



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

23rd August 2020

Twenty First Sunday of Year A



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Parish Priest: Canon Martin Poland

St John's, Hayocks Road, Stevenston, KA20 4DE

Tel No: 01294 463225

St John's Parish website: www.stevenstonstjohns.com

Parish Priest: Canon Martin Poland

St Mary's, 10 Ardrossan Road, Saltcoats KA21 5BW

Tel No: 01294 463461

St Mary's Parish website: www.rcsaltcoats.com

Sr Marie Monique & Sr Ursula: Pastoral Assistants to the Three Towns

Canon Matt McManus (Retired)

MASS TIMES: Please remember to book

	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	_____	10am Mass
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass	Funeral Mass
Wednesday	10am Mass	_____	10am Mass
Thursday	_____	_____	_____
Friday	_____	Funeral Mass	10am Mass
Saturday	_____	4.30pm Vigil Mass	5.30pm Vigil Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment only

COVID-19. In order to fulfil all the Government requirements for people to attend Mass you will need to sanitise your hands, wear a face covering and sit in the designated seat which you have booked. **To book a place in St Mary's Church please phone the parish office on 463461 between Monday and Friday 9.30am to 2.30pm. To book a place in St John's please phone Teresa Thornton on 07564 903 401 between Monday and Friday 9.30am and 2.30pm. To book a place in St. Peter's please call the Parish Office, Monday to Friday between 9am and 11am; and you will be asked for a contact number in order that track and trace can be achieved if necessary. This register/data will be kept for 3 weeks and then destroyed. Please do not attend either church unless you have made a booking beforehand. Please allow time before Mass for the steward to show you to your place and remember livestreaming starts 5 minutes before Mass.** At present a funeral Mass is still restricted to 20 people and this would take precedence over a weekday Mass. To enable our churches to open for Mass we require welcomers, stewards and cleaners as the church requires to be cleaned after every Mass. If you can assist please let us know using these contact numbers provided. We will be livestreaming all our Masses in both churches you can access this by following this link <https://tinyurl.com/rcevenstonsaltcoats>

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS. Thank you to those who pay by Standing Order, in order to do so details are available from the parish office. The Diocese also has a facility online where you can contribute to your parish by debit card. The Link for the Diocese page is : <http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/parish-collections>. Our specific links for St Mary's and St John's can be found on either rcsaltcoats or rcevenston link and follow below the instructions. <https://tinyurl.com/rcsaltcoats> <https://tinyurl.com/rcevenston>. You can also use the QR codes in the same way as web links, which can be found on both websites.

Because of Covid-19 our parish/hall income has fallen dramatically so your support is especially appreciated.

A few bulletins will be left in both Churches at the exit door, please help yourself or pass them to someone who would appreciate a newsletter.

Fr Con Botter—RIP. Funeral Mass will take place in St John Ogilvie's, Irvine, on Monday at 10am with the burial taking place in Kilwinning. The service will be livestreamed on https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgdIhL8_hJrZokYCO0ROBBA

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:



Anniversaries: Hugh McCutcheon, Joseph Lee, John Quinn and Michael McDermott.

Recently deceased: Fr Con Botter, Stephen Slavin and Nicolas Grein (Luxembourg).

Masses are celebrated also by Fr Gerard McCabe plus Retired Priests, Missio Scotland (Pontifical Mission Societies).

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:



For all the sick in our parishes*

Special Intention: Thanksgiving

Those who have an anniversary: Hugh McCutcheon, Joseph Lee, John Quinn, Michael McDermott, Luigi Tortolano and Chris Ross.

Those who have died recently: Fr Con Botter, Stephen Slavin, Nicolas Grein (Luxembourg), Carol Clarke (Norwich), John Kelly, Lorraine Steele (Fr Jim Hayes' Sister) Anna Higgins (Ardrossan), Anna Murphy (Carlingford, Co. Louth), Margaret McGrory (Birmingham) and Tom McIver.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 30th August 2020; 22nd Sunday of Year A; Jeremiah 20:7-9; Psalm 62; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27

***The new terms of the Data Protection Regulation prevent us from publishing the names of the sick either in electronic form or in paper form in the bulletin.**

ST JOHN'S CHURCH/HOUSE/HALL. Following a spate of vandalism and unruly behaviour affecting our property I will be grateful if people be vigilant of any unwanted activity and if you witness anything please contact Police Scotland on 101. Remember that all damage and repairs have to be paid from parish funds.

FIRST EUCHARIST. Plans are in hand for the celebration of First Eucharist in St Mary's during October divided between five masses and details for St John's will be announced during the week through the school.

C.L.A.S.P. Community Led Action and Support Project. For details of befriending and digital support service Telephone Liz on 07464206592 or email liz@clasps.org.uk. You will then be allocated a Telephone Befriender or a Digital Befriender to give you support during this crisis. Keep Safe.

SCIAF. The Government has extended their match-funding arrangement with SCIAF until the end of September. If you have a SCIAF box to return or wish to make a donation please ensure we have it by the middle of September.

DRUMALIS. The closure of the house will be until the Spring of 2021. As a result, they have made the transition to Zoom and are planning to deliver many of their courses through that medium from September till November 2020. Course Cost: £50 for series of 8 Zoom sessions full payment is required with each booking. For more information and payment details please phone 028 28272196/28276455.

CAN YOU HELP? Can you help with stewarding people to their seats, helping to clean the church (a requirement after every Mass and takes about 20 minutes), or willing to help with live-streaming Mass? Without people helping to steward or clean our churches they will not be open as frequently. Call the numbers already given if you can assist.

ST MARY'S SVDP. Please call 07379400568

ST JOHN'S SVDP. Please call 07498501326

FOOD BANK, STEVENSTON AND SALTCOATS. Phone the Three Towns Hub on **310000** from 9am to 1pm. Groceries will be delivered to your house.

THANK YOU. To those who pay their collection by Standing Order. Between April and June St. Mary's received £6,543 and St. John's £2,598. Forms are available for those who wish to use this method.

ST. JOHN'S 300 CLUB. St. John's 300 club will resume from September. Envelopes are now available.

WEST COAST FURNITURE BANK. This is a charity which distributes donated household items to families in need. An estimated 40% of the donations have come from readers of this bulletin. George would like to thank everyone for their generosity. The contact number is 07576 232 969.

EU SETTLEMENT SCHEME. North Ayrshire Council is assisting EU, EEA and Swiss citizens to apply for Settled Status which will allow you to stay in the UK after 31st December 2020. Full details on how to apply can be found at the back of both churches or at: <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/council/eu-settlement-scheme.aspx>.

GOSPEL REFLECTION. We meet on Monday evenings at 6.15pm. If you would like to participate please phone Danny on 0797 954 2319.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST. *The Maritime World... We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.* "The life of sailors or fishermen and their families is very difficult." "Sometimes they are victims of forced labour or are left behind in distant ports." "The competition of industrial fishing and the problem of pollution make their work even more complicated." However, the Pope admits, "without the people of the sea, many parts of the world would starve." "Let us pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families," the Pope urges.

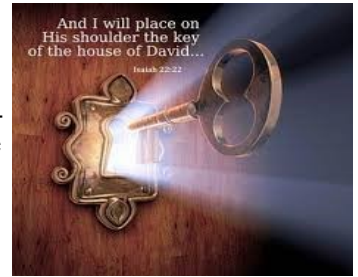
GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

The Regulation came into force on Friday 25th May 2018, and gives individuals greater rights and control over the use of their personal information. Your privacy is important to the Parish Communities of St. John's and St. Mary's. We use the personal data, provided by you for Pastoral support and the administration of weekly collections. The information is held securely and confidentially in electronic or paper format. We will not share this information with third parties without your prior consent. A fuller Privacy Notice is now available on the Diocesan website. www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-gdpr

First Reading: Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

The Word of the Lord



PSALM

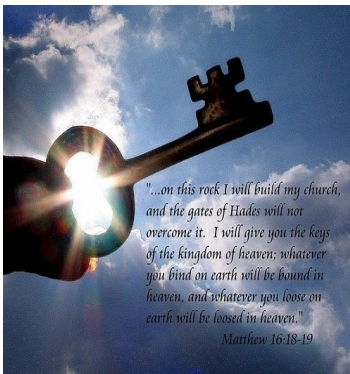
R/ Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart: you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. **R/**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love, which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. **R/**
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. **R/**

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God—how deep his wisdom and knowledge—and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord



Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets'. 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God'. Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven'. Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

God says of his servant Eliakim, 'I drive him like a peg into a firm place'. Which spiritual leaders do you look to for their constancy and steady guidance?

The psalmist sings, 'On the day I called, you answered'. When have you had an experience of being answered by the Lord?

St Paul writes to the Romans, 'How rich are the depths of God—how deep his wisdom and knowledge'. How do you continue to grow in your faith intellectually?

In today's Gospel Peter answers Jesus' question, 'Who do you say I am?' by proclaiming, 'You are the Christ, ... the Son of the living God'. How do you announce who you believe Jesus to be through your words and actions?

Neighbouring Parishes:

Father Duncan McVicar, St Peter's, Ardrossan 464063. Father Gerard Magee, St Winin's, Kilwinning 552276.

RC Chaplain at Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals is Deacon Bill Corbett 01292 521208

Going into Hospital? Ask Canon Poland for the Anointing of the Sick before you are admitted.

Ask the ward Sister to let Deacon Corbett know you are admitted and would appreciate a routine visit.

In an emergency situation ask the nurse on duty for the priest-on-call to be paged.

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PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS - MISSION STATEMENT

The Catholic Church in Scotland is concerned with the lives, safety, wholeness and well-being of each individual person within God's purpose for everyone. It seeks to safeguard the welfare of people of all ages who are involved in whatever capacity with the Church and its organisations. As a Church community, we accept that it is the responsibility of all of us, ordained, professed, paid and voluntary members, to work together to prevent the physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect of children, young people and vulnerable adults.