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 ▪ Fourth Sunday of the Year ▪ 1st February 2026

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESS
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.
Telephone: 01294 464063

PARISH OFFICE DETAILS
Telephone: 01294 464063
ardrossan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
St Peter's Centre:
Fiona Brown 07907 389703
stpetersparishcentre1@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITES
www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk
www.stbrideschurch.co.uk

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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
ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
01655 882145

MARRIAGE, FAMILE AND LIFE OFFICE
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TE DOMINUM LAUDAMUS

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

Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati – Man of the Beatitudes

Back when he was still Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, Saint Pope John Paul II first came across the story of Pier Giorgio Frassati at an exhibit in Krakow, Poland. After learning about him, the Karol Wojtyla began calling him the "Man of the Eight Beatitudes". Just why was Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati called the "Man of the Beatitudes"? **Blessed are the poor in spirit, the kingdom of Heaven is theirs** - Pier Giorgio's faith and love of God were at the centre of his actions. He knew that without his faith and reliance on God, nothing could be done. **Blessed are the gentle, they shall have the earth as inheritance** - As his sister, Luciana Frassati, wrote in a book about his life, "Silent, keeping to himself, he studied his surroundings, and, little by little amid the welter of names... he became known as the student who never refused to help." He led by example and would not give up on anyone. **Blessed are those who mourn, they shall be comforted** - While he was known for being a joyful prankster, Pier Giorgio knew the time and place for it. He was there for those who needed comfort during times of sorrow. He used to go to daily Mass and offer it up for the souls in purgatory. **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for uprightness, they shall have their fill** - Pier Giorgio never hesitated to share his faith with his friends. As Luciana wrote, "He only had to exchange a few words to win a friend, whom he then looked after and advised." He would invite them to attend Mass with them. Even if they declined the invitation, he would ask again at another time. **Blessed are the merciful, they shall have mercy shown them** - If there was one beatitude that summed what his life was about, it would be this one. Pier spent his life doing countless acts of charity. As a small child, he took off his shoes and socks to give to a woman with a small child who had arrived at his house, begging for charity. At the age of 17, he joined the Conference of Saint Vincent de Paul. Even on his deathbed, he wrote a note instructing that the medication in his pocket be delivered a man who needed them. **Blessed are the pure in heart, they shall see God** - Pier Giorgio Frassati took purity of heart and mind seriously. Since he received the Eucharist daily and knew the importance of receiving it with reverence, he did what he could to avoid anything that would make him "unworthy" of receiving it. **Blessed are the peacemakers, they shall be recognised as children of God** - Shortly before his death, Pier Giorgio knew that his parents were on the brink of divorce. It pained him to know that such a thing was possible so he gave up his own love – a young woman named Laura Hidalgo – because he knew that it wouldn't help his parent's marriage. Since Pier Giorgio came from a wealthy, high society family, he knew that Laura's low social status (she was an orphan) and lack of money would create problems in his affluent family. So, he sacrificed his own earthly happiness so that a semblance of peace would remain in his family. **Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of uprightness, the kingdom of Heaven is theirs** - Pier Giorgio was politically active but always put his faith first. He wasn't afraid of the clashes with Italian police and soldiers and was even detained for several hours. In a letter to members of the Catholic Youth group in Pollone, he wrote, "The times which we are going through are difficult, because persecution against the Church rages as cruelly as ever. But you fearless and good young people, do not be afraid because of this small problem. Bear in mind the fact that the Church is a divine institution that cannot end and will endure until the end of the world, and 'the gates of hell will not prevail against her." This list is just scratching this surface. There are countless more examples as to why Pier Giorgio Frassati is a model for not only youth but those who are serious about their faith. Let us pray for his intercession; that God may grant us the same love for God, humanity, and charity that Pier Giorgio displayed during the 24 years he lived on this earth.

Liturgy of the Week - Fourth Week of the Year

ST PETER IN CHAINS *Father Duncan McVicar* *Canon Matt McManus* *Sister Ursula, Sister Anna*	ST PETER'S MASS INTENTIONS *RD = Recently Died, A = Anniversary, T = Thanksgiving; SI = Special Intention*	ST BRIDE'S *Fr Duncan McVicar* *Fr Gerry Hamill*	ST MARY'S *Canon Martin Poland* *Canon Matt McManus* *Sister Ursula, Sister Anna*	ST JOHN'S *Canon Martin Poland* *Canon Matt McManus* *Sister Ursula, Sister Anna*
SATURDAY, 31ST JANUARY **Saturday Vigil** **Mass at 5.30pm**	*Josephone Atkins (A)* *Kevin Dorian (RD)*		Holy Mass at 4.30pm	
SUNDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY **4th Sunday of the Year (A)** **Holy Mass at 10.30am**	*For all the deceased members of our Parish of St Peter's*	**Mass at 12.15pm** *For all the deceased members of our Parish of St Bride's*	Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 11.30am
MONDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY **Feast of the Presentation** **Rosary at 9.30am** **Holy Mass at 10am**	*Emily & Jimmy McLaughlin (A)* *Kathleen Fraser (A)* *Tony Fraser (A)*			Funeral Mass for **Gerry Pollock** at 10am
TUESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY **Memorial of St Blaise** **Morning Prayer at 9.40am** **Holy Mass at 10am**	*Sandy Watson (RD)* *Gerry Pollock (RD)*	No Mass today	Holy Mass at 10am with P2 Pupils from St Anthony's	
WEDNESDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY **Fourth Week of the Year** **Rosary at 9.30am** **Holy Mass at 10am**	*Charlie & Martha Farrell (A)* *Charlie & Veronica Farrell (A)*			Holy Mass at 10am
THURSDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY **Memorial of St Agatha** **Rosary at 9.30am** **Holy Mass at 10am**	*Marie Fraser (SI)*		Holy Mass at 10am	
FRIDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY **Memorial of St Paul Miki** **Rosary at 9.30am** **Holy Mass at 10am** **Benediction at 10.30am**	*Rosann Welsh (A)*	No Mass today		Holy Mass at 10am
SATURDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY **4th Sunday of the Year (A)** **Vigil Mass at 5.30pm**	*Marie & Edmund Lang (SI)*		Wedding Mass at 11.30am Holy Mass at 4.30pm	

MEMORIAL OF ST BLAISE THIS TUESDAY

We know that Bishop Blaise was martyred in his episcopal city of Sebastea, Armenia, in 316. The legendary Acts of St. Blaise were written 400 years later. According to them Blaise was a good bishop, working hard to encourage the spiritual and physical health of his people. Although the Edict of Toleration (311), granting freedom of worship in the Roman Empire, was already five years old, persecution still raged in Armenia. Blaise is seen as one more example of the power those have who give themselves entirely to Jesus. As Jesus told his apostles at the Last Supper, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). With faith we can follow the lead of the Church in asking for Blaise's protection in the special Throat Blessing given on his Feast Day. *St Blaise pray for us!*

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Jim McEwan, Peter Brawley, Margaret Hanna, Monica Taylor, Father John Sweeney, Catherine Dalton, Maria Hilferty, Sophia Orr, Derek MacLaren.

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Michael Hartley

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR

Ellen McCarroll 1980, James McDermid 2005, Peggy McKechan 2018, Rachel Cairnie 1988, Canon Shaun Crowley 2001, Joseph Foran 1994, Jessie Flynn, Rena Heneaghan 1976, Mary Kelly 2006, Marie Matthews 2005, Emily McLaughlin 2014, Ronnie Sliwinski 2016, Sadie Burns 2009, Rachel Cairnie 1998, Janet Cunningham 1999, Father Joe Davie SDB 2002, Sister Margaret of Jesus (Theresa Campbell) 2016, Tony Tourish 1993, Monsignor Joseph Boyd 2021, Frank McKane 2021, Mary C McManus 1973, Margaret Mitchell 2004, Mae Murray 2018, Josephine Atkins 2021, Michael Barrett 1972, Paul Hamilton 2020, Catherine McIlroy 2009, Archie McLaren 2009, Peter Mitchell 1973, Joseph Brodie 1961, Eileen Busbridge 1978, Lilli McCulloch 2011, James Meechan 2019, Marjory O'Connell 1986, Sarah Cunningham 1977, Joseph McGhee 2025, Patrick McGinn 1999, Malcolm McLean 2022, Marie Pellegrini 2020.

▪ **Come along to our Scottish Afternoon**
A Burns Afternoon this Sunday 1st of February at 2pm in the Parish Centre at St Peter's.

▪ **Dates for your Diary - St Peter's** VERY IMPORTANT
We will also 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!*

▪ **Ardrossan Churches Meeting**
The next Meeting of the Ardrossan Churches Group will be on Tuesday, 3rd February at 7.30pm in St Peter's Parish House.

▪ **Year of the Holy Spirit in Galloway**
Please make sure you have copies of the Diocesan Prayer Card to the Holy Spirit for use at home, in school and at Holy Mass in Church. Prayer Cards are available at the back of Church.

VERY IMPORTANT
▪ **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on Monday**
The blessing of candles on the Feast of the Presentation is closely related to the Gospel narrative introducing Jesus as the "Light". The burning candle symbolises His abiding presence in the midst of the Christian community. For this reason, the ritual of the Church prescribes that at least two candles be lit on the altar at all liturgical services, and the greater the solemnity, the greater the number of candles used. *Please bring along any candles you would like blessed and place them in front of the altar.*

▪ **Blessing of St Blaise - this Tuesday** VERY IMPORTANT
On Tuesday, 3rd February, the Feast Day of St. Blaise, the Church recalls a miracle cure associated with him and celebrates the blessing of the throats with candles. St. Blaise said that anyone who lit a candle in his memory would be free of infection, thus candles are used in the traditional throat blessing. The candles (blessed on Candlemas Feb. 2) are crossed against the throat, and the following prayer is said: *"Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."*

▪ **SPRED Galloway**
Scott O'Hare from the Ayr Monday Night Group has set himself the challenge to do the Highland Fling Swing on March 14th 2026 to raise funds for SPRED GALLOWAY - if you want to sponsor him please sign the Sponsorship Sheet at the back of Church. Thank you so much for your help and support.

▪ **Feast of St Bride this Sunday**
St Bride's celebrates her patron Saint this Sunday. Who was St Bride? She is best known as being the founder of the first monastery in County Kildare, Ireland. Born in Dundalk in 450 AD, Her father was a pagan chieftain of Leinster and her mother was a Christian. She was inspired by St Patrick to spread the word of God. One of the most famous stories about St Bride concerns her cloak. The story goes that St. Bride, an early Christian nun, wanted some land to build a church. She decided to ask the King for a plot of land to build on, but he laughed at her, refusing to give her anything. That night, Bride prayed to God in the hope of making the King a good man. The next day, Bride visited the King again to ask the same question. This time, he said Bride could have the land her cloak could cover, which would be too small for a church. Bride agreed, and as she put the cloak down it started to grow and grow. Soon enough, it grew big enough to build a church on. Impressed, the King promised to help Bride in any way he could from now on. *We ask God for many blessings and graces our Parish of St Bride's today!*

ST BRIDE,
you were a woman of peace.
You brought harmony where there was conflict.
You brought light to the darkness.
You brought hope to the downcast.
May the mantle of your peace
cover those who are troubled and anxious,
and may peace be firmly rooted
in our hearts and in our world.
Inspire us to act justly
and to reverence all God has made.
Brigid, you were a voice
for the wounded and the weary.
Strengthen what is weak within us.
Calm us into a quietness
that heals and listens.
May we grow each day into greater
wholeness in mind, body and spirit. Amen

A little girl asked her mother, "Where did people come from?" Her mother answered, "God made Adam and Eve and they had children and that's how all mankind was made." A couple of days later she asked her father the same question. The father answered, "Many years ago there were monkeys, which the human race evolved from." The confused little girl returned to her mother and said, "Mummy, how is it possible that you told me that we were created by God, and Daddy said we came from monkeys?" The mother answered, "Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his."

Thank You!

→ **St Peter's Parish Stewardship** ←
Offertory for 25th January: £486.44
Building Fund for 18th January: £333.01

→ **St Bride's Parish Stewardship** ←
Offertory for 25th January: £185.10

Thank You!

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