



St John the Evangelist  
Stevenston

# 30th August 2020

## Twenty Second 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.stevenstonjohns.com](http://www.stevenstonjohns.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](http://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         | _____             |
| Wednesday | 10am Mass | _____             | 10am Mass         |
| Thursday  | _____     | 10am Mass         | _____             |
| Friday    | 10am 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.

**SEASON OF CREATION.** It is now 5 years since Pope Francis published his encyclical *Laudato Si'* urging us to care for our common home. The encyclical highlights the urgent need for us to heal our relationship with creation and with each other. For a programme of events please see both Church noticeboards and on the websites or follow link: [www.seasonofcreation.org/catholic/](http://www.seasonofcreation.org/catholic/)

**THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:**



**RIP Birthday:** Carla Marie Dickie

**Anniversaries:** Claire Gough, James O'Meara, Alex Doherty, Charles McRoberts, Michael Pollock, Anne Law, Mary Johnston and Monica Bell.

**Recently deceased:** Marellen McEvoy, John McLaughlan, Stephen Slavin and Margaret Timmons (Dunfermline)

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

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** 6th September 2020; 23rd Sunday of Year A; Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 94; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:**



**For all the sick in our parishes\***

**RIP Birthday:** Carla Marie Dickie

**Those who have an anniversary:** Claire Gough, James O'Meara, Alex Doherty, Charles McRoberts, Michael Pollock, Anne Law, Mary Johnston, Monica Bell, Hugh McCutcheon, Joseph Lee, John Quinn and Michael McDermott.

**Those who have died recently:** Marellen McEvoy, John McLaughlan, Margaret Timmons (Dunfermline), Fr Con Botter, Stephen Slavin, Nicolas Grein (Luxembourg), Carol Clarke (Norwich), John Kelly and Lorraine Steele (Fr Jim Hayes' Sister).

**\*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.** The celebration of First Eucharist in St Mary's will take place during October divided between five masses and St John's will take place on 26th September at 10am and 1.30pm.

**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](mailto: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.

**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 31<sup>st</sup> 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 SEPTEMBER.** *Respect for the Planet's Resources. We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.*

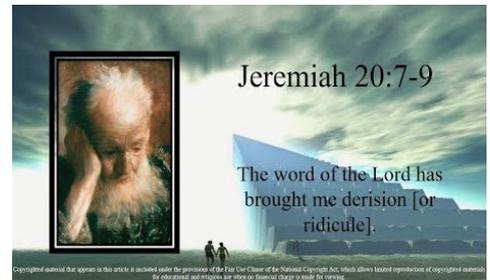
*Pope Francis has established 1 September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home. The day is inspired by Pope Francis' landmark encyclical Laudato Si', which calls on "every person living on this planet" to care for our shared Earth. "As stewards of God's creation, we are called to make the earth a beautiful garden for the human family."*

**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](http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-gdpr)

### First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and Ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more'. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it. **The Word of the Lord**



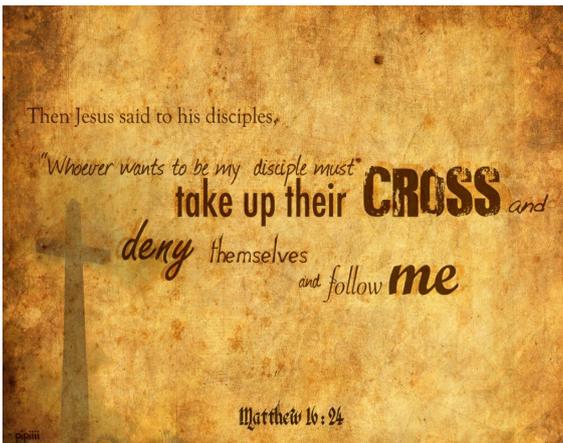
### PSALM

**R/ For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **R/**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **R/**
3. I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R/**
4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **R/**

### Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do. **The Word of the Lord**



### Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you'. But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's. Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour'.

### PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

Jeremiah says his call to prophesy is like 'a fire burning in my heart'. What work has God called you to that sparks this kind of passion?

The psalmist proclaims to God 'You have been my help ... My soul clings to you'. Where are you most in need of God's assistance right now in your life?

St Paul invites the Romans to 'let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind'. How do you practice discernment in your life when faced with a big decision?

In the Gospel Jesus says, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of min, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me'. What is the cross you have been given to bear?

### 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.