

# 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 ■ Sixth Sunday of Easter ■ 10th May 2026

### PARISH CHURCH ADDRESSES

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

St. Bride's Church  
9 Hunterston Road,  
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### PARISH PRIEST ADDRESS

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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.

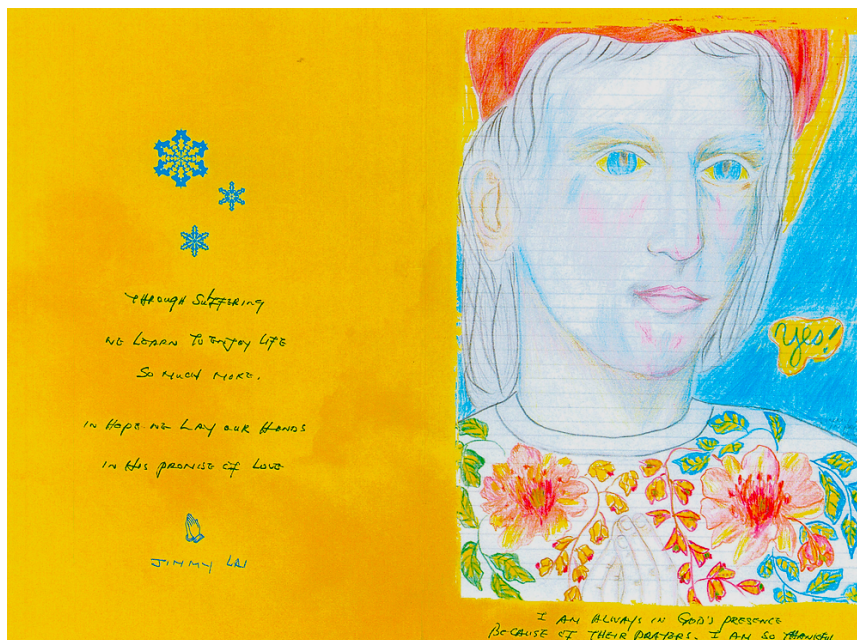
### HOSPITAL CHAPLAINS

Crosshouse: Fr Stephen McGrattan  
crosshousehospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk  
01563 521832 ext:2  
Ayr: Fr. Benjamin Mkeri  
ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk  
01655 882145

### MARRIAGE, FAMILIE AND LIFE OFFICE

www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk

## THE MISSIONARY IN STANLEY PRISON



On 15th December, 2025, three government-vetted Chinese judges found Jimmy Lai, 78 years of age, guilty of conspiring with others to collude with foreign forces to endanger national security and conspiracy to publish seditious articles. He pleaded not guilty to all charges. In a 1974 address to a group of lay Catholics, Saint Pope Paul VI noted that "Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses". That witnesses can be more persuasive than teachers has likely been the case for two millennia: Christian lives lived nobly have probably brought more men and women to Christ, or back to Christ, than many words. Jimmy Lai is one of Catholicism's most compelling evangelists and missionaries. He has shared what the Spirit has taught him in these cruel circumstances through works of religious art sketched in coloured pencil on ruled paper, as well as through his letters to his family. One of those sketches, a portrait of Our Lady at the Annunciation bearing the simple inscription "Yes!" was the Lai family's 2025 Christmas card. The card also included one of Jimmy's most moving confessions of faith. After asking himself in a letter to his wife and children, "Why is my mood not down at all, sometimes even light-hearted?" and then answering his own question "I guess because so many people whom I have even never met are praying for me is the main reason" this 21st century martyr-confessor gave thanks for what his conversion to Catholicism and his current ordeal had taught him, in words reproduced on that Christmas card: "I am always in God's presence because of those prayers. I am so thankful the Lord gave me a new life, a life I was previously blind to – a life of true peace, joy, spiritual concreteness and meaning – as opposed to my muddling in life in pursuit of purposes bound into the narrowness of my ego before. Now I am free because I can see". Jimmy Lai would never claim to be a theologian, but he displayed here a profound grasp of what we mean by professing our belief in the "Communion of Saints" when we pray the Apostles Creed. Through the prayers that sustain him, he can "see" his suffering during almost five years of an otherwise wretched imprisonment as an occasion of grace, in which he participates in Christ's continuing redemption of the world.



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

# Liturgy of the Week - Sixth Week of Easter

| ST PETER IN CHAINS<br><i>Father Duncan McVicar<br/>Canon Matt McManus<br/>Sister Ursula, Sister Anna</i>   | ST PETER'S MASS<br>INTENTIONS<br><i>RD = Recently Died, A =<br/>Anniversary, T = Thanksgiving;<br/>SI = Special Intention</i> | ST BRIDE'S<br><i>Fr Duncan McVicar<br/>Fr Gerry Hamill</i>  | ST MARY'S<br><i>Canon Martin Poland<br/>Canon Matt McManus<br/>Sister Ursula,<br/>Sister Anna</i> | ST JOHN'S<br><i>Canon Martin Poland<br/>Canon Matt McManus<br/>Sister Ursula,<br/>Sister Anna</i> |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>SATURDAY, 9TH MAY</b><br><b>Vigil Mass</b><br><b>at 5.30pm</b>  | <i>Ian McCormick (A)<br/>Edmund Lang (A)</i>  |   | Vigil Mass<br>at 4.30pm   |   |
| <b>SUNDAY, 10TH MAY</b><br><b>Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)</b><br><b>Holy Mass at 10.30am</b>  | <i>For all the deceased members<br/>of our Parish of St Peter's</i>   | <b>Mass at 12.15pm</b><br><i>For all the deceased<br/>members of our<br/>Parish of St Bride's</i> | Holy Mass<br>at 10am  | Holy Mass<br>at 11.30am   |
| <b>MONDAY, 11TH MAY</b><br><b>Sixth Week in Eastertide</b><br><b>Rosary at 9.30am</b><br><b>Holy Mass at 10am</b>  | <i>Father Benedict Livingstone<br/>(RD)<br/>Anne Calvert (SI)</i>   |   |   |   |
| <b>TUESDAY, 12TH MAY</b><br><b>Sixth Week in Eastertide</b><br><b>Morning Prayer at 9.40am</b><br><b>Holy Mass at 10am</b>                                       | <i>Eric Burke (RD)<br/>Thomas Forde (RD)<br/>John and Mary McNamara (A)</i>   |   | Holy Mass<br>at 10am  |   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY, 13TH MAY</b><br><b>Our Lady of Fatima</b><br><b>Rosary at 9.30am</b><br><b>Holy Mass at 10am</b>   | <i>Douglas White (RD)<br/>Thomas Harper (A)</i>   |   |   | Holy Mass<br>at 7pm   |
| <b>THURSDAY, 14TH MAY</b><br><b>Solemnity of the Ascension</b><br><b>Holy Day of Obligation</b><br><b>Rosary at 9.30am</b><br><b>Holy Mass at 10am &amp; 7pm</b> | <i>Eileen Behan (RD)<br/>Mae Cavani (RD)</i>  |   | Holy Mass<br>at 9.30am<br>in St Anthony's<br>Primary School                                       | Holy Mass<br>at 11am<br>with St John's<br>Primary School  |
| <b>FRIDAY, 15TH MAY</b><br><b>Requiem Mass</b><br><b>for Catherine Dalton at</b><br><b>10am</b>  | <i>For Catherine Dalton RIP</i>   |   |   | Holy Mass<br>at 10am  |
| <b>SATURDAY, 16TH MAY</b><br><b>Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)</b><br><b>at 5.30pm</b>   | <i>James and Mary McEvoy (A)</i>  |   | First Eucharist Mass<br>at 11.30am and 1pm<br>Vigil Mass<br>at 4.30pm                             |   |

## SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD ON THURSDAY

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraphs 659-660) says: "So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God." Christ's body was glorified at the moment of his Resurrection, but during the forty days when he eats and drinks familiarly with his disciples and teaches them about the kingdom, his glory remains veiled under the appearance of ordinary humanity. Jesus' final apparition ends with the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory, symbolised by the cloud and by heaven, where he is seated from that time forward at God's right hand. The veiled character of the glory of the Risen Lord during this time is intimated in his mysterious words to Mary Magdalene: "I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." This indicates a difference in manifestation between the glory of the risen Christ and that of the Christ exalted to the Father's right hand, a transition marked by the historical and transcendent event of the Ascension. Who was present at the Ascension of Jesus? The Scripture definitively names "the eleven disciples," the inner circle of those who followed Christ. Although Matthew only mentions the eleven Apostles, Judas having defected, we can conjecture that others, including His Mother and other disciples, were likely present, as well. **Ascension Day is a Holy Day of Obligation.**



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

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE  
DIED RECENTLY  
Catherine Dalton, Tom  
Cassidy (Geneva),  
Canon Pat McSorley

## † THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR †

Elizabeth Hendry 1987, Frank Nils Matthews 2003, Ian McCormick 2019, Josephine Mulligan 2008, Angela Murray 1991, Eileen Manson 2025, Thomas Algeo 2013, Robert Ferguson 2005, Nicholas McIntee 2004, Francis Moran 1999, Theresa Smith 1997, Matthew Black 2015, Andy Farrell 2024, Stan Wilson 2017, Rose Ann Bannon 2023, William James Connelly 2012, Les Dorrian 2009, Mary McFarlane 2004, Anthony Bale 2017, Charles Campbell 2008, Patricia Joanna Pengilly 2017.



▪ **First Holy Communion - St Peter's**

Next Sunday 17th May 2026, the children of St Peter's Primary School and three other children, will make their First Holy Communion at the 10:30am Mass. Please keep all the children and their families in your thoughts and prayers..

▪ **Father Gerry away this week - St Bride's**

Fr Gerry in West Kilbride will be away this week so there will be no Masses on Tuesday 12th May and Friday 15th May.

▪ **Christian Aid Week - St Bride's**

West Kilbride - Christian Aid week began on Sunday 10th May. Envelopes for cash/cheque donations are still available at church. You can also give online on the Christian Aid website (christianaid.org.uk).

▪ **Requiem Mass for Catherine Dalton**

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Catherine Dalton, who died on 28th April, aged 84 years. Her Requiem Mass will be at St Peter's on Friday, 15th May at 10am, followed by cremation at Clyde Coast Crematorium, Largs. May she rest in peace and rise in glory!

▪ **Sacrament of Baptism**

We welcome to the Family of the Church Aidan and Emily McGoogan, who will be baptised on Saturday, 16th May. Congratulations to their parents and Godparents.

▪ **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.

▪ **Prayer of the Rosary for the Month of May**

Please join us for the Prayer of the Rosary in this month of May - every morning before Mass at 9.30am - on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please check the Liturgy Planner for any Funerals, etc.

▪ **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 and at St Peter's at 9.40am, before Holy Mass. Please check Liturgy Planner for Funerals, etc. or changes.

▪ **What can we learn from the Ascension of Jesus?**

Bearing witness to Christ, to his message and the power of his goodness: this is our primary mission on earth. Before he ascended, Jesus didn't say, "Go have a good time; or go and 'find yourselves'." No! He said, "Go be my witnesses to all the nations." This is the mission we have been given. This is what we are supposed to do. Each one of us will do it in a different way. God calls

some to witness as priests. He calls some to consecrate their lives as full-time missionaries. Others are called to be leaven in the dough of the world, transforming culture from within, either as humble workers or as great leaders. Each of us he calls to bear witness by the sincerity, faithfulness, and loving-kindness with which we live out our normal responsibilities and relationships. Until this mission becomes our highest priority in life, we will experience an interior restlessness that nothing will cure. We were created to live in friendship with God, and that means sharing in God's projects. And his project in this fallen world is "that repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached in his name to all the nations". Right before Jesus ascended, St Luke tells us, he "raised his hands, and blessed them." Then he ascended and his disciples "returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Why were they joyful at Christ's departure? Because Christ had revealed to them the purpose of their lives - they had a mission; their life had meaning. Today, at Holy Communion, let's accept anew our life's mission, so that at the end of this Mass, when the priest raises his hands so that Christ can bless you through him, our inner restlessness will be taken up into joy.

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS SICK OR HOUSEBOUND?**

St Peter's and St Bride's Parishes wish to ensure that any parishioner who is sick or housebound receives pastoral care and Holy Communion. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit from Father Duncan, the SSVP or a Eucharistic Minister, please let the Parish Office know.



A teacher was reading Bible stories to the class at St Peter's. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt." One child then asked, "But what happened to the flea?"



A little child in church watched as the offertory plate was passed around. When it neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up so that everyone could hear. ' You don't have to pay for me Daddy. I'm under five.'



Dear God, so far today, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, and I haven't lost my temper. I haven't been grumpy, nasty or selfish, and I'm really glad of that! But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot of help. Thank you! Amen."

→ **St Peter's Parish Stewardship** ←

Offertory for 3rd May: £548.14  
Church Student Fund 3rd May: £408.02



→ **St Bride's Parish Stewardship** ←

Offertory for 3rd May: £219.97  
Church Student Fund 3rd May: £263.54



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