



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

22nd November 2020

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe—Solemnity 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

| Day | 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 | _____ | 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.

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.**

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK. A Special Collection will be taken up over the next few weeks. Donations can be left in baskets available at the back of both Churches.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS. Lists are still available for the month of November. Those included on the list will be remembered in masses both by myself as well as Canon Matt and Fr McCabe in Cape Town.

IN GOD'S IMAGE. We are revising IN GOD'S IMAGE the Safeguarding Policy Manual of the Catholic Church in Scotland. We welcome all comments that will help up to improve our Safeguarding practice. Please provide your comments online by 30th November 2020 on bit.ly/3cuTsnP. Please see noticeboards for more information.

ST JOHN'S NEW WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES. Are being prepared. If you would like a set of envelopes and do not currently use them please let us know. Forms are available to pay by Standing Order through your bank and also Gift Aid forms if you are a taxpayer.

MASS FOR ALL OUR DECEASED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS. The Annual Parish Mass for all our deceased relatives and friends and all members of both Parish Communities will take place in St John's on Wednesday (25th) at 7pm and St Mary's on Thursday (26th) at 7pm. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions this year's Masses will only be available on livestreaming which you can access through both parish websites.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

RIP Birthday: Michael Boyd (40th)

Anniversaries: Gerard Monaghan, Cathie Pllu, Kathleen Poland, John Maxwell, McConnell Family, Wylie Family, Hannah Kirk and Mary Hamilton.

Recently deceased: Theresa Loudon, Kathleen Fraser, Irene White (New York), Matthew Anderson and Mary O'Connor (Coatbridge)

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 29th November 2020; First Sunday of Advent Year B; Isaiah 63:16-17;64:1.3-8; Psalm 79; I Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

We look forward to welcoming Fr Benjamin Mkeri CSSP to our parishes at the end of the month.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes and those with COVID-19*

RIP Birthday: Michael Boyd (40th)

Those who have an anniversary: Gerard Monaghan, Cathie Pllu, Kathleen Poland, John Maxwell, McConnell Family, Wylie Family, Hannah Kirk, Mary Hamilton, Roddy Monan, Sharon Lafferty, Patricia Monan (1st), Jack Gartland, Billy Cassidy and Albert White.

Those who have died recently: Theresa Loudon, John Finnigan, Kathleen Fraser, Irene White (New York), Matthew Anderson, Mary O'Connor (Coatbridge), Kenneth McConnell, James (Jimmy) Moriarty, Ignatius Dougan (Carluke), Margaret Coyle, Rob McLaughlin, Tommy Fagan, Alex Tulloch (Glasgow), Derek McKenzie (Glasgow), John Ross, June Gough, Annie Warrander, David Lockhart, Rose Paterson, James Havlin and Felix McConville (Ireland).

MARY'S MEALS. We have incredible news! Until 31st January 2021, public donations made to our **Double The Love** appeal will be doubled by the UK government, up to £2 million. Please see parish websites on ways to donate or visit Mary's Meals website.

SCIAF REAL GIFTS. Please keep in mind their Real Gifts Appeal as a Christmas present this year. Please see parish websites or visit SCIAF's website for more information.

CHANA@Christmas. At Christmas time, CHANA (Churches Homelessness Action North Ayrshire) usually coordinates donations of gifts to help the most vulnerable in communities across North Ayrshire. Covid restrictions mean a different tack is required this year and CHANA has teamed up with the Ayrshire based charity Night Before Christmas. CHANA is asking people to support Night Before Christmas by donating to the Just Giving page which is already up and running: www.justgiving.com/nb4cc or people could put cash in an envelope marked CHANA and put it in the collection. Presents for those in need will be bought and distributed by Night Before Christmas. CHANA has donated £400. Thank you.

ST MARY'S SVDP. If anyone needs or knows of any family who could benefit from a food parcel please contact any member of the St Vincent de Paul Society. The society has access to food and groceries. All our work is totally confidential. Please phone 07379400568

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. You will then be allocated a Telephone Befriender or a Digital Befriender to give you support during this crisis. Keep Safe.

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.

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-ofgalloway-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.

SPUC. The Scottish Government is holding a consultation on whether to continue the practice of sending dangerous abortion pills to women to undergo abortions at home. To complete questionnaire please go to www.spuc.org.uk/Scottish-Consultation

HELP PROTECT BABIES WITH CLEFT LIP, CLEFT PALATE AND CLUB FOOT. Sadly abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. A cross-party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Can you help with getting your MP to support the Bill? Please visit ww.standupandsmile.org.uk to email your MP asking them to support the Bill.

***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.**

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 34:11-12, 15-17

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will look after and tend my sheep. As a shepherd tends his flock when he himself among his scattered sheep, so will I tend my sheep. I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered when it was cloudy and dark. I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord God. The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy, shepherding them rightly. As for you, my sheep, says the Lord God, I will judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats.

The Word of the Lord

PSALM

R/ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose. **R/**
2. Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. **R/**
3. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **R/**
4. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come. **R/**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you happy and feed you, or thirst and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.' Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.' Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

In the first reading from the prophet Ezekiel, God says, 'I will rescue my sheep from every place where they were scattered'. Thinking about your parish community, who is missing? How might you reach out to them?

How have you experienced God's shepherding care most recently?

In this past year, how have you practiced the corporal works of mercy?

How would you like to incorporate the corporal works of mercy into your life in the coming year?

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions November 2020 – Artificial Intelligence. - *We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.*

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED. RedWednesday Campaign will take place on Wednesday 25th November. Please find more information on their website: acnuk.org/our-campaigns/redwednesday/

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.