



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

27th September 2020

Twenty Sixth 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.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)

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 | _____ | 10am Mass | _____ |
| Friday | 10am Mass | _____ | 10am Mass |
| Saturday | _____ | Holy Communion Masses + 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 access this by following this link <https://tinyurl.com/rcstevenstonsaltcoats>

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 rcsaltcoats or 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.**

RETIRED PRIESTS SPECIAL COLLECTION. This collection is overdue. Contributions can still be made between now and the end of the month either in the basket in Church or left at both parish houses. Gift Aid envelopes are also available.

DIOCESE WEB PAGE: GALLOWAYDIOCESE.ORG.UK/FUNDRAISING. GIVE AS YOU LIVE. Do you want to help the Diocese of Galloway raise even more for FREE? You can by shopping via Give as you Live Online! Please follow this link www.giveasyoulive.com/join/rc-diocese-of-galloway-scotland. See poster on noticeboard for more information.

AMAZON SMILE. The Diocese has registered with Amazon Smile. The prices on amazon smile are the same as on the regular Amazon site. However Amazon donates 0.5% of spending to the nominated charity. This is a good way for those who use Amazon to support diocesan finances at no extra cost. Please follow this link <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/SC010576>. Further information can be found on parish websites.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Special Intention

Anniversaries: Mary Nellis, Bill Hazelton, Jim Hainey and Sean Pentleton.

Recently deceased: John McMillan (Blantyre), Pdraig McGarvey (Donegal), Paddy Smyth (Portaferry), Catherine Anne Johnson and Daniel Hainey.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 4th October 2020; 27th Sunday of Year A; Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 79; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:



For all the sick in our parishes*

Special Intention

Those who have an anniversary: Mary Nellis, Bill Hazelton, Jim Hainey, Sean Pentleton, Teresa Ham, Kate & Harry Nellis, Margaret Higgins, Betty Ross, Ina Kelly, Agnes Dickie, Enrique & Raquel Rangel and Philip Burns (6months mind).

Those who have died recently: John McMillan (Blantyre), Pdraig McGarvey (Donegal), Catherine Anne Johnson, Daniel Hainey, Reg Byers (Lockerbie), Paddy Smyth (Portaferry), Monica Murray, Tommy McAteer, Michael McGarrigle, Danny McGoogan (Snr), James Havlin, John (Jake) Alcroft and Catherine McFadden (Fr McFadden's Mother).

***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.**

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. St Mary's will take place during October divided between five masses.

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. 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 Monday (tomorrow).

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.

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 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>.

GOSPEL REFLECTION. The group will no longer meet in St John's Church because of Government restrictions. Instead the content will be livestreamed from St John's on Monday's at 7pm.

CONGRATULATIONS. To the children from St John's who have celebrated First Eucharist this weekend (delayed from May). Thank you to the staff of St John's school, the Saturday Club ladies, and all who have helped them prepare for this day.

ST MARY'S SCAFFOLDING. A section is missing and is required for works if you know where it is can you please inform the parish office.

MARY'S MEALS TEAM. Would like to thank everyone who has donated money or backpack items to our appeal. With your help, last week we filled 201 school bags which will soon be sent to one of Mary's Meals Schools. This makes a grand total of 2794 bags sent! Mary's Meals feed children in 19 of the poorest countries of the world. We are now gathering items for our next set of school bags. Thank you again for your continued support.

ST JOHN'S 300 CLUB. Congratulations to the winners of the September draw; No 32—J. Higgins £30 and No 141 L. Martin £20

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: Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

The Word of the Lord



PSALM

R/ Remember your mercy, Lord

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **R/**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **R/**
3. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, He guides the humble in the right path, He teaches his way to the poor. **R/**

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, glory to God the Father. **The Word of the Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32



Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father ‘s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

Today’s psalm proclaims ‘God teaches his way to the poor’. How do you adopt an attitude of humility in your daily life?

St Paul urges the Church in Philippi to be ‘united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind’. Where is your parish community the most united? What divides you?

The apostle asks the community members to reject selfishness and vainglory by regarding ‘the other person to be better than yourself’. In your life, who has been a model of placing others above self?

Considering today’s parable, which son are you more likely to be (the one commits but doesn’t follow through, or the one who refuses but in the end complies)?

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.*

SEASON OF CREATION. For a programme of events please see both Church noticeboards and on the websites or follow link: www.seasonofcreation.org/catholic/

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.

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.