



St John the Evangelist  
Stevenston

# 6th September 2020

## Twenty Third 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	_____	_____	_____
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

**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 [resaltcoats](http://resaltcoats) or [rcstevenston](http://rcstevenston) link and follow below the instructions. <https://tinyurl.com/rcsaltcoats> <https://tinyurl.com/rcstevenston>. 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 or ask the parish office to send you one out.

***LISTEN TO THE LAND.*** We also need once more to listen to the land itself, which Scripture calls *adamah*, the soil from which man, Adam, was made. Today we hear the voice of creation admonishing us to return to our rightful place in the natural created order – to remember that we are part of this interconnected web of life, not its masters. The disintegration of biodiversity, spiralling climate disasters, and unjust impact of the current pandemic on the poor and vulnerable: all these are a wakeup call in the face of our rampant greed and consumption. **Pope Francis, Rome 1/09/2020**

**SEASON OF CREATION.** 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:**

**Wedding Anniversary:** Tommy & Beatrice McCann (46th)

**Special Intention:** Thanksgiving

**Anniversaries:** May Rourke, Catherine Bannerman, Tommy Kirk and Emily McCarney

**Recently deceased:** Michael McGarrigle, Danny McGoogan (Snr), James Havlin, John (Jake) Alcroft, Catherine McFadden (Fr McFadden's Mother),

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

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** 13th September 2020; 24th Sunday of Year A; Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7; Psalm 102; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

**\*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.**

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



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

**Wedding Anniversary:** Tommy & Beatrice McCann (46th)

**Special Intention:** Thanksgiving

**RIP Birthday:** Carla Marie Dickie

**Those who have an anniversary:** May Rourke, Catherine Bannerman, Tommy Kirk, Emily McCarney, Claire Gough, James O'Meara, Alex Doherty, Charles McRoberts, Michael Pollock, Anne Law, Mary Johnston and Monica Bell.

**Those who have died recently:** Michael McGarrigle, Danny McGoogan (Snr), James Havlin, John (Jake) Alcroft, Catherine McFadden (Fr McFadden's Mother), 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).

**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. Courses will be held through Zoom until November 2020. 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 has now resumed. Envelopes are still 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.

**CONGRATULATIONS.** To Robert and May Reid as they celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary this week.

**YOGA WITH STEPH.** Won't be returning to the Church hall at St John's when it's safe again. Steph is moving classes to her new dedicated yoga space at the Rennie Business Units, Saltcoats. If you have a class pass with unused classes these can be used for online classes now or in-person classes when they start up. Steph wanted to say a huge thanks to everyone who has supported the class over the last two years and a special thanks to Canon Poland, Anne and Michael. You'll find information about classes and Steph's contact details on her new website, [threetownsyoga.com](http://threetownsyoga.com)

**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: Ezekiel 33:7-9**

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life’. **The Word of the Lord**

**PSALM**

**R/ O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts’.**

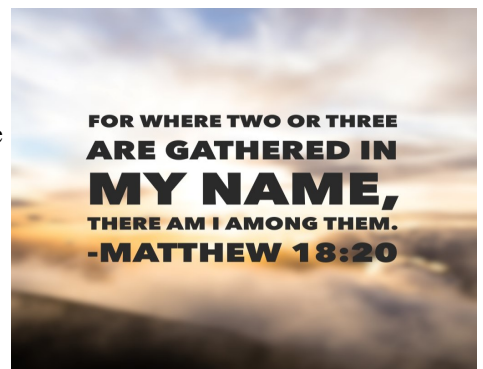
1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us. Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. **R/**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us: for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is lead by his hand. **R/**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! ‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work’. **R/**

**Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10**

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: *You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet*, and so on, are summed up in this single command: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour, that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments. **The Word of the Lord**

**Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector. ‘I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven. ‘I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.



**PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING**

God tells the prophet Ezekiel that he will be God’s spokesperson in dissuading the wicked. What should be the role of the Church or individual members of the Body of Christ in being a prophetic voice against evil?

Not only are we called to offer correction, sometimes correction will be offered to us. When this happens, today’s psalm tells us, ‘Harden not your hearts’. What helps you when you are on the receiving end of correction?

St Paul tells the Romans that love ‘is the answer to every one of the commandments’, How would you apply this to one of the political debates taking place in society?

In today’s Gospel Jesus outlines the way to resolve conflicts between disciples. What has been your own experience when facing conflicts within your parish community?

**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.*

*The Prayer of St. Francis. Lord, make me an instrument of your peace, Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon.....*

**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.