



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

8th November 2020

Thirty Second 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

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.**

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN UP FROM THIS WEEKEND. You can still make your Mission Sunday collections on-line by visiting missioscotland.com or by texting Missioscot to 70085 to donate £3.

EDUCATION SUNDAY. Next Sunday is Education Sunday, marking the start of a week when we celebrate the importance of educating children and young people in faith.

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.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY. Due to current COVID restrictions there will be no parade, service or organised wreath laying at any of the War Memorials in Saltcoats, Ardrossan or Stevenston this year. Personal tributes can still be paid at the War Memorials at a time of your choosing, but where possible, please avoid 11am Saltcoats and 1.30pm Stevenston and follow corona virus legislation. The Royal British Legion have asked people to take a moment of reflection on their doorstep at 11am on Sunday and also 11am on Wednesday (11th).

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:



Anniversaries: Billy Cassidy, Albert Bloore, Cathie Dorrian, Cyril Martin Dorrian, Andy Lennox Snr and Jim & Claire Lawler.

Recently deceased: Ignatius Dougan (Carluke), Margaret Coyle, Rob McLaughlin, Tommy Fagan, Alex Tulloch (Glasgow) and Derek McKenzie (Glasgow).

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 15th November 2020; 33rd Sunday of Year A; Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31; Psalm 127; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

MARY'S MEALS. We have incredible news! From today 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.

THANK YOU. Trina and family would like to thank all their friends and parishioners for their support, cards, mass cards, flowers and kind wishes on their sad loss of Pat.

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. 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.

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. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Scottish Government's questionnaire in order to stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. 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.**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

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

Those who have an anniversary: Billy Cassidy, Albert Bloore, Cathie Dorrian, Cyril Martin Dorrian, Andy Lennox Snr, Jim & Claire Lawler, Catherine "Cassie" McMullen, Margaret Martin, William & Jeanie Smyth, John & Mary McCann, James & Isabel Platts, Mary Timmons, Luigi & Marietta Tortolano, Peggy Hanson and Davie Hanson.

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

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: Wisdom 6:12-16

Resplendent and unfading is wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire; whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed, for he shall find her sitting by his gate. For taking thought of wisdom is the perfection of prudence, and whoever for her sake keeps vigil shall quickly be free from care; because she makes her own rounds, seeking those worthy of her, and graciously appears to them in the ways, and meets them with all solicitude. **The Word of the Lord**

PSALM

R/ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God

1. O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water. **R/**
2. Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, for your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you. **R/**
3. Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you. **R/**
4. I will remember you upon my couch, and through the night-watches I will meditate on you: you are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. **R/**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words. **The Word of the Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long and delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."



PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

The first reading is a hymn to wisdom, who is 'found by those who seek her'. How do you search out and immerse yourself in wisdom?

St Paul's words urge us to 'not grieve like the rest, who have no hope'. As Christians, we still do grieve when a loved one dies, even as we hope in the resurrection. How does your family or parish community help others in the passage of grief?

In today's parable the bridesmaids need oil so that their lamps might burn brightly at the arrival of the bridegroom. What is the oil that keeps your lamp of faith burning?

Today's gospel could be seen as a call to be ready for the hour of our own death, when we meet the heavenly Bridegroom. How does living with death in mind shape your life and decisions?

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

No one is excluded. *No one, then, can remain excluded because of his or her place of birth, much less because of privileges enjoyed by others who were born in lands of greater opportunity. The limits and borders of individual states cannot stand in the way of this. As it is unacceptable that some have fewer rights by virtue of being women, it is likewise unacceptable that the mere place of one's birth or residence should result in his or her possessing fewer opportunities for a developed and dignified life. Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti*

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.