



St John the Evangelist
Stevenson

23rd December 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year C



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

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

Sr Marie Monique & Sr Ursula : Pastoral Assistants to the Three Towns
 Canon Matt McManus (Retired)

Sunday Masses: **St Mary's 4.30pm Vigil and 10am**
 St John's 11.30am

WEEKDAY MASS / SERVICE TIMES

| | St John's | St Mary's | St Peter's |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Christmas Eve | 6.30pm Mass | 4.30pm Mass Midnight Mass | 5.30pm Mass 8.30pm Mass |
| Christmas Day | 9.30am Mass | 11am Mass | 11am Mass |
| Wednesday | 11am Mass | ————— | 12 Noon Mass |
| Thursday | 10am Funeral Service | ————— | 10am Mass |
| Friday | 10am Funeral Mass | 10am Mass | 10am Mass |
| Saturday | 10am Mass | ————— | 10am Mass |

ST MARY'S DEANERY PENANCE SERVICES
 Kilwinning-Tonight (Sunday) at 6pm in St Winin's.

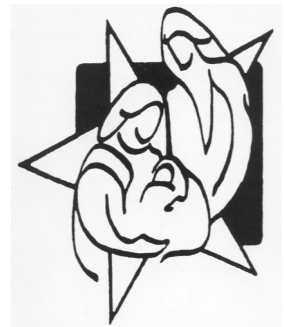
CHRISTMAS MASSES
 St John's- 6.30pm Vigil Mass and 9.30am Christmas Day Mass
 St Mary's-4.30pm Vigil Mass, Midnight Mass and 11am Christmas Day Mass
 Canon Matt will celebrate the 4.30pm Vigil and 11am Christmas Day Masses

Peter Dougan RIP
Flora Monaghan RIP
 Peter's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Service will take place on Thursday at 10am in St John's
 Followed by burial in High Road Cemetery.
 Flora's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Friday 10am in St John's
 Followed by burial in Hawkhill Cemetery.
 +May they rest in peace+



***A Happy and Blessed
 Christmas to all.***

*Christmas Greetings from Canon Martin and
 Canon Matt, Sr Ursula and
 Sr Marie Monique*



THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:



Birthday Anniversary: Kathleen McGuirk

Christmas Remembrance: George Kearney, Arthur Smyth, Deceased members of the McCarney & Murphy families, Fr James Hughes, Kane & Murchie families, Joe & Sarah Murray, John & Janet Collins & Collins family, Derrick Whitehead, James & Mary McEvoy and Jim Moffat.

Anniversary: Kathleen (Kitty) Boyle, George Forbes, Jimmy Gailey, Patrick McCann, Tom McKay, John Dolan, Mairi Grier, Elizabeth Turbet, Robert & Jean Wylie and Peter & Rose Finnegan.

Recently Deceased: , Lizzie McGurk, Peter Dougan, Flora Monaghan, Laura Cambridge, Elizabeth (Betty) Northcote, John Hynman (Norwich), Marion McGrath and Henry.

Masses are celebrated also by Priests in country parishes in our Diocese, retired priests, Fr Keith, Fr Gerard McCabe & Mission Matters Scotland (Pontifical Mission Societies).

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK. 30th December 2018; The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph; Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6.12-14; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WEEKLY COLLECTIONS.

St Mary's: £662.22. (Envelopes £341.71; Cash; £320.51).

St John's: £752.21. (Envelopes £598.00; Cash £154.21).

SCIAF: £150.57. Building & Renovations; £100.86.

Collection envelopes will be returned to the parish of issue and added into the following weeks figures.

PARISH HALLS. To book any of our halls please call Trina on 467468 for St Mary's and Michael Lafferty on 461234 for St John's. Please note booking form has to be completed to confirm your booking.

ST. JOHN'S FUNERAL TEAS. Further information from Christina Harnett on 07562360517 or 01294 466084.

SUNDAY TEAS. After 10am Mass in St Mary's. After 11.30am Mass in St John's.

RCIA. Will reconvene in January 2019.

ST MARY'S TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB. Is now closed until Tuesday 15th January 2019.

MARY'S MEALS. A box is available in both Church porches for donations.

CHURCH CLEANERS. Tuesday's at 7.30pm in St John's and Thursdays after 10am Mass in St Mary's.

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP. Will reconvene in January 2019.

S.V.D.P. Please call 07379400568 (please note new number) for Saltcoats and 07498501326 for Stevenston.

FOOD BANK, STEVENSTON. Foodbank is open each Wednesday from 4pm till 5pm in the parish hall.

FOOD BANK, SALTCOATS . The Foodbank is open at the Salvation Army Hall and will distribute boxes from there each Tuesday from 2pm until 3.30pm. **Due to Christmas Day being on Tuesday this year the Foodbank will be open on Friday 21st and Friday 28th December from 11am-12 Noon.**

ST MARY'S PARISH HALL. Our parish hall is available for approved social functions. A small meeting room is also available. We have a licensed bar available for functions. If you would like to book the hall please contact Trina on 467468 or for more bar information please contact our bar manager Caroline McKenna on 07825553243. (Please note that if you wish to use our parish bar at least 6 weeks notice is required to allow us to apply for licence). **Please note that you are not permitted to bring in your own alcohol to any function.**

BULLETIN NOTICES. St Mary's Parish Office will be closed until Monday 7th January 2019. If you wish anything in the parish bulletin please contact Ian Neal Wednesday evening on 465630 or email stjohnstevenston@gmail.com

***The new terms of the Data Protection Regulation (See below) prevent us from publishing the names of the sick either in electronic form or in paper form in the bulletin. A new folder containing the names of the sick will be brought through the Church in the offertory procession each week so that these people are included in our prayers. Please inform the parish office in writing of any names to be either included or taken out of this list.**

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

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:



For all the sick in our parishes*

Birthday Anniversary: Kathleen McGuirk

Christmas Remembrance: George Kearney, Arthur Smyth, Deceased members of the McCarney & Murphy families, Fr James Hughes, Kane & Murchie families, Joe & Sarah Murray, John & Janet Collins & Collins family, Derrick Whitehead, James & Mary McEvoy and Jim Moffat.

Those who have an anniversary: George Forbes, Jimmy Gailey, Patrick McCann, Tom McKay, John Dolan, Mairi Grier, Elizabeth Turbet, Robert & Jean Wylie and Peter & Rose Finnegan, Kathleen Boyle (Kitty), Joe Burns, deceased members of Burns and Fitzpatrick families, William Meechan Snr & deceased members of Meechan and McCafferty families, Patrick Monaghan, Rev John Lafferty, Patricia MacNamara, William Martin, Jimmy Gailey and Annie McKernon.

Those who have died recently: Peter Dougan, Flora Monaghan, Laura Cambridge, Elizabeth (Betty) Northcote, John Hynman (Norwich), Marion McGrath , Henry, Lizzie McGurk (Port Glasgow), Hugh Farrell Jnr, James Ward (Glasgow), Jack McLennan, John Bell, Shirley Monaghan (USA), Peggy MacKinnon (Barra), Robert (Bobby) Millar, Elizabeth Berti, Francesca Raffermati, Jim Norwood, Tommy Milligan, James Ward (Rutherglen), Cathie Steel, Sr Rita Deegan RIP (Columban Sister who served in St John's Parish) and Sadie Ford

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM BISHOP NOLAN. I always find it is a great relief when we get to Christmas. There is so much to do in the days and weeks beforehand that life can be very busy and full of stress. But once Christmas arrives there is nothing left to do but enjoy it. (So says someone who is not cooking the Christmas dinner!). I hope you are able to spend time with family and friends this Christmas and that you enjoy celebrating the feast of Christ's birth with those you love, knowing that God loves you. May God's blessing be with us all at Christmas and throughout the coming year. +*William Nolan, Bishop of Galloway.*

ST MARY'S VOLUNTEERS. If you would like to read or minister at any of St Mary's Christmas Masses then please add your name to the sign up sheet available in the Sacristy.

ALTAR SERVERS VISIT TO THE PANTOMINE ON SUNDAY 30TH DECEMBER. Please ensure completed forms are returned this weekend.

CRIB COLLECTION AT CHRISTMAS. Gifts left at the crib in St John's will be forwarded to Hillhouse Care and gifts from St Mary's to Cardinal Winning Pro-Life Initiative. "Small Box Campaign" go to St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society. Please take one home with you for your crib donations.

PARISH FINANCES. As 31st December is the end of the financial year, can all those who operate bank accounts please compose a statement of income and expenditure from 1st January 2018 to 31st December 2018, together with a January 2019 bank statement. These figures have to be submitted to the Diocese before the end of January.

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB. New envelopes will be available from today.

SCIAF LENTEN TRAINING. SCIAF will be presenting Lenten Training on Saturday 2nd February 2019, 11am. until 1pm in the Church Hall of Our Lady and St Meddan's, Troon. This event is open to everyone who is interested in SCIAF and their Lenten Programme. Anyone wishing to reserve a place should contact Jim Berry:- Jimb40@btinternet.com Mobile: 07951165873 or 01292 311155

SALTCOATS FOOD BANK. We need more volunteers in distributing the food at the Salvation Army Hall, on Tuesdays from 2pm-3.30pm. If you can help please phone 07979873747 for details.

CHANA. Thank you so much for all the contributions for homeless people and families at Christmas and throughout the year. This is much needed help. **In November 42 women, 50 men and 29 children presented as homeless to North Ayrshire Council.** **PS** we would like to continue collecting shampoo and rubber gloves - Thank you

COUNSELLING SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS IN THE RC DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY. Leaflets are available.

CHRISTMAS CAKE RAFFLE. A total of £216 was raised for Fr Keith's Guyana Mission. Sincere thanks to all who contributed and to all who donated prizes. Special thanks must go to Therese Lawlor who baked the cake. The winners were: Christmas Cake-Theresa Loudon; Wine-Josephine Buchert; Wine-Sheila Cliffe; Bucks Fizz-James Pllu; Victoria Biscuits-Kathleen Quinn (Kilwinning); Cadbury's Roses-Anne Brady; Tealight Holder-Sadie McClumpha; Leonardo Cup and Saucer-Mary Burnett; Toiletries-Margaret Simpson and Fair Trade Biscuits-Frank Millar.

DAVID WELLS. Is a catechist and author and the Embracing change Spirituality Group in North Ayrshire has invited David to come to the Deanery to speak about Pope Francis' recent Apostolic Exhortation, 'Gaudete et Exsultate' (Rejoice and be Glad). On Sunday 10th February at 3pm he will address the assembled gathering in St Peter's, Ardrossan, Following his talk there will be an opportunity for small group discussions to take place in the church hall before a final plenary session in the Church. There will also be periods of prayer at the beginning and end of the event.

ADULT EDUCATION. Programme from January 2019 on Evangelii Gaudium The Joy of the Gospel. Leaflets and poster in church porch or contact Fr McFadden at catholicchurchgalloway@btinternet.com

ST MARY'S DIARIES. Available in the stall priced at £1. All proceeds will go towards Fr Keith's Mission in Guyana.

Vatican City. "Christmas is preferring the silent voice of God to the noisiness of consumerism. If we can be silent in front of the crib, Christmas will be a surprise even for us, not something seen before," Pope Francis said on Wednesday. "Be silent in front of the nativity," he advised. "This is an invitation for Christmas, take some time. Go before the nativity and stay in silence." **Catholic News Agency.**

"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world." -C.S. Lewis

He needed fed and changed.... The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation." -J.I. Packer

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.

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