



St John the Evangelist
Stevenson

22nd August 2021 21st Sunday of the Year B

Parish Priest: Canon Martin Poland

St John's, Hayocks Road, Stevenston, KA20 4DE

Tel No: 01294 463225

St John's Parish website: www.stevensonstjohns.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

Assisted by Fr Benjamin Mkeri CSSp and Sr Marie Monique & Sr Ursula

Canon Matt McManus (Retired)



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	10am Funeral Mass Veronica Farrell	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L only)
Wednesday	10am Funeral Mass Edward Pllu	_____	10am Mass (L)
Thursday	_____	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L only)
Friday	10am Mass (L)	_____	10am Mass (L)
Saturday	_____	4.30pm Vigil Mass (L)	5.30pm Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

L = LIVESTREAMED

MONDAY. Gospel Reflection livestreamed 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. If you are a taxpayer and would like to Gift-aid your donation please contact the parish office or Canon Martin to fill out a Gift Aid Declaration Form. If you have already filled out a Declaration Form in the past and your circumstances have changed please also let us know. 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 rcstevenson link and follow the instructions. <https://tinyurl.com/rcsaltcoats> <https://tinyurl.com/rcstevenson>. 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. Your weekly parish collection envelopes can be left in both parish houses if you are not able to get to Mass.**

Bookings for Mass are no longer required and while you can sit anywhere in church we are asked to leave a space between households. Hand sanitiser, face coverings and details for Track and Trace (including QR scan) must be observed for the protection of everybody. **Please note that weekday masses are subject to change if there is a funeral.**

Please remember the following deaths in your prayers

Vernonica Farrell: Prayers of Reception on Sunday at 6pm. Funeral Mass in St. Mary's at 10am followed by burial in Hawkhill Cemetery.

Edward Pllu: Reception and Funeral Mass in St. John's on Wednesday at 10am followed by burial in Hawkhill Cemetery. Michael Howie, Anna Wanna Rungruangkanokkul (Sr. Marie Monique's sister), and James Mullen.
+ May they rest in peace +

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for August - The Church - Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Anniversaries: John Quinn and Micheal McDermott.

Recently deceased: Veronica Farrell, Edward Pllu, Michael Howie, Anna Wanna Rungruangkanokkul, and James Mullen.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B - Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; Psalm 15:2-5; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; James 1:18.

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: Luigi Tortolano, Chris Ross, Stephen Slavin (1st Anniversary), Arthur Smyth, John Quinn Micheal McDermott.

Those who have died recently: Veronica Farrell, Laurence Keane, Bobby Hughes, Edward Pllu and Pauline Grice (Myles) Rotherham (sister to Anne McCafferty), Michael Howie, Anna Wanna Rungruangkanokkul (Sr. Marie Monique's sister) and James Mullen.



“IN GOD’S IMAGE VERSION 2. Following changes to legislation and a 9 month period of consultation and reflection, the Safeguarding instruction of the Scottish Catholic Church has been revised and is now available for download, either by visiting bcos.org.uk/InGodsImageV2, or by scanning the QR code on the poster at the back of the church. This new document comes into force on 8th September 2021, and replaces the previous version. It is important that everyone with Safeguarding responsibilities in our parish communities has a copy of IGIv2. If you are unable to download a copy, please contact the diocesan office who will be able to assist.”

BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE OF SCOTLAND. National Safeguarding Webinar will take place on Saturday 2nd October 11am-1pm. An opportunity to learn how **In God’s Image V2** can help everyone to play their part in developing the culture of safeguarding in the Catholic Church in Scotland. This webinar is open to all who have a role in the Church’s safeguarding efforts. To secure a place in this webinar, please visit <https://btt.ly/3gQRdPu>. Following registration, you will be sent details of how to join the webinar. Please see poster in church porches or websites for more information.

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP. The group will meet on Monday at 7pm in St John’s Church. We hope to continue with the Livestream and have our meeting immediately afterwards. We reflect on the readings for the following Sunday. Why not join us on Monday?

CHURCH STALLS. Hopefully will open soon. Help required for St. John’s Stall. Please note the Scottish Catholic Observer and the Universe are no longer in production. For St. Mary’s Stall: If anyone wishes to place an order for Christmas please contact Maureen Moffat.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES AT CARFIN. In honour of St Joseph will take place on Sunday 5th September 2021 with Principal Celebrant and Homilist Bishop Brian McGee.

SYCAMORE COURSE. If interested please contact Canon Martin.

WHITHORN PILGRIMAGE. Will take place this year on Sunday 29th August. Bus will leave St. Mary’s at 10.45am, picking up at St. John’s at 11am.

ADVERTISING IN THE PARISH BULLETIN. We have a few spaces available on our advertising page. If you would like a space please contact Lorna in the parish office. The cost for advertising is £75 for 6 months and £150 for 12 months.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS. All parish volunteers who work with children and vulnerable adults need to complete their second Safeguarding Induction Training session, if they require a PVG to carry out their ministries. It is possible to do this training online and to book a place please visit www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/safeguarding-calendar. If you are unsure whether you need to attend, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Coordinator.

ST. MARY’S WEEKLY ENVELOPES. Are still available from the parish office. And can be returned to the parish house if you are unable to get to Church.

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY - IRVINE AND THREE TOWNS DEBT CENTRE. Are a Christian Organisation that helps people struggling with personal debt issues to begin a journey out of debt. This service is free and they can see clients face to face at the Connexions centre, Irvine or at any office location where strict health & safety guidelines are being met. To use us the first step is for a client to call our freephone number which is 0800 328 0006. Poster on church noticeboards for more information.

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.

ST. JOHN’S MUSIC GROUP. Welcome musicians to join them. If interested please contact Bernadette on 07983 803 222.

BULLETINS. If you are able to access the bulletin online and have a printer, you might want to pass on a copy to someone who you think might like to keep up to date with all recent parish news.

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: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-17, 18

Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: "It does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." But the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods. For it was the Lord, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among the peoples through whom we passed. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM

R/ Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the Lord; the lowly will hear me and be glad. **R/**
2. The Lord has eyes for the just, and ears for their cry. The Lord confronts the evildoers, to destroy remembrance of them from earth. **R/**
3. When the just cry out, the Lord hears them, and from all their distress he rescues them. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves. **R/**
4. Many are the troubles of the just one, but out of them all the Lord delivers him; he watches over all his bones; not one of them shall be broken. **R/**

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32

Brothers and sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the saviour of the body. As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the church in splendour; without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. *For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

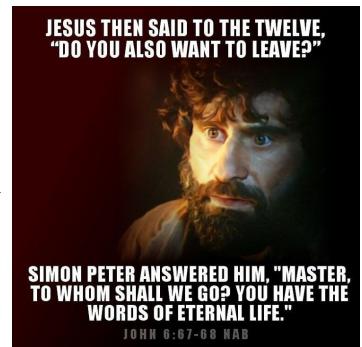
The Word of the Lord

Gospel: John 6:63, 68

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" Since Jesus knew that his disciples were murmuring about this, he said to them: "Does this shock you? What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe."

Jesus knew from the beginning the ones who would not believe and the one who would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father."

As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."



PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

In the first reading, Joshua challenges the people, "Decide today whom you will serve." Can you identify a moment in your life when you first chose to serve the Lord?

Today's psalm reminds us that "the Lord is close to the brokenhearted." How have you experienced God's presence in times of sorrow and grief?

St. Paul instructs the Ephesians, "Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ." How do you seek to live this out in your daily life?

In the gospel we hear of many disciples returning to their "former way of life" after being shocked by Jesus' words. Which of Jesus' teachings is most difficult for you to follow faithfully?

A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just. **Pope Francis**

***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.**

Neighbouring Parishes:

Father Duncan McVicar, St Peter's, Ardrossan 464063. Father Gerard Magee, St Winin's, Kilwinning 552276.

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.

Fr Stephen McGrattan is hospital chaplain for Crosshouse, assisted by IHM sisters

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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.