



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 Easter ■ 26th April 2026

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Ardrossan, KA22 8DU

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www.stbrideschurch.co.uk

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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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
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Looking for Good Shepherds and no Hirelings...



The following is a short excerpt from a homily by St. Gregory the Great from the Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers, Volume 2, as we pray today for good vocations today on Good Shepherd Sunday: "Whether a man is indeed a shepherd, or but a hireling, can only be known when a time of trial comes. For in times of peace, just as the true shepherd is wont to stay by his flocks, so likewise does the hireling. But should a wolf appear each will reveal with what mind he had been taking care of the flock. For a wolf descends upon the flock whenever some lawless person or robber oppresses those of the faithful who are poor and lowly. Then the one who seemed to be a shepherd, and was not, leaves the sheep and flies; for since he is fearful of danger from it for himself, he does not dare to stand firm against the injustice. He flies, not by giving ground, but by withholding his help. He flies, because he sees injustice and says nothing. He flies, because he takes refuge in silence. To such as these was it said: You have not gone up to face the enemy, nor have you set up a wall for the house of Israel, to stand in battle in the day of the Lord (Ezech. xiii.5). For to go up and face the enemy means to oppose with the free voice of reason any power whatsoever that is acting wickedly. And we set up a wall, and we stand fast in the day of the Lord for the house of Israel, whenever by the authority of justice we defend the unoffending faithful against the injustice of the irreligious. This the hireling will not do; for when he sees the wolf coming he flies."



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

Liturgy of the Week - Fourth Week of Easter

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, 25TH APRIL Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	<i>Mary Delahunt (A) John Maher (A)</i>		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	
SUNDAY, 26TH APRIL Fourth Sunday of Easter (A) [Prayer for Vocations] 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, 27TH APRIL 4th Week in Eastertide Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Joe McIver (A) May Cavani (RD)</i>			
TUESDAY, 28TH APRIL 4th Week in Eastertide Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>For the Boyle Family (SI) Pat McNamara (RD)</i>	Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 10am Prayers of Reception for Betty Loye at 6pm	
WEDNESDAY, 29TH APRIL Feast of St Catherine of Siena Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>Brian Howat (RD) John O'Rourke (A) John Murphy (A)</i>		Funeral Mass for Betty Loye at 10am	Eucharistic Service at 10am
THURSDAY, 30TH APRIL 4th Week in Eastertide Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	<i>William Savage (A) Nan Ludden (RD)</i>		Deanery Vocations Mass at 7pm	
FRIDAY, 1ST MAY St Joseph the Worker Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am Benediction at 10.30am <i>[refreshments afterwards]</i>	<i>Cathy McGinn (RD) Dan Fisher (RD)</i>			Holy Mass at 10am
SATURDAY, 2ND MAY Fifth Sunday of Easter (A) at 5.30pm	<i>For Kathleen Collins An Anonymous Special Intention</i>		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	



THE MONTH OF MAY - THE MONTH OF MARY

"May is the month where the piety of the Faithful has specially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady, We are gladdened at the thought of the moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world will be paying to the Queen of Heaven. For this is the month during which Christians, both in Church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the gifts of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance. Mary remains ever the path that leads to Christ. Every encounter with her can only result in an encounter with Christ Himself. For what other reason do we continually turn to Mary than to seek for the Christ she holds in her arms—to seek in her, through her and with her the Saviour to whom men, in the perplexities and dangers of life here below, must of necessity have recourse and to whom they feel the ever recurring need of turning as to a haven of safety and an all-surpassing source of life?" [Saint Pope Paul VI]



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK
Jim McEwan, Peter Brawley, Monica Taylor, Catherine Dalton, Louise Milligan, Baby Twins Sandi and Tigerlily Allison, Neil Watson, Margaret Hanna.

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY
May Cavani,
Tom Cassidy (Geneva)

† THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR †

Jack Ferguson, Lorraine Margaret Findlay 2025, Frank Robertson 1989, Joseph Clarke 2016, Joseph McIver 2020, Patricia McVeigh 2013, Philomena O'Hare 2009, Angel Doyle 2006, Edward McNamara 1977, Cecilia McNulty 2008, Aldo Agostini 1974, John Brownlow 2012, Tommy Morgan 1992, Kathleen Walsh 1955, Benet Brodie 2021, Annie Mathieson Dorian 1974, Elizabeth Scott 2018, Roseann Ward 2017, Simon Charles Cawley 2004, Mary Crossan 1981, Iain Currie 2018, Elizabeth Hendry 1998, Mary McCaul 2014, Joe Arkison 2005, Sheila Folan 2010, Jean Nesbit 1999, Nettie Retzbach 2010, Sandra Rollie 2024.

▪ **Parents' Meeting for First Holy Communion**

The Parents' Meeting for the children making their First Holy Communion soon, will be on Wednesday, 29th April at 6.30pm in St Peter's Centre. We will plan then the arrangements for the First Communion Celebration.

▪ **Special Deanery Mass for Vocations**

Please join us for a special Mass for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life on Thursday, 30th April at 7pm at St Mary's, Saltcoats. Please spread the word. Everyone is very welcome!

▪ **Special Collection for our Seminarians**

We will take up our annual special collection for the Ecclesiastical Students Fund at the weekend Masses on the 2nd and 3rd May 2026. Many thanks for your support as always.

▪ **Thanksgiving Mass at Carfin Grotto**

Thanksgiving Mass on Sunday, 24th May 2026 at 3pm. Our Lady of Compassion Praesidium has organised a bus leaving Irvine Cross at 11.45, Dalry Road Kilwinning at 12 and St Brigid's Kilbirnie at 12.15. To book a seat please contact Gerry Quirk on 01294 556680 or 07795 632889.

▪ **Refreshments next Sunday - St Peter's**

The SSVP will be serving tea, coffee, and light refreshments after the 10:30am Mass on Sunday the 3rd of May 2026. Please come along and support if you can. Many thanks.

▪ **Crowning Our Lady for the month of May**

Next Sunday, the first Sunday in May, we will crown the statue of our Blessed Lady as a sign of our love and devotion in this special month.

▪ **Morning Prayer every Tuesday**

The Liturgy of the Hours is the official prayer of the Catholic Church and has been used for centuries. But for many people, learning how to pray it can be intimidating. Here are seven reasons to pray the Liturgy of the Hours every day: It unites you to Jesus Christ. It allows you to pray with the Church. It is the highest form of prayer after the Mass. It is thoroughly biblical. It will mature and deepen the rest of your spiritual life. It allows you to "pray without ceasing." It makes God the centre of your day. Why don't you come along and join us - Every Tuesday at St Bride's at St Peter's at 9.40am, before Holy Mass.

▪ **Shepherding in the Holy Land is Different**

When we hear about shepherds and sheep in the bible, we probably have the wrong images in our mind. In our imagination, when we think of shepherds and sheep, we envision green and lush pastures, softly swaying willow trees by the banks of a peaceful river or stream. And we think of fluffy white sheep. But this is not what biblical sheep and shepherds would have looked like. The reason for this is that we have to imagine an arid environment, like modern-day Palestine, and not the lush green fields we have in our minds. The sources of water are scant and in dangerous places. The water is found in the valleys, and these are easily targeted by predators. Thus, finding safe waters is paramount for a shepherd. This is why Psalm 23 mentions that the Good Shepherd leads his sheep to "restful waters" in the "dark valleys". Sheep need the protection of a shepherd,

perhaps in no place more than in the Holy Land. So, when the Bible uses this imagery, while it would have looked different than we may have in our own minds, the differences only highlight the beauty and power of the shepherding imagery. Yes, the Bible is communicating to us something consoling. But it is also revealing something profound and powerful for our lives.



JUST FOR LAUGHS

A bishop was astonished to hear little Mary say that a person must be very brave to go to church these days. "Why do you say that?" asked the bishop. "Well I heard my uncle tell my aunt last Sunday that there was a canon in the pulpit, that the choir murdered the opening hymn and that the organist drowned the choir".



As they were leaving church one Sunday, a man confided to his friend that he was suffering from insomnia. The friend replied that he had no trouble at all getting to sleep. "Really" the first man said, "Do you count sheep?". "No" was the reply, "I talk to the Shepherd".



What can we learn from Noah's Ark? Funny things that can be learned from the Bible and applied to life. 1.. Don't miss the boat. 2.. Remember that we are all in the same boat. 3.. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark. 4.. Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done. 5.. Build your future on high ground. 6.. For safety's sake, always travel in pairs. 7.. Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the Cheetahs. 8.. When you're stressed, float for a while. 9.. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals. 10.. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

→ **St Peter's Parish Stewardship** ←
Offertory for 19th April: £753.80
Building Fund for 19th April: £350.99



→ **St Bride's Parish Stewardship** ←
Offertory for 19th April: £150.30



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