



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!



Third Sunday of Lent [B]

7th March 2021

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESSES

St Peter in Chains Church
1 South Crescent Road
Ardrossan, KA22 8DU

St. Bride's Church
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WEBSITES

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www.saintpeterinchains.net
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

John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Reflection

While the other Scripture readings in Church today make this a bit of a complicated Sunday, we will stick with the Gospel, this famous story of Jesus clearing the Temple.

What's going on here? There are two main ideas: first, Jesus cleanses the holy place of everything that stops it being holy – the cheats and swindlers and crooked exchange merchants. The meaning is simple: holy places must be holy! There is also a second theme – a more symbolic one: when Jesus "cleanses" the Temple, he is, in a sense, declaring it unnecessary. He is the New Temple, which will be destroyed and rebuilt in "three days" when he dies on the cross and rises again. The Temple was the place where God dwelt with his people: after Easter Sunday, that "place" will be Jesus himself. So, we do not need to travel to Jerusalem, to visit that building, to be close to God. All we need do is "visit" Jesus, the New Temple. We could add a third understanding of this Gospel, which helps us understand our Lenten journey. We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures tell us in several places. God wants to dwell within us. But as the Temple of God, do I need cleansing? Do I need Jesus to help clear (at best) the indifference and (at worst) the injustice, selfishness and cruelty that clutters up my life? "Decluttering" our homes has become something of a 'thing' lately (see Marie Kondo!) – Lent is time for the decluttering of our spiritual lives, and our relationship with God.

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE
PARISH BULLETIN HOME WITH
YOU. THANKS!**



Third Week of Lent [B] 2021

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|--|--|--|---|
| March 2021 | <p>St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk</p> <p><i>Father Duncan McVicar</i></p> | <p>St John's, Stevenston: www.stevenstonstjohns.com St Mary's Saltcoats: www.rcsaltcoats.com Please visit the above websites for further information</p> | |
| | | <p><i>Canon Martin Poland</i> <i>assisted by Father Benjamin Mkeri</i></p> <p>St John's St Mary's</p> | |
| Saturday 6 th March | <p>3rd Sunday of Lent [B] Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Anne O'Neil (RD), Kathy McAuliffe (RD)</i> <i>and Sadie Gallagher (RD)</i></p> | | Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (Live Streamed Only) |
| Sunday 7 th March | <p>3rd Sunday of Lent [B] Mass at 10.30am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for our Parishes</i></p> | Mass at 11.30am (Live Streamed Only) | Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) |
| Monday 8 th March | <p>Mass for the Pope (For success of the Papal visit to Iraq) Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Cosimo & Arturo Farro (A) and Chris Callaghan (A)</i></p> | Funeral Mass for Robert Ferguson Mass at 10am (L) | |
| Tuesday 9 th March | <p>Requiem Mass for Margaret Friel Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only)</p> | Mass at 1.30pm with St. John's PS (L) | Mass at 10am (L) |
| Wednesday 10 th March | <p>Feast of St. John Ogilvie Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Robert Ferguson (RD)</i></p> | Mass at 10am (L) | Mass at 1.30pm with St. Anthony's PS (L) |
| Thursday 11 th March | <p>Votive Mass of St Joseph Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Josephine Atkins (RD) and Annmarie Dickie (A)</i></p> | | Funeral Mass for Christina Coleman Mass at 10am (L) |
| Friday 12 th March | <p>3rd Week of Lent Stations of the Cross at 9.30am (Live Streamed Only) Mass at 10am (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Robert Stevenson (RD)</i></p> | Mass at 10am (L) | |
| Saturday 13 th March | <p>4th Sunday of Lent [B] Vigil Mass at 5.30pm (Live Streamed Only) <i>Offered for Marion Borland (RD)</i></p> | | Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (Live Streamed Only) |

Opening of our Churches

"As Scotland's Catholic bishops, we welcome the recent announcement by the First Minister foreseeing a return to our churches for the most important celebration of the liturgical year at Easter. We also welcome the recognition of the status of public worship implicit in this decision. The Catholic Community recognises the seriousness of the pandemic and is committed to working with others to avoid the spreading of infection. At the same time, we anticipate ongoing dialogue with the Scottish Government regarding the requirement of a numerical "cap" on the number of worshippers. As we continue to observe social distancing and the protocols on infection control and hygiene formulated by the Bishops' Conference working group under the leadership of the former Chief Medical Officer Sir Harry Burns, we maintain that it would be more appropriate for each church building to accommodate a congregation in proportion to its size rather than on the basis of an imposed number. We echo here the timely words Pope Francis addressed to the representatives of countries to the Holy See on the 8th February 2021: 'Even as we seek ways to protect human lives from the spread of the virus, we cannot view the spiritual and moral dimension of the human person as less important than physical health.' The opening of churches is a sign that the sacrifices endured so far are bearing fruit and gives us hope and encouragement to persevere. We pray that the Risen Christ, for whom we long during this holy season of Lent, will bless and bring healing to our nation."

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Jim Boyle, Annie Watt.

✝ Those who have died recently:

*Robert Stevenson, Cornelius Welsh, Margaret Friel, Sister Moira Donnelly,
 Marion Borland, Robert Ferguson, Josephine Atkins.*

✝ Those who died at this time of Year:

*William (Billy) Sheehan 2019, Joe Colvin 1908, Olga Mastradomenico 2009, Cosimo Farro 1993, Francis Flynn 1990,
 Hugh McCluskey 1992, Catherine Robertson 2012, Mary To 2014, Luke Gargan 2001, Father Jerry Sheehy SCJ 2012,
 Frances Stannisforth 2017, Alice Bell 2005, May Bell 2003, John Carroll 2004, John Kyle 2009, Myles McDonald,
 Monsignor Archibald McSparran 1950, Stephanie Hope Turner 2001,
 Helen Brown 2013, Peter McGlone 2016, Agnes Scott 1990,
 Monsignor Edward Traynor 2006, Lilia Agostini 1969, Mary Andrew 1957, Hessie Hyslop 1998, Jean Walker 2001.*

Notices

- **EASTER CANDLES** The large Easter Candle for St Bride's and St Peter's have been ordered and they will be designed and decorated this year by Nora Hartley from East Kilbride.
- **REPAIRS AT ST PETER'S** At the end of this week, the sound system "tweaks" will be carried out, the spotlights repaired in the Sanctuary and over the Tabernacle. This should be finished by this coming Saturday. We should be ready for the Easter celebrations.
- **STANDING ORDER UPDATE** I am so grateful to all our Parishioners from St Bride's and St Peter's who have taken out a standing order in the last weeks. It has been a wonderful show of support and generosity to our Parish Communities. It has been great to see Parishioners coming together and starting to look at getting things going again. Sincere thanks! If you haven't done so already, please consider a Standing Order and possible "Gift Aid" in support of our Parishes. Just let us know and we will send you the forms by email or post. Thanks again for all the help and commitment. It makes a huge difference!
- **REQUIEM MASS FOR MARGARET FRIEL** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Margaret Friel, who died on Saturday, 27th February 2021, aged 78 years. Her Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday, 9th March at 10am, followed by Interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!
- **ST. PETER'S 50/50 CLUB** 2020 has proved a very difficult year in the life of our Parish and 2021 is still tough on everyone. Since we cannot meet with each other, not even at Church we cannot have our usual 'Sign-Up' meeting in the Parish Centre. We are grateful to those who responded in renewing their membership by post or letterbox drop to the Promoter: Mrs. M. Sammons at 30 Seafield Court Ardrossan KA22 8NS. We ask members to do the same at your earliest convenience by sending your **Cheque in the post made payable to: St. Peter's 50/50 Club for £15** (with your name and address) **or alternatively cash by letterbox drop to the Promoter at the above address.** PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE POST. *Thank you for your continued support.*

JUST FOR A LAUGH...

Here are some of the funny things that you can read in Parish Newsletters:

- Everyone is excited about the upcoming wedding of Brad and Melody. They are having a "country style" wedding. Everyone is invited to join them as they exchange cows in the church courtyard on June 7th.
- Remember, we'll be gathering with other area churches for the singing in the park Sunday night. I want to remind the choir and all sinners to be at the park by 4:30 pm for warm up and sound checks.
- The Seniors Group will have a picnic on Saturday. Each person is asked to bring a friend, a vegetable, or dessert in a covered dish. Meat and drinks will be furnished.
- We are especially thankful that when Sister Dora was at Death's Door, The Lord and her doctor pulled her through.



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.



Mustard Seeds

✝ Explaining God...

One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers. God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like priests and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off. God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mum and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have. Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Bolton. At least there aren't any who come to our church. Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his Father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said OK. His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important. You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time. You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God! If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like on school trips, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids. But... you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And...that's why I believe in God. [Written by an 8-year-old called Danny Dutton. He wrote it for a homework assignment, to 'Explain God.']

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