

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!



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord [A]

2nd April 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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PARISH OFFICE DETAILS

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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)

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

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

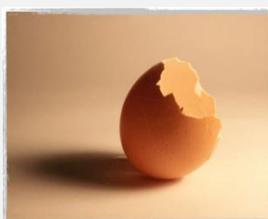


PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY OF THE
BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU OR PASS IT
ON TO SOMEONE ELSE. *THANKS!*

Mustard Seeds

✠ The Empty Egg

Jeremy was born with a twisted body and a slow mind. At the age of 12 he was still in Year 2, seemingly unable to learn. His teacher, Doris Miller, often became exasperated with him. One day she called his parents and asked them to come in for a consultation. As the Forresters entered the empty classroom, Doris said to them, "Jeremy really belongs in a special school. It isn't fair to him to be with younger children who don't have learning problems. Why, there is a five year gap between his age and that of the other students." Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue, while her husband spoke. "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here." Doris sat for a long time after they had left, staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Forresters. After all, their only child had a terminal illness. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other youngsters to teach, and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read and write. Why waste any more time trying? As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. Here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared to that poor family, she thought. Then one day, he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him. "I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed, loud enough for the whole class to hear. The other students snickered, and Doris' face burned red. She stammered, "Wh-why that's very nice, Jeremy. N-now please take your seat." Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?" "Yes, Miss Miller," the children responded enthusiastically—all except for Jeremy. He listened intently. His eyes never left her face. The next morning, 19 children came to school, laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in the large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. In the first egg, Doris found a flower. "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sign of new life," she said. "When plants peek through the ground, we know that spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arm. "That's my egg, Miss Miller," she called out. The next egg contained a plastic butterfly, which looked very real. Doris held it up. "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes, that's new life, too." Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine." Next, Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that moss, too, showed life. Billy spoke up from the back of the classroom, "My daddy helped me," he beamed. Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty. Surely it must be Jeremy's she thought, and of course, he did not understand her instructions. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another. Suddenly, Jeremy spoke up. "Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered, Doris replied, "But Jeremy, your egg is empty." He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb was empty, too." Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked him, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?" "Oh, yes," Jeremy said, "Jesus was killed and



put in there. Then His Father raised Him up." The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out to the schoolyard, Doris cried. The cold inside her melted completely away. Three months later, Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the cemetery were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of his coffin... all of them empty.

Holy Week 2023 [A]

St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk www.stbrideschurch.co.uk Father Duncan McVicar assisted by Sr Marie Monique, Sr Ursula & Canon Matt McManus (Retired)		Fr. Duncan McVicar assisted by Fr. Gerry Hamill (Retired)	www.stevenstonstjohns.com www.rcsaltcoats.com Canon Martin Poland assisted by Sr Marie Monique, Sr Ursula & 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 1 st April	Palm Sunday (A) Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Felix Hamill (A), Betty Craig (SI), Margaret (SI)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 2 nd April	Palm Sunday of the Passion (A) <i>Palms will be blessed and distributed at Mass.</i> Mass at 10.30am. <i>Offered for our Parishes</i>	Mass at 12.15pm <i>Palms will be blessed and distributed</i>	Mass at 11.30am (L)	Mass at 10am (L)
Monday 3 rd April	Holy Week Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Cath Collins list of Easter Blessings</i>	Mass at 10am Service of Readings at 7.30pm		
Tuesday 4 th April	Holy Week Stations of the Cross 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Anne Kennedy (RD)</i>	Mass at 10am	4.30pm Reception of Andrea Dougan	Mass at 10am (L)
Wednesday 5 th April	Holy Week Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Agnes Madine (A), Jacky Brown (A)</i>	Mass at 10am	Funeral Mass at 10am (L) Andrea Dougan	
Thursday 6 th April	Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm <i>With the Washing of Feet and Exposition until 8.30pm</i>	Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm (L)	
Friday 7 th April	Good Friday Passion of the Lord at 3pm	Passion of the Lord at 3pm		Liturgy at 3pm (L)
Saturday 8 th April	Solemn Easter Vigil (A) Mass at 8.30pm	Solemn Easter Vigil at 8.30pm	Morning Prayers at 10am with Blessing the Polish Baskets	Vigil of the Resurrection at 8.30pm (L)
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday Mass at 10.30am	Easter Sunday Mass at 12.15pm	Mass at 11.30am (L)	Mass at 10am (L)

WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE APPEAL

Thank you all so much for your support of the SCIAF WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE Lenten appeal. Please return your WEE BOXES as soon as you can. You can also donate to SCIAF by visiting sciaf.org.uk/weebox or by calling 0141 354 5555.

Thank you once again for your great generosity. From everyone at SCIAF.

We wish you an Easter full of joy and peace.

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 26th March 2023: £566.80

Second Collection (Building Fund): £262.85

Up till now the Emergency Gas repair Donations: £9523.75

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 26th March 2023: £119.50

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

FUNDRAISING FOR RENEWAL OF GAS PIPES

A parishioner has kindly started a just giving page for the recent necessary gas work and restoration of the car park.

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/st-peters-in-chains-ardrossan>

all donations gratefully received.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

*Harry Sammons, Peter Ross, Edna McKinnon,
Rose Bowers, Roseann Banman.*

✚ Those who have died recently:

Patrick Roe, Anne Kennedy.

✚ Those who died at this time of Year:

*Margaret Murphy, Monsignor John O'Farrell 2008,
Pope John Paul II 2005, James Smith 1959,
Archie McFarlane, Harry Quinn 1993,
Patrick Tomelty 2004, Thomas Watt 2017,
Annie Adam 1997, Mattie Friel 1995,
Dominic Gribben 2018, Barbara Henderson,
Frank McCaffrey 2012, Jane Mullen 2003,
Annie Murphy 1981, Agnes Ward 2001,
Margaret Boyd 2004, Jacky Brown 2022,
George Lee 1992, James Wilson 2013,
Mary Tinney 2004, Daniel Thomas Gilmour 2013,
Frank Grogan, Michael McNamara 2008,
Father Tom McCann 2009,
Felix Hamill (Father of Fr. Gerry Hamill).*

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

- ▶ **CONGRATULATION TO CALLUM** Congratulations and many blessings for Callum Higgins who will be confirmed and received into the Church on Easter Sunday. We wish Callum, his Sponsor and his family a day of grace and thanksgiving.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S** In addition to the Holy Week services of The Easter Triduum, the people of St Brides are preparing a service of Readings, Prayer, Music and Reflection on Monday 3 April at 7 30 pm to which all welcome.
- ▶ **H. C. P. T. The Lourdes Pilgrimage Trust Group 376.** The group has been in the parish for 50 years. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us in any way during covid and over the past year as we prepared for our Pilgrimage to Lourdes. We are travelling on Easter Saturday with a group of adults who require additional support needs. You will be remembered in our prayers and masses. Esther Coulter
- ▶ **MENS ROSARY** To coincide with the thousands of men throughout the world who have gathered to say the Rosary, it is now the turn of Scottish men to come forward and honour Our Blessed Lady on APRIL 1 at 11am in George Square. It is a Glasgow Council approved gathering. Pass the word to all the men in your family. See you there.
- ▶ **THANKS FROM THE ATKINS FAMILY** "The Atkins family wish to express their deep appreciation to Fr Duncan, Canon Matt, Fr John and Fr Gerry for the beautiful concelebration of the mass for Denny. Thanks to everyone for their cards, prayers and condolences and to Paul Stevenson Funeral Directors for all their help and support."
- ▶ **CHRISM MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL IN AYR** Every year in Holy Week, the Sacred Oils for Baptism, Confirmation and the Anointed of the Sick will be blessed by a Bishop in the Cathedral on Tuesday of Holy Week. If you would like to join the coach leaving from the Three Towns, please put your name on the list at the back of Church.
- ▶ **EASTER SUNDAY ON CANNON HILL** This year a great Easter Tradition in Ardrossan will be restarted - the Easter Morning Praise. The different Churches in Ardrossan will meet on the Cannon Hill at the Dr Alexander MacFadzean Monument at 8am on Easter Sunday Morning. Breakfast afterwards at the EU Church in Glasgow Street. Everyone is invited to join in and make Easter Sunday really special.
- ▶ **GENEROUS DONATIONS FOR ST PETER'S** We are very grateful for a donation of £500 from the Celtic Supporters Association from Ardrossan and Dalry and also for a donation of £300 from St Matthew's Academy through the Sports Leaders Bake Sale. Sincere thanks for all your help and consideration and for all your generosity. It is very much appreciated.
- ▶ **KNIT AND KNATTER** The knit and knatter group will not be meeting on the 5th or 12th of April. Meetings will start again on Wednesday the 19th of April.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS CARD TODAY

Please make sure you get your copy of the services and celebrations for the Holy Week and Easter at St Bride's and St Peters. Available after Masses this weekend.

NOTABLE DATE

7th April - Construction started on St Peter's Parish Centre.

DEDICATION OF THE RESTORED PIPE ORGAN AT ST JOSEPH'S, KILMARNOCK:

The newly restored Harrison & Harrison Pipe Organ (1903) in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock will be solemnly blessed and dedicated, and an inaugural recital will be performed by Andrew Reid, FRCO, on Sunday 16th April at 6 pm in St Joseph's Church, Hill Street, Kilmarnock. All are welcome: no need to book – just come along.

SEVEN WORDS THAT BEST EXPLAIN THE "POPE FRANCIS APPROACH"

Pope Francis has rapidly given a different approach to Catholicism's image since being elected Pope ten years ago in March. Here are seven words that describe his revolutionary papacy.

- ✚ **TENDERNESS** - Tenderness is central to his style, the ingredient that softens his gestures. He wants to make the world a more humane place by being tender.
- ✚ **GOING** - "Evangelii Gaudium" can be seen as the Pope Francis manifesto. It is a passionate invitation for all Catholics to leave their comfort zones and boldly spread the Christian message.
- ✚ **THROWAWAY** - Pope Francis often denounces the cruelty of a "throwaway" society that discards the most vulnerable: children, the poor, the sick, and the elderly.
- ✚ **PERIPHERIES** - The Church's geopolitical strategy has also changed under the Pope. His first trip was to Lampedusa, the island where many migrants to Europe arrive. The first European country he visited was Albania. And his first tour to Latin America included stops in Bolivia, Paraguay and Ecuador.
- ✚ **TEARS** - Pope Francis thinks that tears are the only valid response to the pain of others. It's his way of denouncing globalised indifference.
- ✚ **MERCY** - God's mercy is available to all of those who repent, the Pope has said time and time again. He invites us to never get tired of asking for mercy.
- ✚ **JOY** - The Pope proposes a new lifestyle, rooted in simplicity and everyday kindness. It has created a stream of joy all around him. Joy pervades Pope Francis' life, it's apparent in every appearance he makes.
"I invite each one of you to ask yourselves: 'Have I learned how to weep, how to cry? Have I learned how to weep for somebody who is left aside? Have I learned to weep for someone who has a drug problem? Have I learned how to weep for someone who has suffered abuse?' - Pope Francis

Just for a laugh... A parishioner was coming out of church one day, and the Parish Priest was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed the parishioner by the hand and pulled him aside. The Priest said to him, "You need to get back to your faith and to your Church, I haven't seen you for a long time - you need to join the army of the Lord." The parishioner replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Father." The priest questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

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