

ST PETER IN CHAINS ■ ARDROSSAN ST BRIDE'S ■ WEST KILBRIDE

"Meeting people where they are - leading them to where God calls them to be!"



Parish Bulletin ■ Second Sunday of Advent ■ 7th December 2025

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESS

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1 South Crescent Road
Ardrossan, KA22 8DU

St. Bride's Church
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West Kilbride, KA23 9EX

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www.stbrideschurch.co.uk

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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Peter in Chains: Saturday between
4.45pm - 5.15pm
and by request.
St. Bride's: By request.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

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Ayr: Fr. Benjamin Mkeri
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Following the Star - Troubles Along the Way



In the ancient world, traveling from Babylon to Bethlehem was tough. The Three Kings couldn't just hop on a plane, or fill up the gas tank for a comfy road trip. They would have had to travel overland, in some kind of caravan, maybe with camels or donkeys, and it would have taken an extended period of time — weeks if not months. But starting out on their journey wasn't the only difficulty they faced. Two other hardships (*second one next Sunday*) made their trip into a troubled pilgrimage. Taking some time to reflect on them will help us face similar hardships in our own pilgrimage of faith. The first difficulty they faced was the disappearing star. When they saw the star arise, they knew that it signalled the birth of the promised Messiah, the King of the Jews, and they decided to go and meet him. So they set out for the obvious destination, the only logical place, where a King of the Jews could be found: The holy city of the Jews, their religious and political capital, Jerusalem. But when they finally arrive at the holy city, things don't go according to their plans: Nobody knows about the new-born King; no one is talking about him; he is not there. However, God intervened again, making the star reappear and led them to the new-born King. So many times we encounter the same difficulty! So many times we have an authentic experience of God, we truly hear his voice, we get a real glimpse of a star, and we respond generously and sincerely, setting out on a new phase in our pilgrimage of faith, only to find that our merely human expectations got the better of us, that we hadn't fully understood all that God was telling us. When that happens, we need to do exactly what the Magi did: Keep inquiring, go to the Scriptures, go to the custodian of the Scriptures (the Church), courageously search for how to continue responding to God's will. And when the time is right, when our inquiry has had the effect that God wishes on the Herods and Jerusalems of the world, the star will reappear to guide us onward. In fact, Christ himself promised that this would be the case. He told his disciples: Seek, and you will find... for the one who keeps on seeking always finds – Matthew 7:7-8.



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

Liturgy of the Week - Second Week of Advent

ST PETER IN CHAINS <i>Father Duncan McVicar Canon Matt McManus Sister Ursula, Sister Anna</i>	ST PETER'S MASS INTENTIONS <i>RD = Recently Died, A = Anniversary, T = Thanksgiving; SI = Special Intention</i>	ST BRIDE'S <i>Fr Duncan McVicar Fr Gerry Hamill</i>	ST MARY'S <i>Canon Martin Poland Canon Matt McManus Sister Ursula, Sister Anna</i>	ST JOHN'S <i>Canon Martin Poland Canon Matt McManus Sister Ursula, Sister Anna</i>
SATURDAY, 6TH DECEMBER Saturday Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	<i>Christmas Masses for Calum, Rose and Emma Nicolson, Joanne and Neil.</i>		Holy Mass at 4.30pm	
SUNDAY, 7TH DECEMBER 2nd Sunday of Advent (A) Holy Mass at 10.30am	<i>For all the deceased members of our Parish of St Peter's</i>	Mass at 12.15pm <i>For all the deceased members of our Parish of St Bride's</i>	Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 11.30am
MONDAY, 8TH DECEMBER Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Jim Mathieson (A) Harry Sammons (RIP)</i>	Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 10am	
TUESDAY, 9TH DECEMBER Memorial of St Juan Diego Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Jack Collins (A) Tony McGarvey (A)</i>	Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 10am	
WEDNESDAY, 10TH DECEMBER Our Lady of Loreto Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Ian Cahill (RD)</i>			Holy Mass at 10am
THURSDAY, 11TH DECEMBER 2nd Week of the Year Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Danny McMail (A) Annemarie McMail (A)</i>		Eucharistic Service at 10am	
FRIDAY, 12TH DECEMBER Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am Benediction at 10.30am Afterwards Refreshments in St Peter's Cafe	<i>For all those killed in the floods in Indonesia recently.</i>			Holy Mass at 10am
SATURDAY, 13TH DECEMBER First Sunday of Advent (A) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	<i>Margaret Gribben (A)</i>		Holy Mass at 4.30pm	

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY ON MONDAY

In Luke 1:28 the angel Gabriel, speaking on God's behalf, addresses Mary as "full of grace" or "highly favoured". In that context, this phrase means that Mary is receiving all the special divine help necessary for the task ahead. Mary's intimate association with the Incarnation called for the special involvement of God in Mary's whole life. Mary was full of grace and free of sin from the first moment of her existence. Moreover, this great privilege of Mary is the highlight of all that God has done in Jesus. Rightly understood, the incomparable holiness of Mary shows forth the incomparable goodness of God.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Jim McEwan, Peter
Brawley, Sean Connell,
Margaret Hanna,
Monica Taylor, Father
John Sweeney,
Augustine Coe.

**FOR THOSE WHO HAVE
DIED RECENTLY**
Father Johnny Kinstler.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR

Sarah Braniff 1961, Katherine Fearon 1911, Janet Ferris 2013, Ann McCubbin, Robert Shanks 1996, Alexander Bartley 2017, Teresa Dorans 2006, Francis Fitzpatrick 2020, Philip Gargan 2012, Margaret Hughes 2006, James Mathieson 1999, Gerard McCulloch 1990, Anthony McGarvey 1996, John McKay junior 1972, James McSorley 2010, Cassie Millen 2011, May O'Farrell 2013, Father Alec Smith SDB 2008, John Tracy 1999, George Forbes 2014, Agnes Martin 2007, Jim McIntosh 2019, James Devlin 2021, Harry McKechean 2020, Laurence Poland 2010, Agnes Stevenson 1992, Agnes Tomelty 2017, Maria Cunningham 1997, James Devine 2021, Alex Fitzpatrick 1991, 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, Mary Branchfield 2003, Kenny Brown 2015, Gabrielle Cahill 2024, Mary Dunn 2002, Sam Ferguson 2008, Catherine Graham 2015, George Kelly 2011, Norman Lamont 2009, James McIntosh 1998, Catherine McMahon 2005.

■ Chair Dance with Louie at St Peter's

Chair Dance on Thursdays at 12.15pm till 1pm in the Parish Centre, £3.00 entry.

VERY IMPORTANT

■ Changes to the Sacrament of Confirmation

Bishop Dougan has announced that the normal practice for the celebration of Confirmation will no longer be before the reception of First Holy Communion (P4). It will be celebrated at a later age. He has yet to decide what that age will be and will enter a process of consultation and discernment over the coming months. He will also publish a fuller explanation of his decision in the coming weeks.

■ Congratulations to our 50/50 Winners

For October and November at St Peter's: No.155 Doherty; No.168 J. Coulter; No.262 J. McCabe No.87 W. Timpany No.230 R. Murray; No.44 P. McEvoy No.122 T. Stirton; No.133 S. Benson. Our next Draw for December will be 14th December. GOOD LUCK and many thanks to all our members for their continued support over 2025.

■ Christmas Collection for the Village Larder

The SSVP Christmas Collection for the Village Larder at St Bride's will run from 1st December to 21st December. There will be a suggestion list at the back of the Church. Thank you for all your support!

■ Date for your Diary - St Peter's

We will be holding a Bingo Night on 28th February 2026 to raise funds to send children to Lourdes. Further information will be published in due course. Watch this space!

■ Dates for your Diaries - St Bride's

Please save the date for St Bride's Annual Christmas Dinner and Entertainment on Saturday, 13th December. More information to follow. Also Christmas Carol Concert on Wednesday, 17th December at 7pm.

■ Fr Duncan celebrates his 40th Anniversary

This Sunday 7th December 2025, Fr Duncan will celebrate 40 years as a Priest. We would like to have a collection to mark this important anniversary. If you would like to make a contribution, envelopes are available at the back of the Church and in the Stall.

■ First Confessions - St Peter's Primary

Please keep all the children and their families in your prayers, who will be making their First Confession, this Thursday, 11th December. Through this Sacrament of Healing, God tells us that we are loved and forgiven.

VERY IMPORTANT

■ Knit-And-Natter at St Peter's

The Knit and Natter get together on Wednesdays. We meet in the Church Hall at St Peter's from 1 till 3pm. Everyone is very welcome.

■ St Peter's Christmas Raffle

We are holding a Christmas raffle to help raise funds for our ongoing repairs to our Church with great prizes on offer. 1st Large Christmas Hamper 2nd Small Children's Hamper 3rd Bottle of Champagne 4th Tin of Sweets 5th Bottle of Wine. Raffle tickets are still on sale this weekend with the draw being made after the 10:30 Mass on Sunday 21 December 2025.

■ Ardrossan Churches - Christmas Carol Service

Please come and join us for the Christmas Carol Concert, organised by the Ardrossan Churches. Our local schools will be performing this year, including St Peter's Primary School. This Thursday, 11th December at 7pm in the EU Church, Glasgow Street. All are welcome - see you there!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

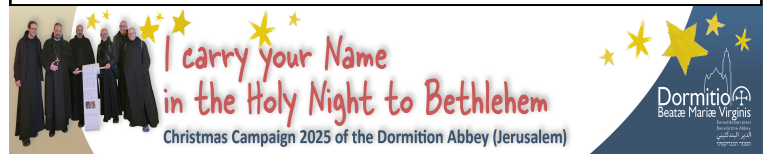


Monday, 15th December at 7pm
Peter in Chains, Ardrossan



Tuesday, 16th December 2pm
St Mary's, Saltcoats

Thursday, 18th December at 7pm
St John's, Stevenston



Every Christmas Eve, the monks of the Dormitio Abbey in Jerusalem walk to Bethlehem (6 miles) carrying thousands upon thousands of our names to the place of the Birth of the Saviour. Just as the shepherds did it! They offer to collect the names of the people who are "going to Bethlehem": You can send the monks your names, and they write them on a big and long scroll. "When we write your names on a long scroll in the Holy Night, we take with your names also yourselves with us to Bethlehem: in our walking and praying, and in our joy for the newborn child in the crib and in our hope for salvation and peace." Go directly to the participation form online on www.dormitio.net or send them via Email to weihnachtsaktion@dormitio.net



JUST FOR A LAUGH



It was a cold and misty Christmas morning in the very depth of Winter after a heavy fall of snow and only one farmer and the minister managed to arrive at the church for the morning Mass. "Well," said the priest "I guess there's no point in having a Mass today." "Well that's not how I see it," said the farmer. "If only one cow turns up at feeding time, I still feed it."

→ St Peter's Parish Stewardship ←

Offertory for 30th November: £559.41

Special Collection for 30th November: £318.91



→ St Bride's Parish Stewardship ←

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CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS
Monica Taylor would like to thank Fr Duncan and the family of St Peter's in Chains for all your support and prayers recently. I want to wish my family, friends and the parish community a Blessed Christmas and all the graces of the season for 2026.

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