



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 ■ Third Sunday of the Year ■ 25th January 2026

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESS

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

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

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PARISH WEBSITES

www.saintpeterinchains.co.uk
www.stbrideschurch.co.uk

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

07825 726904 (Ardrossan)
07586 433032 (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
ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk
01655 882145

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



The Bible is all around us. People hear Scripture readings in church. We have Good Samaritan (Luke 10) laws, welcome home the Prodigal Son (Luke 15), and look for the Promised Land (Exodus 3, Hebrews 11). Some biblical passages have become popular maxims, such as "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you (Matthew 7:12)," "Thou shalt not steal (Exodus 20:15), and "love thy neighbour" (Matthew 22:39). Here are some easy points for Scripture reading. **Bible reading is for Catholics.** The Church encourages Catholics to make reading the Bible part of their daily prayer lives. Reading these inspired words, people grow deeper in their relationship with God and come to understand their place in the community God has called them to in himself. **Prayer is the beginning and the end.** Reading the Bible is not like reading a novel or a history book. It should begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to the Word of God. Scripture reading should end with a prayer that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us to become holier and more faithful people. **Get the whole story!** When selecting a Bible, look for a Catholic edition. A Catholic edition will include the Church's complete list of sacred books along with introductions and notes for understanding the text. **The Bible isn't a book.** It's a library. The Bible is a collection of 73 books written over the course of many centuries. The books include royal history, prophecy, poetry, challenging letters to struggling new faith communities, and believers' accounts of the preaching and passion of Jesus. **Know what the Bible is – and what it isn't.** The Bible is the story of God's relationship with the people he has called to himself. It is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation. **The sum is greater than the parts.** Read the Bible in context. What happens before and after – even in other books – helps us to understand the true meaning of the text. The Old relates to the New. The Old Testament and the New Testament shed light on each other. **What is God saying to me?** The Bible is not addressed only to long-dead people in a faraway land. It is addressed to each of us in our own unique situations. When we read, we need to understand what the text says and how the faithful have understood its meaning in the past. In light of this understanding, we then ask: What is God saying to me? **Reading isn't enough.** If Scripture remains just words on a page, our work is not done. We need to meditate on the message and put it into action in our lives. Only then can the word be "living and effective." (Hebrews 4:12).

Liturgy of the Week - Third Week of the Year

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, 24TH JANUARY Saturday Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	<i>Ann Mackie [Paisley]</i>		Holy Mass at 4.30pm	
SUNDAY, 25TH JANUARY 3rd Sunday of the Year (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, 26TH JANUARY Memorial of Ss Timothy & Titus Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Maureen McNeill (RD) Mary Asken (RD)</i>			
TUESDAY, 27TH JANUARY Third Week of the Year Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Mary McNamara (A) Hughie Stewart (RD)</i>	Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 10am	
WEDNESDAY, 28TH JANUARY Memorial of St Thomas Aquinas Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Marie Louise Paterson (A)</i>		Funeral Mass for Kenny Kelly at 10am	Eucharistic Service at 10am
THURSDAY, 29TH JANUARY Third Week of the Year Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Ian Michael Falsey (A) Gerry Pollock (RD)</i>		Holy Mass at 10am	
FRIDAY, 30TH JANUARY Third Week of the Year Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am Benediction at 10.30am	<i>Thanksgiving Mass for Yasmin's Family (T)</i>	Holy Mass at 10am		Holy Mass at 10am
SATURDAY, 31ST JANUARY 4th Sunday of the Year (A) Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	<i>Josephine Atkins (A) Kevin Dorian (RD)</i>		Holy Mass at 4.30pm	

MEMORIAL OF ST THOMAS AQUINAS THIS WEDNESDAY

By universal consent, Saint Thomas Aquinas is the preeminent spokesman of the Catholic tradition of reason and of divine revelation. He is one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church, honoured with the titles Doctor of the Church and Angelic Doctor. By 1243, Thomas abandoned his family's plans for him and joined the Dominicans, much to his mother's dismay. On her order, Thomas was captured by his brother and kept at home for over a year. We can look to Thomas Aquinas as a towering example of Catholicism in the sense of broadness, universality, and inclusiveness. We should be determined anew to exercise the divine gift of reason in us, our power to know, learn, and understand. At the same time we should thank God for the gift of his revelation, especially in Jesus Christ. St Thomas Aquinas pray for us!



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Jim McEwan, Peter Brawley, Margaret Hanna, Monica Taylor, Father John Sweeney, Michael Hartley, Catherine Dalton, Maria Hilferty.

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Mother Mary Matthias of the Sacred Heart.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR

Bernard Burns 1963, Annie Carson 1995, Avril Cullis 2009, Brookelyn Angel Donnachy 2006, James Jennings 2013, Andrew McCormick 2009, Alfie Willis 2015, Barbara Scott 2010, Willie Forsyth 2012, John McKay senior 1957, Patricia Murphy 1988, Joseph Retzbach 1940, Debra Crawford 2024, Ian Michael Falsey 2004, Agnes Marshall 2012, Michael McManus (Canon Matt's brother) 2021, Father Leo Muldoon, Marie Louise Paterson 2022, John Ryan 2001, Peter Monaghan 2023, Susanna Brodie 1963, Iain Clarke 2012, Gordon McKeachan 2022, Marie Coyle sister of Father Joe Boland 2017, Joseph Lynn 1997, John McKay.

▪ **Come along to our Scottish Afternoon** **VERY IMPORTANT**

This is the last weekend to buy tickets for our Scottish Afternoon, Sunday 1st of February at 2pm in the Parish Centre at St Peter's. There are plenty of tickets still available and we need your support to make this event a success. *Please come along if you can!*

▪ **Dates for your Diary - St Peter's**

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 - Prayer for Unity and Peace**

The Ardrossan Churches are gathering this Sunday, 25th January at 3pm, in the Park Church [Ardrossan Parish Church] to conclude the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. If you can, please come along. There will be refreshments afterwards.

▪ **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.

▪ **The Calling of the Apostles**



An Italian Renaissance painter from Florence, named Domenico Ghirlandaio, worked on the Sistine Chapel before Michelangelo. In the Sistine Chapel, while most people look up to see Michelangelo's famous ceiling, the side walls are also great works of art. Made by a team of artists, Domenico was one of them. Domenico painted the scene where Jesus calls the four fishermen. The opposite wall presents the Crossing of the Red Sea, painted by Botticelli. The link between the two scenes is the theme of divine calling and liberation. Ghirlandaio's depiction of the calling of the Apostles shows Christ summoning Peter and Andrew from their fishing nets, representing a divine call to a new mission. The deepest link between the two scenes is that Moses leads to physical freedom, while Jesus initiates spiritual freedom and salvation through discipleship. Domenico added to the crowd of people in the painting many of the local Roman citizens of the time. Mostly unknown to us, these men and women were well known at the time. By adding contemporary people into the scene, Domenico is asking a question: Will you follow Christ today? In the foreground, Jesus is calling Peter and Andrew, who are now kneeling on the shore. Prior to this moment, on the left of the painting, further away

on another shore, Jesus is performing the miraculous catch of fish, an event that revealed to Peter and Andrew that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah. In this painting, all of creation, from the lake, the mountains, the trees, and the birds of the air are taking part. Domenico is showing us how God created all things to bring mankind into relationship with him. In the background, Peter and Andrew are looking out at us, the viewer. They, as apostles and martyrs for the faith, are looking at us, and asking: Do you have in you what it takes to follow Christ? Will you leave behind the temporal things of life and seek that which is eternal?



▪ **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.



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."



→ St Peter's Parish Stewardship ←
Offertory for 18th January: £600.33
Building Fund for 18th January: £371.45



→ St Bride's Parish Stewardship ←
Offertory for 18th January: £154.50

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