

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 ■ 24th Sunday of the Year ■ 13th September 2026

PARISH CHURCH ADDRESSES

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

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, FAMILY AND LIFE OFFICE

www.marriagefamilyandlife.org.uk

"WHY I AM A PRIEST" VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK



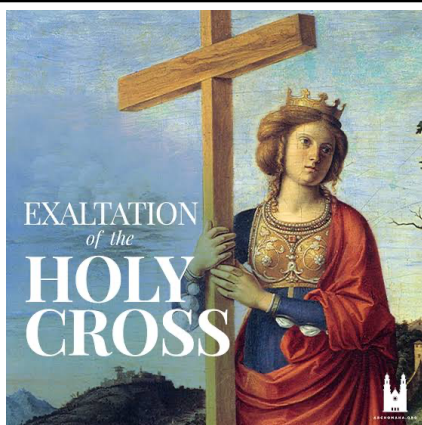
"I first felt called to the priesthood as early as primary school. From that time onwards, I've had this feeling inside that this is what God wants me to do. It's hard to rationalise, but it's something I can't deny. Where did it come from? I feel that God's call came to me through the people in my life, especially my parents. One of my earliest experiences in life was as a young child running through the house looking for my mother. Eventually I found her, kneeling beside her bed, with beads in hand. Everyday my mother would take some time out to go to her room and pray the Rosary. After seven years of studying in the seminary, I was ordained at the age of 24. Looking back, I can see how young and immature I was at the time. I had a lot of growing up to do. However, even during this period, I couldn't doubt that God had. Being a priest is a very fulfilling way of life. Sure there are times when there's just too much to do and cope with, and it's easy to become discouraged when you don't see instant results, but it still is so worthwhile. I have a real freedom to give of myself and be involved with so many people and with so many different aspects of life. I am changing the world by helping people to see the dignity of their lives in Christ and by helping to build Christian community. In proclaiming and preaching the Word, I can help people to see that there is always more to this life and that in Christ there is always hope. In particular it was my ministry as chaplain to the Hospital that helped me see the power of the priesthood. It was there that I experienced so clearly that a priest is "another Christ" and an enduring sign of God's love and presence. I'm amazed at the response people give at times to the simple signs of our faith. When people reach out and touch the little cross that I wear around my neck, when they pick up and kiss the small crucifix that I carry when giving Communion, when they kiss my hands and when they cry when I hold their hand. They are seeing in me, who I am for them. I represent for them, the caring presence of God. These people through their faith remind me of who I am, a living sign of Christ and God's love. I am an ordinary human being and yet as a priest I am an instrument of God's forgiveness. When I offer prayers at funeral services I know that our faith offers something real, worthwhile and lasting. The bonds of love and affection that bind us together in this life are not broken, even in death. As a priest, I know that I'm making a difference." [By Father Dean Marin]



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

Liturgy of the Week - Twenty-Fourth 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, 12TH SEPTEMBER Vigil Mass at 5.30pm	Carrie Fawcett (RD)		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	
SUNDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER 24th 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, 14TH SEPTEMBER Exaltation of the Cross Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	Grant Mitchell (MM) Claire Clarke (RD)			
TUESDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	Ruby Donnelly (RD) Mairi Fraser (RD) Margaret McCabe (SI)	Morning Prayer at 9.40am Holy Mass at 10am	Holy Mass at 10am	
WEDNESDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER Feast of St Ninian Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am	Ann Patton (RD) Geraldine Gillespie (RD) Hugh Donohoe (A) Rona McPhee (A)			Holy Mass at 10am
THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER 24th Week of the Year Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am Mass for Vocations at 7pm	Anne (Nancy) Sheehan (A) Margaret Friel (A)		Eucharistic Service at 10am	
FRIDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER SS Cornelius & Cyrian Rosary at 9.30am Holy Mass at 10am Benediction at 10.30am [Refreshments afterwards]	Iain and Mark Tarbet (A) Jack Campbell (A)	Holy Mass at 10am		Holy Mass at 10am
SATURDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER 25th Sunday of the Year (A) at 5.30pm	William and Elizabeth Loudon Annette Rush (RD)		Vigil Mass at 4.30pm	



FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS ON MONDAY

Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Saviour's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman. The cross is today the universal image of Christian belief. Countless generations of artists have turned it into a thing of beauty to be carried in procession or worn as jewellery. To the eyes of the first Christians, it had no beauty. It stood outside too many city walls, decorated only with decaying corpses, as a threat to anyone who defied Rome's authority—including Christians who refused sacrifice to Roman gods. Although believers spoke of the cross as the instrument of salvation, it seldom appeared in Christian art unless disguised as an anchor or the Chi-Rho until after Constantine's edict of toleration.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR
PRAYERS THIS WEEK**
Peter Brawley, Monica
Taylor, Louise Milligan,
Neil Watson, Margaret
Hanna, Rosina Cooper,
Karen McNee.

**AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE
DIED RECENTLY**

✠ THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR ✠

Sister Annette, Cross and Passion 2016, John Burns 1997, Alberto Carrino 2009, Dolores Fairhurst 2014, Thomas Fernes 2011, James Hughes 2010, James Love 1996, Anne McCabe 1995, Joe Brady junior 1999, Joseph Brady 2006, Elizabeth Cawley 1997, Frances Giblin 2017, John Marshall 2000, Patrick Joseph O'Hare 1955, Thomas White 1995, Jim Conlan 2023, Mathew Folan 1994, Tom Howieson 2007, Walter Jones 1985, James Lawson 1992, Kathleen Mullin 2012, Hugh Donohoe 2008, George Hall 2007, Alison Lawson née Giebler 2015, Frances McLaughlin 2008, Mary McLellan 2004, Victor and Charlotte Mitchell, Joshua O'Neill 2017, Jim Vernon 2014, Cornelius Burke 1988, Chris Glenn 2011, Eamon Lennon junior, Margaret Finnegan 2010, Patrick Joseph McKay 1989, Sister Pauline Cross and Passion 1999, Father Alastair Tosh 2007, Brian Loy 2014, Patricia Trainer 2002.

▪ **Blessing of House Crosses this Monday**

On the Feast of the Exultation of the Cross this Monday, 14th September, we will bless the crucifixes in our homes. Please bring them along to Mass and place them not far from the altar before Mass starts,

▪ **Congratulations to Everyone at St Peter's Primary**

Congratulations to everyone at St Peter's Primary School in Ardrossan. A team of inspectors has praised Headteacher Susanne Dunne and her staff for creating positive relationships, having strong leadership and empowering pupils. The glowing report comes following an inspection by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) in Scotland in May. Councillor Jean McClung, Cabinet Member for Education and Young People, said: "It is heartening to see that the inspectors have acknowledged all of the great work that is being done at St Peter's by Susanne and her team, especially when it comes to wellbeing. I wish them well for the future, and I am sure pupils will continue to thrive in the positive, happy environment that has been created for their learning."

Read the full story here: <https://tinyurl.com/ahjt58fz>



▪ **Votive Mass for Vocations - St Peter's**

All the parishes of our Deanery are coming together for a Votive Mass for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life at St Peter's on Thursday, 17th September 2026 at 7pm. Please put the date in your diary for a good turn-out and let us pray for an "army" of vocations.

▪ **50/50 Club - St Bride's**

The winner of St Bride's 50/50 Club September draw is Number 51, Katie Kelly. Congratulations!

▪ **Young Adults Evenings**

The new series of Young Adults Evenings launches on Sunday 13th September when Fr Kevin Rennie will be speaking on "Life and Death: What do we believe?" - looking at Church teaching on life issues and some of the challenges faced today. The talk takes place in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock (KA3 1HB) from 6.30 - 8.00 pm and is open to all Young Adults, if you don't live in East Ayrshire you can join online, go to youth.rcdg.org.uk and click on 'Young Adults - Online Participation' to register. There is Adoration in the Church from 6.00 pm for those who wish.

▪ **Youth Evening (P5-S4) - St Peter's**

Save the date! Our Diocesan Youth Evenings for P5-S4 start back on Sunday 27th September from 5.00 - 7.00 pm in St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan.

▪ **Season of Creation this September**

The Season of Creation prompts us to focus on what we can do to help protect and nurture our common home. One area of concern is Data Centres. Pope Leo in *Humanitas Magnifica* warns about the unintended consequences of the surge in technologies, including Artificial Intelligence. Data Centres which are required to support these technologies, are a prime example of how environmental harm can be caused, both locally and worldwide. The building of Data Centres upsets local ecosystems. They require vast amounts of water and

energy to function, including fossil fuels for backup generators. Noise pollution is reported as a major problem for people living near Data Centres. The mining of minerals such as lithium can also be problematic. In Scotland, 24 new such Data Centres are proposed. If they become active they will consume 150% of our country's peak energy demand! Once they are built, there will be few jobs for local people and all the profits go directly to large companies. Perhaps we need to inform ourselves more about Data Centres and then lobby our MSPs, MPs and ministers to highlight our concerns.



▪ **Special Collection for our Retired Priests**

We will take up the special collection for Retired Priest this weekend at St Peter's and St Bride's (12/13 September). As always, many thanks for your generosity.

▪ **Family Conference for Scotland**

The Agency for Marriage, Family and Life of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland have organised a Conference. Married couples and families are invited to a day at Saint Augustine's, Coatbridge on the 24th of October 2026! Come along for family adoration, Mass with Bishop John Keenan, formative talks, children's catechesis and so much more! Book your place at: <https://bcos.org.uk/NFC26>

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.



In a certain Parish in Ardrossan a couple had bought a lottery ticket and they won. The husband however was getting along in years and was suffering from heart trouble and his wife was afraid that if she told her husband that he had won one million pounds that he would really die of the shock. So she went to the Parish Priest and she said: "Father, I wish you would break the news to my husband in such a way that it would not kill him. So the priest spoke about many odd things and finally he said to the man: "Suppose you won one million pounds in a lottery - what would you do with it? " Oh", he said " I would give it to you Father" - then the Parish Priest dropped dead.



→ **St Peter's Parish Stewardship** ←
Offerory for 6th September: £417.17
Building Fund: 6th September: £291.16



→ **St Bride's Parish Stewardship** ←
Offerory for 6th September: £183.21

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