



St John the Evangelist  
Stevenston

# 25th October 2020

## Thirtieth Sunday of 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](http://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](http://www.rcsaltcoats.com)

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



Our Lady Star of the Sea  
Saltcoats

**MASS TIMES: Please remember to book**

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	_____	10am Mass
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass	_____
Wednesday	10am Mass	_____	10am Mass
Thursday	_____	Funeral Mass	Funeral Mass
Friday	_____	_____	10am Mass
Saturday	_____	4.30pm Vigil Mass	5.30pm Vigil Mass

**Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment only.**

To book a place at Mass in St Mary's please phone the parish office 463461 between Monday-Friday 9.30am-2.30pm. To book a place for Mass in St John's please phone Teresa Thornton on 07564903401 between Monday-Friday 9.30am-2.30pm. You will be asked for a contact number in order that Track and Trace can be achieved if necessary. All Government requirements must be fulfilled with sanitising hands, wearing a face covering and sitting in a designated seat to enable social distancing. Most of our Masses are being livestreamed and they can be accessed on both parish websites by clicking on the Livestream option.

**GOSPEL REFLECTION.** Livestreamed from St John's on Monday's at 7pm.

**ROSARY.** For the Month of October will be livestreamed from St John's on Tuesdays at 7pm since October is Mission Month, when we pray for the Spread of the Gospel. **Apologies— we are still struggling to livestream the Rosary.**

**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.**

**GALLOWAY VOCATIONS.** Parishioners are encouraged to 'Like' the new Facebook page called **GALLOWAYVOCATIONS**, which encourages our Diocesan family to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life.

**MISSION SUNDAY.** Collections can be still handed in at church, parish house, on-line by visiting [missioscotland.com](http://missioscotland.com) or by texting Missioscot to 70085 to donate £3—Gift aid envelopes are also available.

**MESSAGE FROM BISHOPS' OF SCOTLAND TO CLERGY AND PEOPLE.** Please see noticeboards or parish websites.

**MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS.** Lists are available for our deceased relatives and friends during the month of November. Please hand them into St Mary's parish office or St John's Sacristy where they will be placed on the Altar during this month. Those included on the list will be remembered in masses in both churches as well as Canon Matt and Fr McCabe in Cape Town.

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



**Anniversaries:** Jimmy Kelly, Sarah Murray, George Lafferty, Frances Breen, James McCann, James & Agnes Delahunt, Matt Taylor, Bobby Fleming and Pat McMenamin.

**Recently deceased:** Pat McAvoy, John Smith (Glencairn Terrace), Michael Oakes (Doncaster) and Philomena Barlow.

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

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** 1st November 2020; 31st Sunday of Year A: Malachi 1:14-2:2.8-10; Psalm 130; I Thessalonians 2:7-9.13; Matthew 23:1-12

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



**For all the sick in our parishes\***

**Those who have an anniversary:** Jimmy Kelly, Sarah Murray, George Lafferty, Frances Breen, James McCann, James & Agnes Delahunt, Matt Taylor, Bobby Fleming, Pat McMenamin, Joe Coleman, Francis and Josephine Morrison, Stephen (Tiney) Brennan and Monica Anne Taylor (nee Reilly).

**Those who have died recently:** John Smith (Glencairn Terrace), Anne Wells, Michael Oakes (Doncaster), Philomena Barlow, Catherine Smyth, Pat McAvoy and Patrick Smyth (Northern Ireland).

**\*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.

**C.L.A.S.P. Community Led Action and Support Project.** For details of befriending and digital support service Telephone Liz on 07464 206 592 or email [liz@clasps.org.uk](mailto: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.** Digital copies of their IMPACT Magazine 2020 can be found on our websites.

**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 02828 272 196/02828 276 455.

**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 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. Groceries will be delivered to your house.

**WEST COAST FURNITURE BANK.** This is a charity, which distributes donated household items to families in need. 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 31<sup>st</sup> 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>.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE SCOTLAND.** On Tuesday 27th October, Justice and Peace Scotland will be hosting an evening hearing from inspirational people serving on the frontline of the UK's hostile border environment. To join this event, please Register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/conversation-on-migration-tickets-122206736639>.

**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.

**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](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/rc-diocese-of-galloway-scotland).

**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>. More information can be found on parish websites.

**ONLINE COURSES.** The Sisters of the Cross and Passion, who in the past were very actively involved in education in the diocese, are celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of their founder, Elizabeth Prout. The sisters run the retreat centre in Drumalis and are hosting a series of Zoom lectures. Please see poster in Church porches for more information.

**CONGRATULATIONS.** To Alex & Madge McGuire who are celebrating their 60th Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

**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](http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-gdpr)

### First Reading: Exodus 22:2-26

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this: “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. “If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. “If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

### The Word of the Lord

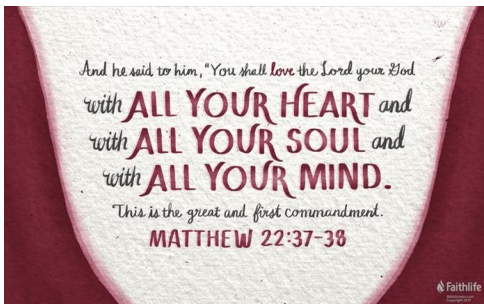
### PSALM

R/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise, when I call I am saved from my foes.  
R/
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me, He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed. R/

### Second Reading: I Thessalonians 1:5c-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread—and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming. **The Word of the Lord**



### Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

### PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

The first reading from Exodus exhorts the people to be merciful to foreigners seeking refuge. How does your family or parish minister to immigrants or refugees?

Today’s psalm refrain is ‘I love you, Lord, my strength’. How has God given you strength in the life of discipleship?

In his first letter to the Thessalonians, St Paul writes, ‘You were led to become imitators of us and of the Lord’. What saint or person of faith do you hope to imitate?

**POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER.** *The Laity's Mission in the Church - We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.*

**I was a stranger.** .....in another passage of the Gospel Jesus says: “I was a stranger and you welcomed me” (Mt 25:35). Jesus could speak those words because he had an open heart, sensitive to the difficulties of others. Saint Paul urges us to “rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep” (Rom 12:15). When our hearts do this, they are capable of identifying with others without worrying about where they were born or come from. In the process, we come to experience others as our “own flesh” (Is 58:7). **Fratelli Tutti, Pope Francis, October 2020**

### 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.