



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

30th November 2025 First Sunday of Advent Year A

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

and Sr Ursula and Sr Anna

Canon Matt McManus (Retired)



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	—————	10am Mass with St Anthony's PS	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	—————	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Mass (L)		10am Mass (L)
Thursday	—————	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Mass (L)	—————	10am Mass (L)
Saturday	—————	4.30pm Mass (L)	5.30pm Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

L = LIVESTREAMED

EXPOSITION: St Mary's—Tuesday 9.30am-10am. St John's—Friday 10.30am-11am

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: Tuesday at 2pm.

RECONCILIATION: St. John's—Saturday 10.30am-11am. St. Mary's— Saturday 3.45pm-4.15pm.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES. Monday 15th December at 7pm in St Peter's, Ardrossan; Tuesday 16th December at 2pm in St Mary's, Saltcoats and Thursday 18th December at 7pm in St John's, Stevenston

SCIAF—REAL GIFT OF WATER FOR A VILLAGE. Once again we are taking donations to help raise funds for Water for a Village. Each village will cost £1,200. £996.78 raised so far from both parishes.

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAYRE. Today at 12.30pm.

QUIET DAY.

St John's on Saturday 20th from 12 Noon-3pm.

St Mary's on Sunday 21st from 2pm-5pm.

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

Anniversaries: Michael Cowan, Dusty Millar (3 months mind), Maureen & Willie McKenna (Dublin) and Alex Mungall (41st)

Recently deceased: Alice Burns, Margaret Brennan, Mrs W McMullen (East Kilbride)

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: *Second Sunday of Advent Year A; Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 71; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12*

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

Special Intentions

For all the sick in our parishes.

Those who have an anniversary: Michael Cowan, Dusty Millar (3 months mind), Maureen & Willie McKenna (Dublin), Alex Mungall (41st), Hugh McAllister, Cathie Pllu, Anne McCauley, John Maxwell, Kathleen Poland, Hannah Kirk, Mary Hamilton, Liz Aitken and Ken Trayner (Edinburgh).

Those who have died recently: Mrs W McMullen (East Kilbride), Michael (Mickey) McCafferty (Wishaw), Fr John Kinsler, Anne Ivison, Alice Burns, Margaret Brennan, Rev Robert Simpson (Retired Deacon).

FIRST RECONCILIATION. In St John's Church on Wednesday at 7pm for P3 children.

CALENDARS. From the Comboni Sisters will be available next weekend.

THANK YOU. To all who helped with the Wayside Club visit and donated goods.

THANK YOU AGAIN. To all who helped with the Foodbank Collection at Tesco.

ADESTE FIDELES. Tonight (Sunday) in St Mary's Church Hall, 6pm to 7pm, Children's choirs, Christmas cards, mince pies, Caritas Students presentation on special gifts for Christmas. All Welcome. A great way to start your Advent preparation for Christmas.

300 CLUB. Congratulations to the winners of the November draw. No 102—N. McGoldrick £30 and No 218—A Cairns £20. The Christmas draw will take place at the coffee morning on Sunday 14th December.

ST JOHN'S WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES. Sets are ready for collection.

CALEDONIA NURSING HOME—CAROL SERVICE. On Sunday 21st December at 2pm. Please add your name to the sign up sheet available in the church porch if you are able to attend.

CARITAS CHRISTMAS QUIZ. St Matthew's 6th Year Caritas group are organising a quiz to raise funds for Action Aid next Sunday (7th) in St John's hall from 3pm-5.30pm. Cost £4 per adult £2.50 per child inc. tea, coffee and cake. Tickets available from Mr Harrison at St Matthew's Academy, or you can pay at the door.

H.C.P.T. LOURDES GROUP 376. Christmas Festive Afternoon next Sunday (7th) 2pm St Peter-in-Chains featuring Theresa Morrison and Paul Hume. Tickets £8 including afternoon tea, available from Esther Coulter 07772433070.

CHANA (CHURCHES HOMELESS ACTION NORTH AYRSHIRE). Is again teaming up with the Night Before Christmas Charity (NB4CC) to provide a Christmas present for those who are homeless & being supported by North Ayrshire. Last year 168 gifts were provided, including gifts for boys & girls of all ages as well as particularly vulnerable or isolated adults who otherwise might not have received a present at Christmas. If you can help, please put a cash donation in an envelope marked NB4CC & put it in the usual collection bag or donate online at www.nightbeforechristmas.co.uk.

ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S SUNDAY TEAS. Takes place after Sunday Masses.

SOUP AND CHAT. St John's every Monday at 11.30am-1.30pm and St Mary's every Wednesday 11.30am-1.30pm.

SVDP. Please call 07379400568 for St Mary's. Please call 07498501326 for St John's. Please call 07825726904 for St Peter's.

ST JOHN'S SVDP. Are collecting non perishable food for the Crisis Bags. **FOODBANK STEVENSTON.** 07437 521 930.

YOUTH (P6-S4) EVENINGS. The next monthly Cluster Youth Evening for young people in P6-S4 takes place in St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan on Sunday 21st December. The next evening will reflect on 'Advent & Christmas: Preparing to welcome Christ'. The evening runs from 5.00 – 7.00 pm, beginning with Mass at 5.00 pm. See you there!

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – ST JOHN'S HALL COMMITTEE EVENT.

New Year's Eve Ceilidh – Wednesday 31st December, 7:30pm–12:30am. Our Annual Ceilidh will be held in the church hall to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal. Tickets: £15 each includes tea and coffee – (Please bring your own snacks) For tickets or more info, contact: Michael – 07813650411

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

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

SUPPORTING YOUTH MINISTRY. Check out the Youth Office's new online store – youth.rcdg.org.uk/shop.

THE PARABLES OF JESUS (YOUNG ADULTS (S5-30) EVENING). Join young adults (S5-30) from across the Diocese in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock next Sunday (7th) for their monthly Young Adults Evening. For their next evening, they'll be joined by Fr Mark Kelly as he speaks on 'The Parables of Jesus: Understanding Christ's teaching in the Gospels'. The evening begins with Mass at 5.45 pm with the talk beginning at 6.30 pm.

200 CLUB. Are you passionate about supporting youth and young adults ministry in Galloway? The Youth Office runs events across the Diocese to help young people grow in faith and friendship to come to know and love God through like minded groups. For £5 a month you can help support their work and win cash prizes. For details, and to register, go to: youth.rcdg.org.uk/200-club

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO PRIESTHOOD? If you sense a vocation to be a Priest and would like support to discern this call, please contact Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Stephen McGrattan, at vocations@rcdg.org.uk or 01563 521832.

PARISH HALLS. To book any of our halls please call the Parish Office on 463461 for St Mary's and Michael Lafferty on 07813650411 for St John's. Please note a booking form has to be completed to confirm your booking.



GOSPEL: Matthew 24:37-44

At that time:

Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

PROMPTS FOR FAITH SHARING

Both of the first and second reading contain light imagery. Where in your life do you need God's illuminating light?

The psalm calls us to joy in liturgy and in God's presence. Is anything keeping you from this joy?

How do you feel reading the gospel's description of Jesus's coming? How could you invite God into any anxiety you may be feeling?

Pope Leo's prayer intention for December: for Christians in areas of war or conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

Pope Video - thepopevideo.org/december-for-christians-in-areas-of-conflict

THE HAYOCKS—ITS HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT—A Book by Alex McLatchie. Is available at Stevenston library—cost £12 and includes sections on St John's Church and St John's Primary School.

*To be able to keep watch we need to have a certain hope: that the night will not always last, that dawn will soon come. It is the same for us: God is coming and His light will illuminate even the densest darkness. But it is up to us today to keep watch, to be vigilant: to overcome the temptation that the meaning of life is to accumulate – this is a temptation,.....***Pope Francis**

Pope Leo landed in Turkey on Thursday - Walking together in truth and friendship—The Holy See, Pope Leo said, comes with "only its spiritual and moral strength," yet with a firm desire to work alongside all nations committed to the integral development of every person. "Let us walk together," he concluded, "in truth and friendship, humbly trusting in the help of God." **Vatican News**

COST OF LIVING CRISIS. Funds currently available to assist St Mary's parishioners who need help to cope with rising energy and food costs. Need assistance, please phone 07379 400 568. All contacts will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

MONEY SMART. Welfare Rights Advice—North Ayrshire Council 01294 310000 (Option 1) or email moneysmart@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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 will see clients face to face at the Connexions centre, Irvine or at any office location. Please call our freephone number which is 0800 328 0006

***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 Parish: Father Duncan McVicar, St Peter's, Ardrossan 464063.

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

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY: The hospital chaplains of Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals are pleased to visit patients on request. For general visiting in Crosshouse Hospital please contact Fr Stephen McGrattan at stephen.mcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01563 521832. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri at benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01655 882145. For the urgent or emergency assistance of a chaplain please ask the hospital staff to page the priest on call.

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.

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: Mr Tony Fisher 01292 266750



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MONDAY NIGHT BROADWAY BOOGIE ENCORE CLASS

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Contact Jacqueline on 07780090076

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