



St John the Evangelist
Stevenson

3rd October 2021

Twenty Seventh Sunday of Year B

Parish Priest: Canon Martin Poland

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

Tel No: 01294 463225

St John's Parish website: www.stevensonstjohns.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

Assisted by Fr Benjamin Mkeri CSSp and Sr Marie Monique & Sr Ursula

Canon Matt McManus (Retired)



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	_____	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Mass (L)	_____	10am Memorial Mass (L) John & James Mullen
Thursday	_____	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L) With blessing of the Rosaries
Friday	10am Mass (L)	_____	10am Mass (L)
Saturday	_____	4.30pm Vigil Mass (L)	5.30pm Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

L = LIVESTREAMED

MONDAY. Gospel Reflection livestreamed at 7pm. Meeting takes place immediately afterwards. We reflect on the readings for the following Sunday. Why not join us ?

TUESDAY. Rosary will take place in St John's at 7pm during the month of October.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS. Thank you to those who pay by Standing Order, in order to do so details are available from the parish office. If you are a taxpayer and would like to Gift-aid your donation please contact the parish office or Canon Martin to fill out a Gift Aid Declaration Form. If you have already filled out a Declaration Form in the past and your circumstances have changed please also let us know. 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 rcstevenson link and follow the instructions. <https://tinyurl.com/rcsaltcoats> <https://tinyurl.com/rcstevenson>. You can also use the QR codes in the same way as web links, which can be found on both websites.

Bookings for Mass are no longer required and while you can sit anywhere in church we are asked to leave a space between households. Hand sanitiser, face coverings and details for Track and Trace (including QR scan) must be observed for the protection of everybody. **Please note that weekday masses are subject to change if there is a funeral.**

SYCAMORE COURSE. Is being launched by Bishop Nolan in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr with Mass today (Sunday) at 3pm. Bishop Nolan has invited the diocese to come together to discern the will of God in the way we take forward our faith and Catholic Christian witness after the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is a call and an opportunity for the whole diocesan family to pray, reflect and support one another whilst respecting our diversity. The Sycamore Course offers a pastoral response through building faith, prayer, mission and community. You will find inside your bulletin this week information about the opportunities in our parishes to participate in the Sycamore Programme.

Prayer for COP 26. We pray for those people who are already facing droughts, floods and storms: that God may grant them strength and hope for the future as they work to adapt to the changing climate.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Anniversaries: Mary Nellis, Jos & Sadie Brayford, Joe O'Rourke, Eileen Higney, Sean Henry, Sean Pentleton, Liz Hughes, Members of Hughes Family and Rose McKay.

Recently deceased: William Fraser, Annette O'Dea, Sr Dorothee (SPC—Thailand), Isabel Alexander, Katherine Conwell, David Munn and Fr Joe Holmes.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 28th Sunday of Year B—Wisdom 7:7-11; Psalm 89; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes and those with COVID-19*

Birthday Anniversary: Peter Cartwright

Those who have an anniversary: Mary Nellis, Jos & Sadie Brayford, Joe O'Rourke, Eileen Higney, Sean Henry, Sean Pentleton, Liz Hughes, Members of Hughes Family, Rose McKay, Margaret Ann Gallagher, Michael Pollock, John Smith, Anne Lafferty, William Hazelton, Kate & Harry Nellis and Margaret McGee.

Those who have died recently: William Fraser, Annette O'Dea, Sr Dorothee (SPC—Thailand), David Munn, Fr Joe Holmes, Joseph Supasit Saenglisuwat, Anita Tolentino, Katherine Conwell, Isabel Alexander, Anita Tolentino, Brian Monaghan, May McNamara and Pauline Grice (Myles), Pat Lawler, Daniel Lesley (Glasgow), Monica Sutisa Denkiangkrai and Fr Terry Donnelly (Spiritan, Carfin).

CONGRATULATIONS. To those who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation and thanks to all those who assisted with the celebration.

ST JOHN'S YOUTH CLUB. Has been closed since February 2020 because of the pandemic. If anyone is interested in becoming a Leader for the group please contact Canon Martin.

300 CLUB. Congratulations to the winners of the September draw; No 67—K. Smith £30 and No 135 J. Cartwright £20.

SUNDAY TEAS. Why not pop into the parish halls after Mass for a cuppa and a chat. Current restrictions are still in place, ie, track and trace and face coverings will need to be worn inside hall when moving around. **Volunteers required for St John's.**

"IN GOD'S IMAGE VERSION 2. Following changes to legislation and a 9 month period of consultation and reflection, the Safeguarding instruction of the Scottish Catholic Church has been revised and is now available for download, either by visiting bcos.org.uk/InGodsImageV2, or by scanning the QR code on the poster at the back of the church. This new document replaces the previous version. It is important that everyone with Safeguarding responsibilities in our parish communities has a copy of IGIv2. If you are unable to download a copy, please contact the diocesan office who will be able to assist.

SPUC SCOTLAND. The annual raffle draw is an important fundraiser for our vital work in saving unborn babies. This year's draw will take place on Saturday 30th October 2021. If you would like some books of raffle tickets, please contact: charlie@spucscotland.org. By taking part, you will be supporting the life saving work of SPUC Scotland and can help protect mothers and babies

CHURCH STALLS. Hopefully will open soon. Help required for St. John's Stall. **St. Mary's Stall:** If anyone wishes to place an order for Christmas please contact Maureen Moffat.

PILGRIMAGE OF HEALING & HOPE. Virtual Pilgrimage through the Holy Land with Mary Magdalene Directed by Kathleen Nichols, with Fr. Eamon Kelly, LC and the Magdala Team till 2nd November 2021. Pilgrimage October 2021 – Magdala Tourist Center. We embark on a new virtual adventure! This October we invite you to travel through the Holy Land on a pilgrimage of healing and hope, inspired by Mary Magdalene. Visiting the sites where Jesus healed from the comfort of your own home. There is no cost for the pilgrimage. Please register online : <https://youtu.be/7E2LbZ5G9IQ>

ADVERTISING IN THE PARISH BULLETIN. We have a few spaces available on our advertising page. If you would like a space please contact Lorna in the parish office. The cost for advertising is £75 for 6 months and £150 for 12 months.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS. All parish volunteers who work with children and vulnerable adults need to complete their second Safeguarding Induction Training session, if they require a PVG to carry out their ministries. It is possible to do this training online and to book a place please visit www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/safeguarding-calendar. If you are unsure whether you need to attend, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Coordinator.

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY - IRVINE AND THREE TOWNS DEBT CENTRE. Are a Christian Organisation that helps people struggling with personal debt issues to begin a journey out of debt. This service is free and they can see clients face to face at the Connexions centre, Irvine or at any office location where strict health & safety guidelines are being met. To use us the first step is for a client to call our freephone number which is 0800 328 0006. Poster on church noticeboards for more information.

ST MARY'S SVDP. Please call 07379 400 568. **ST JOHN'S SVDP.** Please call 07498 501 326.

FOOD BANK, STEVENSTON AND SALTCOATS. Phone the Three Towns Hub on **310000** from 9am to 1pm.

ST. JOHN'S MUSIC GROUP. Welcome musicians to join them. If interested please contact Bernadette on 07983 803 222.

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: Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate." So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed: "This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh! This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man." This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body. **The Word of the Lord.**

PSALM

R/ May the Lord bless us all the days of our Life

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. **R/**
2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R/**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life! May you see your children's children. On Israel, peace! **R/**

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers. **The Word of the Lord**



Gospel: Mark 19:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" "Moses allowed us" they said "to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce." Then Jesus said to them, "It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and that two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide." Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, "The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too."

People were bringing little children to him for him to touch them. The disciples turned the away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

In the first reading we find the famous line from Genesis: "This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body." In your life, which couples have modelled marital unity and mutual service for you?

We also hear, "It is not good that the man should be alone." How important is community and companionship in your life of faith?

In the letter to the Hebrews, we encounter the theme of perfection being brought on by suffering. How have you experienced suffering as a means to greater holiness?

Jesus tells the disciples, "Anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." What aspects of childhood do you think Jesus is referring to that adults are meant to emulate?

God's way of acting with his unfaithful people — that is, with us — teaches us that wounded love can be healed by God through mercy and forgiveness. For this reason in these situations, the Church is not asked to express immediately and only condemnation. On the contrary, before so many painful marital failures, she feels called to show love, charity and mercy, in order to lead wounded and lost hearts back to God. **Pope Francis**

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions - October- Missionary Disciples. We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

***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**

Neighbouring Parishes:

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

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

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

Fr Stephen McGrattan is hospital chaplain for Crosshouse, assisted by IHM sisters

Rev Robert Mackie is chaplain for Ayr hospital.

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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.