



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

22nd December 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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.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

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
Monday	10am Service of the Word	10am Funeral Mass	10am Mass
Christmas Eve	6.30pm Mass	4.30pm Mass* Canon Matt Midnight Mass	5.30pm Mass 8.30pm Mass
Christmas Day	9.30am Mass	11am Mass* Canon Matt	11am Mass
Thursday	—————	—————	12 Noon Mass
Friday	11am Service	11am Mass	10am Mass
Saturday	—————	1pm Nuptial Mass	10am Mass

Please Pray for the Souls of

Vera Brady RIP

Sarah Gray RIP

Stephen McCormick RIP

Peggy Miller RIP

Vera's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place tomorrow (Monday) at 10am in St Mary's
Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery

Sarah's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Monday 30th at 10am in St Mary's.
Followed by burial in Hawkhill Cemetery.

Stephen's Prayers of Reception will take place on Monday 30th at 6pm in St Mary's.

Funeral Mass on Tuesday 31st at 10am. Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery

Peggy's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 7th January at 10am in St Mary's
Followed by cremation in Holmsford Bridge Crematorium, Dreghorn.

+May they rest in peace+



At Happy and Blessed Christmas to all

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



Please make sure that your mobile phone is switched off during Mass. Thank you

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Christmas Remembrance: Parishioners, James & Agnes Morrison, Cathy McGuire, SPC Communities (Grasmere, Birmingham, Dublin and London), Deceased Kane & Murchie families, Fr. James McHugh, Charles Smith, Evelyn Clugston & deceased members of Taylor family, Joe and Sarah Murray, Derrick Whitehead, Ruth, Hugh and Cecilia Monaghan, John and Janet Collins, James and Ina Kelly, deceased members of Smyth and Coleman families, Margaret McGee, Patrick Cambridge, George Kearney, Laura Cambridge, Patrick Monaghan and deceased members of Monaghan family, Gerard Monaghan and deceased members of Slater, McGhee and Smyth families.

Anniversary: Kathleen (Kitty) Boyle, Kathleen McGuirk, Jessie Burns (2nd), Jimmy Gailey, Murray & Lennox Families, Annie McKernon, Joe Burns, Dec Member Burns & Fitzpatrick Families, Tom McKay, John Dolan, Elizabeth Turbet, Pat McCann, Robert & Jean Wylie and Peter & Rose Finnegan.

Recently Deceased: Cathie Kerr (Ayr), David Lambie, Vera Brady, Peggy Miller, John Meechan, Sarah Gray, Stephen McCormick and Agnes Martin.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK. 29th December 2019; The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6.12-14; Psalm 127; Colossians 3:12-21; Matthew 2:13-15.19-23

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:



For all the sick in our parishes*

Christmas Remembrance: Parishioners, James & Agnes Morrison, Cathy McGuire, SPC Communities (Grasmere, Birmingham, Dublin and London), Deceased Kane & Murchie families, Fr. James McHugh, Charles Smith, Evelyn Clugston & deceased members of Taylor family, Joe and Sarah Murray, Derrick Whitehead, Ruth, Hugh and Cecilia Monaghan, John and Janet Collins, James and Ina Kelly, deceased members of Smyth and Coleman families, Margaret McGee, Patrick Cambridge, George Kearney, Laura Cambridge, Patrick Monaghan and deceased members of Monaghan family, Gerard Monaghan and deceased members of Slater, McGhee and Smyth families.

Those who have an anniversary: Kathleen (Kitty) Boyle, Kathleen McGuirk, Jessie Burns (2nd), Jimmy Gailey, Murray & Lennox Families, Annie McKernon, Joe Burns, Dec Member Burns & Fitzpatrick Families, Tom McKay, John Dolan, Elizabeth Turbet, Pat McCann, Robert & Jean Wylie, Peter & Rose Finnegan, William Martin, Betty Freeman, Mary Ramsay, Alex & Rhoda McCall, George Forbes, Patricia MacNamara, Helen Brady (1st), John McNamara and James Fitzsimmons.

Those who have died recently: Cathie Kerr (Ayr), David Lambie, Peggy Miller, John Meechan, Sarah Gray, Stephen McCormick, Agnes Martin, Jimmy Tracey (months mind), Fr Frank McHugh, Peter Reynolds, Abbie O'Rourke (Southampton), Jack Oliver, James McMurray (Glasgow), Vera Brady, Elsie Maclaren, Annemarie Sneddon, Eddie McGuire, Anne McCauley, Liz Aitken, Elizabeth Lundie, Willie Muir, Hannah Lehane, Eric Gibney and Geraldine Diversi (Paisley).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WEEKLY COLLECTIONS. St Mary's: £717.00 (Envelopes £365.11. Cash £351.89). St John's: £676.32 (Envelopes £507.90 Cash £168.42). SCIAF £46.94. Building & Renovations £99.23. 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.

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

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP. Has stopped for Christmas and will resume on Monday 6th January.

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

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

S.V.D.P. Please call 07379400568 for Saltcoats and 07498501326 for Stevenston.

FOOD BANK, STEVENSTON. Will be closed Christmas day and New Year's day. In an emergency phone 07979542319 and leave a message.

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 from Tuesday 24th December till 6th January 2020. Please contact Ian Neal at St John's by Wednesday evening on 465630 or email stjohbulletinstevenston@gmail.com.

WEST COAST FURNITURE BANK. This is a charity which distributes donated household goods to families in need. They are short of some items including towels, bedding, kettles and toasters. If you can help with any of these items, please call 07576232969. George would like to thank everyone who has donated to the appeal. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

By virtue of Creation and still more the Incarnation, nothing here below is profane for those who know how to see. Teilhard de Chardin

*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. 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

“When a child is born we wonder: what will the future hold for this child, what will this child achieve in its life? As we celebrate the birth of the child Jesus, born in a manger, we know how his future played out, we know what his life achieved. We know that for Jesus in his life there was pain and suffering, as there is in ours. The celebration of Christmas does not take away that pain or make the struggles we face in life disappear. But Christmas is still a time of joy for we know that we are not alone and that God is with us no matter what problems life throws at us. The joy of Christmas is the joy of knowing that the one we love, and the one who loves us, is with us, by our side. And no one loves us more than God.

May God’s peace and joy be with you this Christmas.

+William Nolan”

ST. JOHN’S 300 CLUB CHRISTMAS DRAW. Congratulations to the winners of the Christmas Draw No.12 M. Littlemore £200, No.30 K. Murphy £100 and No.24 M. Bird £50.

GOOD WISHES. To Lauren Gemmell and Andrew Hume who are to be married in St Mary’s next Saturday at 1pm.

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.

RAFFLE FOR CHRISTMAS CAKE AND OTHER PRIZES. The draw will take place after 10am Mass today. All proceeds to Guyana Mission.

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. Financial donations go to St Margaret’s Children and Family Care Society.

THANK YOU. To Kevin Cunningham for the lovely work he has done to restore the figures in the Crib outside St Mary’s Church.

SALTCOATS FOOD BANK. Thanks to all who have contributed to our local Food Bank, giving us a substantial amount of money and a great variety of food. The money has helped us to provide needed items, not included in the boxes from the local headquarters. Over the last seven weeks “we” have given out 45 boxes to the people in need. “we” make up a group of 15 people, most of whom are parishioners of St Mary’s.

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB. Please note the club has now closed for the Christmas Holidays and will be back on Tuesday 21st January 2020. We wish you all a holy and peaceful Christmas and joyful New Year. We also thank you for your support and hope we will be seeing you all when we return.

ARRAN VIEW NURSING HOME. After last Sunday’s Carol Concert 2 scarves were found. These have been left at the rear exit of St Mary’s Church near the Sacristy.

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 2019 to 31st December 2019, together with a January 2020 bank statement. These figures have to be submitted to the Diocese before the end of January.

POST OF PART TIME DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING OFFICER. For details see advert on Diocesan website www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk. Job description and application form available from Diocesan Office. Phone 01292 266750 or email : administration@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

ALTAR SERVERS VISIT TO PANTOMINE. Will take place on Sunday 29th December. If you wish to attend, please collect a form from both sacristy’s.

THE YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE. Invites you to their Pizza and Panto evening on Sunday 29th from 6pm—9pm in St Margaret’s Cathedral Parish Hall, Ayr. For more information email Fr Jim at youth@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or phone 01387 252603.

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 31st 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>.

CHANA at CHRISTMAS Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to help the homeless both at Christmas and throughout the year. Your donations are so welcome. Thank you.

YOGA CLASS. The weekly Wednesday evening class will resume in 2020 on the 8th January. Contact Steph on 07470435735 or email stephanienorthcoteyoga@gmail.com

CHARITY CHRISTMAS GIFTS 2019. SCIAF Real Gifts can be found at www.sciaf.org.uk/realgifts.

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for December. *The Future of the Very Young - That every country take the measures necessary to prioritise the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.*

Christmas Gave Us Back Our Human Dignity. *“Christmas is the privileged occasion to highlight one of the most influential Christian values: with the birth of Jesus, in the simplicity and poverty of Bethlehem, God gave back dignity to every human being's existence. He offered to all people the possibility to participate in his same divine life. May this immeasurable gift always find hearts ready to receive it!” Pope John Paul II*

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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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.