Do you recognize God in the mundane?

Christmas Time [B] 2020

January 2021	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>
Saturday 2 nd January	Memorial of Ss Basil and Gregory Nazianzen Mass at 12 noon (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Brian & Lorna (CB), Collette & Mark (CB), Kathleen Harkness (RD) Joe & Andrea Hulley (CB)</i> Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Public) <i>Offered for Fiona & Andrew Upton (CB), Joe McGhee (RD), Caleb Forrest (A) Maureen McGarvey (CB)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm
Sunday 3 rd January	The Epiphany of the Lord Mass at 10.30am (Public) <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>		
Monday 4 th January	Weekday of Christmas Time Mass at 10am (Public) <i>Offered for Gerylne McGarvey (CB), Lorraine Docherty (CB), Jody, Joyce and Family, Bill Lundy (SI)</i>			
Tuesday 5 th January	Requiem Mass for Harry McKeachan Mass at 10am (Private)	Mass at 10am		Funeral Mass
Wednesday 6 th January	Weekday of Christmas Time Mass at 10am (Public) <i>Offered for Lawrence & Sylvia McGarvey (CB), Bruce McGarvey (CB) James Moriarty (RD), Johnny & Mary Finnigan (RD)</i>		Mass at 10am	
Thursday 7 th January	Weekday of Christmas Time Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Ross McGarvey (CB), Megan Nicholson (CB), Teresa Collins (A), Mary Finnigan (RD)</i> Requiem Mass for David McIlroy Mass at 1pm (Private)			Mass at 10am
Friday 8 th January	Weekday of Christmas Time Mass at 10am (Public) <i>Offered for Dillon Nicholson (CB), Collette & Mark Nicholson (CB), Alison Harkness (RD), Denise & Desmond Kimmitt (RD), James Crichton (A)</i>	Requiem Mass for Margaret McIlvennie Mass at 12noon (Private)	Mass at 10am	
Saturday 9 th January	Our Lady's Day for Christmas Time Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Robert Montgomery (RD) and the list of Mass intentions requested by Winifred Lawrence</i> Feast of The Baptism of the Lord Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Public) <i>Offered for John & Ann Taggart (CB), McDermott Family (SI), Kathleen Fraser (RD), Patrick & Sarah Braniff (A)</i>		Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	Vigil Mass at 4.30pm

St Peter's Parish Centre: Fiona Brown 07907 389703

Traditional House Blessing

Today at all Masses chalk will be blessed and distributed for the traditional House Blessing. **20 + C + M + B + 21**
- Latin Blessing for: Christus mansionem benedicat - Christ bless our house for the year 2021.

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 REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Anthony Brennan, Jim Boyle.

✦ Those who have died recently:

*Joseph McKeraghan, Harry McKeachan, Robert Montgomery, Mary McSpurran, Peter Devine, James Moriarty,
Johnny & Mary Finnigan, Alison Harkness, Denise & Desmond Kimmitt, Kathleen Fraser, Margaret McIlvennie.*

✦ Those who died at this time of Year:

*Dorothy Welsh 2014, Frank Clark 2009, Catherine Marroni 2012, Helen McGinn 2012, John McTiernan 2016, Sister Imelda CP
2000, Sister Marie Celeste CP 2000, Gerry Brown 2010, Tom McAvennie 2011, Charles Retzbach 2000, Patrick Braniff 1991,
Gary Cahill 2012, Margaret Griffin 1997, Isabella Keenan 1939, James Monan 1969, Celia Ralston 2007, Leda Biagioni 2007,
James Burns 1955, Patrick Cawley 2001, Canon Peter Fitzpatrick 1952, Helen McCluskey 2004, John Cahill 1989, Danny Higgins
2009, Frank Kelly 2013, Patricia Brennan 2005, Robert Colvin 1998, Jimmy Crichton 2019, Gerard Fairhurst 2003, Bernard
McLaughlan 1984, Derek Tomelty 2003, Joseph Gibbons 1973, Hugh Henry 2008, Jean Lamont 2016, Jimmy McAloon 2020,
Jennifer McGregor 2014.*

St. Peter's Notices

► **REQUIEM MASS FOR HARRY MCKECHAN** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Harry McKechan who died on 10th December 2020, aged 73 years. His Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday, 5th January 2021 at 10am, followed by Interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. May he rest in peace and rise in glory!

► **REQUIEM MASS FOR DAVID MCILROY** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of David McIlroy, who died on 22nd December, aged 69 years. His Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 7th January 2021 at 1pm, followed by Interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

► **MOIRA DONNELLY** would like to thank friends and neighbours for cards, flowers and phone calls received on the passing of Matt. Special thanks to William and Pat, to all who visited Matt when he was in his own home and when in the Care Home. Thanks to Canon Matt and Father Duncan for the lovely service and help. Also, thanks to George McGrattan.

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

The Offertory Collection 27th December 2020: £536.71

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

The Offertory Collection 27th December 2020: £299.00

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

JUST FOR A LAUGH...

Two priests were riding very fast on a motorcycle. They were promptly stopped by a policeman who said, "What do you think you are doing? What if you have an accident?" The priests say, "Don't worry, my son. Jesus is with us." The policeman says, "In that case, I'll have to book you. Three people are not allowed to ride on a motorcycle."

SYMPTOMS? For the safety of everyone, and to prevent spread of the Covid-virus, please do not attend Church if you have any unusual symptoms e.g. headache/cold or flu-like symptoms. Of course if you have any of the three classic symptoms of corona virus high temperature, persistent cough, loss of or change in sense of taste or smell – please self-isolate immediately and book a test. Thank you for your cooperation with all the public health measures in place.

St. Bride's Notices

► **REQUIEM MASS FOR MARGARET MCILVENNIE** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Margaret McIlvennie, who died on Christmas Day, aged 79 years. Her Requiem Mass will be on Friday, 8th January 2021 at 12 noon, followed by Interment at West Kilbride Cemetery. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

► **FUNERAL SERVICE FOR GERARD SHARKEY** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Gerard Sharkey, who died on 17th December 2020, aged 60 years. His Funeral Service is at Clyde Coast Crematorium on Tuesday, 5th January 2021 at 3pm. May he rest in peace and rise in glory!

► **WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES** Please pick up your Envelope from Paul McNulty after Mass. Thank you for your support at this time.

► **MASS - BOOKING** Due to restricted numbers, please remember you must book for Mass. We now have Mass on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday. To book, please call Phyllis on 01294822320/07843602745.

A New Year's Blessing

In the New Year, may you be blessed with all the good things God has to give.



Mustard Seeds

✝ Christ on the Stage

The main theatre in Moscow was getting ready for the opening night of an anti-religious play called "Christ in Top Hat and Tails". Schools, youth organisations and youth workers were required to include the piece in their programme for the year. The main part, portraying Jesus Christ was played by the famous actor and committed communist Alexander Rostowzew. The theatre was full, every ticket had been sold months before. The curtain opened to a scene with an altar in the middle, covered with empty beer bottles. Around the altar were drunken priests and monks. At the second act Rostowzew came onto the stage. In his hands he held a copy of the Holy Bible and wore a top hat and tails. The audience laughed and clapped, waiting for his humorous lines and superb acting. He opened the Bible and started to read: "Blessed are those who are poor before God, then theirs is the Kingdom of heaven; Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted..." The Director stood at the side of the stage, he knew that soon Rostowzew would break into dancing and the whole theatre would erupt with cascades of laughter. But nothing happened. Rostowzew continued reading: "Blessed are those who are peacemakers, for they will inherit the land..." The audience didn't move. They realised that something was happening in the heart of the actor. The theatre was completely silent, only the firm voice of Rostowzew could be heard. He continued reading, in fact, in read the complete forty-eight verses of the Fifth Chapter of St Matthew's Gospel. No-one interrupted him, no-one called out, everyone remained completely silent, listening to every word. He finished with the verse: "You should be perfect, just as your heavenly Father in heaven is perfect!" Rostowzew closed the Bible. It seemed that a chapter in his own life was also being closed. Very slowly he made the Sign of the Cross and repeated in a firm and clear voice the words of the repentant thief at the side of Jesus on Calvary: "Lord, remember me, when you come into your Kingdom". No-one protested, there were no whistles or booing. The audience slowly left the theatre in silence. The production was never repeated anywhere. After that evening, Alexander Rostowzew was never seen again.

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