



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!



Second Sunday of Advent [B]

10th 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

✠ The Christmas Candles

Once upon a time, many, many years ago, an old cobbler and his wife lived in a tiny cottage. This humble shoemaker had few worldly possessions, but whatever he owned he shared with others. Symbolic of his generosity and love of his neighbour was a lighted candle he placed in the window of his cottage which, every night, shone forth as a welcome sign of hospitality to any weary traveller in search of shelter. War and near destruction fell upon this little village - but never once did the little candle fail to send its beams as a message of hope and cheer to all. Somehow, the little cobbler and his wife suffered far less than the other villagers. It seemed there was a special love guarding both of them. Discouraged and weary, the village peasants gathered together one evening to discuss the cobbler's fortune. "Surely there is something special about him: He is always spared from all misfortunes. What does he do that we do not do?" "Perhaps it is his little candle!", said one of the villagers. "Let us all put a candle in our windows too, this Christmas, and see if that is the mysterious secret!" Now, it so happened that the day of the peasant's meeting was the day before Christmas, and the first night that a candle was lit in the window of every home was Christmas Eve. The candles burned all that night. When morning came, a soft mantle of snow covered all of the village and an air of hope and contentment filled the hearts of all the villagers. Before the first ray of the morning sun, a messenger rode into the village to bring the great news - the war was over, peace had come! Tiny silver church bells chimed - never before had there been such a feeling of Christmas glory and joy as there was on that day. The peasants were awed: "It was the candles," they whispered. "It was the candles! They have guided the newborn Saviour to our very doorsteps and have brought an answer to all of our prayers. We must never again fail to light our candles when we celebrate the Miracle of the Holy Night!"

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.

2nd Week of Advent 2023 [B]

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 9 th December	2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Peace in Ukraine & the Middle East</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)
Sunday 10 th December	2nd 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 11 th December	2nd Week of Advent Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Anthony McGarvey (A)</i>			Prayers of Reception at 6pm Larry Burke
Tuesday 12 th December	Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe Morning Prayer of the Church 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Thomas Bruin [A]</i>	Morning Prayer of the Church at 9.40am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for</i> <i>Ann Buchanan (MM)</i>		Funeral Mass at 10am (L) Larry Burke
Wednesday 13 th December	Memorial of St Lucy Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Leo & Elizabeth Walsh (A)</i>		Mass at 10am (L)	
Thursday 14 th December	Requiem Mass for Peter Hamilton Mass at 10am		Prayers of Reception at 5.30pm John Patrick Breen	Mass at 10am (L)
Friday 15 th December	2nd Week of Advent Prayer of the Rosary 9.30am Mass at 10am <i>Offered for Mary & Esther Madden (A)</i> Exposition and Benediction 10.30am	Mass at 10am	Funeral Mass at 10am (L) John Patrick Breen	
Saturday 16 th December	3rd Sunday of Advent (Year B) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm <i>Offered for Kilbane Family, David Kiltie (RD)</i>			Vigil Mass at 4.30pm (L)

RECONCILIATION SERVICES FOR ADVENT

We have the opportunity to attend a Reconciliation Service and Confession on three dates before Christmas:

Wednesday, 13th December at 2pm at St Mary's Saltcoats;

Thursday 14th December at St Peter in Chains Ardrossan;

Friday 15th December at St John's Stevenston.

You are personally invited to come along and "clear out the stable" before Christmas.

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, are a musician, or if you are available to volunteer for any of our ministries please speak to Father Duncan or contact the office for further details.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

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

✦ Those who have died recently

Peter Hamilton, David Kiltie.

✦ Those who died at this time of Year

James Devlin 2021, Harry McKeachan 2020, Laurence Poland 2010, Agnes Stevenson 1992, Agnes Tomelty 2017, Maria Cunningham 1997, James Devine 2021, Alex Fitzpatrick 1991, Mary Magee 1997, Catherine Graham 2015, James McGlynn 2004, Catherine McGrattan 1969, Sheila McLaughlin 2010, Danny McMail 2016, Harry Quigg 1998, Bruna Conn 2009, Mary Hall 1999, John Ireland 2017, Maria Monaghan 1998, Margaret Newall 1994, Margaret Spencer 1992, Alexander Stewart 1982, James Taylor 2002, Desmond Walsh 2007, John Welsh 2017, Ina McKay 1998, Mary Branchfield 2003, Kenny Brown 2015, Mary Dunn 2002, Sam Ferguson 2008, Norman Lamont 2009, Sally Quigg née Gilmour 1984, James McIntosh 1998, Catherine McMahan 2005, John Taylor 2002, Annie Thompson 2016, Dr Matt Carty 2008, Monsignor Peter Murphy 1999, Robert McKay 1993, Denis McLaughlin 2008, Harry McNamara 2000, George Kelly 2011, Anne Warden née McNamara 2012.

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

- ▶ **REQUIEM MASS FOR PETER HAMILTON** Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Peter Hamilton who died on 1st December 2023, aged 79 years. His Requiem Mass will be on Thursday, 14th December at 10am, followed by Interment at Ardrossan Cemetery. His month's Mind Mass will be on 1st January 2024 at 10am. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES FOR ST PETER'S & ST BRIDE'S** please make sure you pick up your leaflet. Available today.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S CHRISTMAS CAROL EVENING** Christmas carols at 7pm on Wed. 13th Dec. with refreshments. All welcome!
- ▶ **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 CONCERT** Christmas concert with the 'Young Voices'. Monday 18th December at 6.30pm in St Peter's Church.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S MONTHLY DRAW** Congratulations to No. 19 Anthony McEwan, who wins £26.50 in the December draw.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS CONCERT IN AID OF HCPT LOURDES GROUP 376** Featuring Theresa Morrison, Paul Hume and friends. Sunday 17th December at 2pm in St Peter- in-Chains Church. Ticket £6 includes afternoon tea. Tickets available after Sunday morning Mass at St Peters or contact Esther Coulter 07772433070.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE WITH ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL** Please join us at 6pm on Wednesday, 20th December in St Peter's church for a carol service with the pupils of St Peter's Primary School.
- ▶ **ST BRIDE'S SSVV VILLAGE LARDER COLLECTIONS** St Bride's SSVV plan Collections for the Village Larder on the 10th & 17th December. 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.
- ▶ **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.

POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE TO 600 SEMINARIANS IN FRANCE

[Excerpt from 2nd December 2023] - "His Holiness Pope Francis gives thanks for the singular call that the Lord has addressed to you, having chosen you from among so many others, loved you with a privileged love and set you apart; and he also gives thanks for the courageous response that you wish to give to this call. It is indeed a cause for thanksgiving, hope and joy to see that many young people — and not so young people — still dare, with the generosity and boldness of faith, and despite the difficult times facing our Churches and our secularised Western societies, to follow the Lord in His service and that of their brothers and sisters. At the heart of your identity, configured to the Lord Jesus, is celibacy. Priests are celibate — and they wish to be — simply because Jesus was celibate. The requirement of celibacy is not primarily theological, but mystical: may this be understood by he who is able (cf. Matthew 19:12). In order to live this demanding, and sometimes harsh, priestly perfection, and face the challenges and temptations you will encounter along the way, there is only one solution, dear seminarians: nurture a strong, living and authentic personal relationship with Jesus. Love Jesus more than anything else, let His love be enough for you, and you will emerge victorious from every crisis and every difficulty. For if Jesus is enough for me, I have no need of great consolations in ministry, or of great pastoral success, or of feeling at the centre of extensive relational networks; if Jesus is enough for me, I have no need of disordered affections, or of notoriety, or of having great responsibilities, or of pursuing a career, or of shining in the eyes of the world, or of being better than others; if Jesus is enough for me, I have no need of great material possessions, or of enjoying the seductions of the world, or of security for my future. If, on the contrary, I succumb to any of these temptations or weaknesses, it is because Jesus is not enough for me and that I lack love."

POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE TO THE COP28 IN DUBAI

[Excerpt from 2nd December 2023] - "I am with you because the destruction of the environment is an offence against God, a sin that is not only personal but also structural, one that greatly endangers all human beings, especially the most vulnerable in our midst and threatens to unleash a conflict between generations. I am with you to raise the question which we must answer now: Are we working for a culture of life or a culture of death? To all of you I make this heartfelt appeal: Let us choose life! Let us choose the future! May we be attentive to the cry of the earth, may we hear the plea of the poor, may we be sensitive to the hopes of the young and the dreams of children! We have a grave responsibility: to ensure that they not be denied their future. How much energy is humanity wasting on the numerous wars presently in course, such as those in Israel and Palestine, in Ukraine and in many parts of the world: conflicts that will not solve problems but only increase them! How many resources are being squandered on weaponry that destroys lives and devastates our common home! Once more I present this proposal: "With the money spent on weapons and other military expenditures, let us establish a global fund that can finally put an end to hunger" (Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti, 262; cf. SAINT PAUL VI, Encyclical Letter Populorum Progressio, 51) and carry out works for the sustainable development of the poorer countries and for combating climate change. In the end, the purpose of power is to serve. It is useless to cling to an authority that will one day be remembered for its inability to take action when it was urgent and necessary to do so. Let us leave behind our divisions and unite our forces! And with God's help, let us emerge from the dark night of wars and environmental devastation in order to turn our common future into the dawn of a new and radiant day."

ST. PETER'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 3rd December: £496.18

Second Collection (Building Fund): £185.35

Standing Orders for November 2023: £3695.00

ST. BRIDE'S PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Cash Collection 3rd December: £130.00

Standing Orders for November 2023: £1047.00

Many Thanks for your support and generosity!

Just for a Laugh... The Parish Priest was completing a temperance homily: with great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." And then finally, he said, "And if I had all the whisky in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." He sat down. The organist then stood up very cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing hymn, let us sing Hymn Number 365: "Shall We Gather at the River."

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 <p>St Peter's Stall Cards, Candles, Statues, Mass Cards, A wonderful selection of Cards & Gifts Available Now!</p> 	 <p>M J McDermott Plumbing & Heating Gas Safe Registered Mob: 07977628117 Tel: 01294 602261 mjmcplumbing@aol.com / Facebook</p>	 <p>St. Peter's Parish Centre Hall Hire Available Weddings, Birthdays, Christenings, Funerals For Booking contact Fiona Brown on 07907 389703</p> 