



St John the Evangelist
Stevenson

9th January 2022

The Baptism of the Lord—Feast Year C



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Parish Priest: Canon Martin Poland

St John's, Hayocks Road, Stevenson, 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)

| Day | St John's | St Mary's | St Peter's |
|-----------|--|--|------------------|
| Monday | ————— | 10am Funeral Mass Frances Lennox | 10am Mass (L) |
| Tuesday | 10am Funeral Mass (L) Michael McCabe | 10am Mass | 10am Mass (L) |
| Wednesday | 10am Mass (L) | ————— | 10am Mass (L) |
| Thursday | 10am Funeral Mass (L) Isa Kearney | 10am Mass | 10am Mass (L) |
| 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. Why not join us ?

SYNOD TOPIC NINE - DISCERNING AND DECIDING: A synodal Church makes decisions through discernment of what the Holy Spirit is saying through our whole community. *How well do we promote participation in decision making and how well do we make decisions together? How can we improve our methods so that everyone's voices can be included? How can we grow in communal spiritual discernment?* Fr. Stephen Latham has created a short video reflection, which is available on the diocesan webpage gallowaydiocese.org.uk/synod-news, and at <https://youtu.be/ESxb1jhKV6k> to help you consider these questions. The diocesan team will be pleased to receive all feedback on these questions at synod@gallowaydiocese.org.uk, which will also be addressed during parish synod encounters in the coming weeks.

SAVE the DATE - Soup and Sandwich in St Mary's - Saturday 22nd January. Afternoon Tea - St John's Sunday 23rd January.

The Synod Co-ordinators for our parishes are Danny Murray and Mary Theresa Russell for St John's and Peter Timmons and Margaret Millar for St Mary's. Details of the consultations will be provided soon.

COVID-19. In line with recent Government advice, parishioners are encouraged to take a lateral flow test before attending Mass. Please also be aware of social distancing.

Please remember the following deaths in your prayers

Frances Lennox RIP—Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on tomorrow (Monday) at 10am in St Mary's. Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

Michael McCabe RIP—Prayers of Reception will take place tomorrow (Monday) at 6pm in St John's Funeral Mass on Tuesday (11th) at 10am. Followed by burial in High Road Cemetery.

Isa Kearney RIP—Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday (13th) at 10am in St John's Followed by burial in High Road Cemetery.

+May they rest in peace+

SUNDAY OBLIGATION. To attend Mass has been postponed to a later date.

Parishes of the RC Diocese of Galloway Charity Registration No: SCO10576

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Anniversaries: Mary & James Whiston, Pat O'Rourke, Tommy Reid, Robert Hastings, Paul Millar, James Monan, Claire Burke, Eugene Murphy, Agnes McIntyre, Edward McIntyre, Nora McCluskey and John Quinn.

Recently deceased: Harry Robertson, John Michael Mooney, Isobel Hackett (Sheffield), Frances Lennox, Isa Kearney and Michael McCabe.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Second Sunday in Year C; Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 95; I Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-12

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

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

Special Intention: Thanksgiving Mass

Those who have an anniversary: Pat O'Rourke, Tommy Reid, Robert Hastings, Paul Millar, James Monan, Claire Burke, Eugene Murphy, Agnes McIntyre, Edward McIntyre, Nora McCluskey, John Quinn, Frances & Teddy Kelly, Mary Fraser, Catherine O'Meara and Nora McCluskey

Those who have died recently: Harry Robertson, John Michael Mooney, Isobel Hackett (Sheffield), Seamus Martin (Newry), Andrew McLaughlin, Melissa Campbell, Frances Lennox, Alice Farrell (USA), Isa Kearney, Michael McCabe, Phil Shore, Ian Gilchrist, Bried Carr (England), Nora McMutrie (Oxfordshire) and Frances Dougan (Carlisle).

FR BENJAMIN. Our good wishes go to Fr Benjamin as he takes up his new post at Our Lady & St Cuthbert's, Maybole. We thank him for his assistance in our parishes despite the healthcare restrictions. We hope he is happy and fulfilled in his new ministry.

JUSTICE AND PEACE SPECIAL COLLECTION. Will be taken up over the next few weekends.

NEW WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES. Are still available at St John's. If you wish to pay your collection through the bank or gift aid your donation (if you pay tax) there are forms available in the Church.

SUNDAY TEAS. Why not pop into the parish halls after Mass for a cuppa and a chat. Current restrictions are still in place, ie, track and trace and face coverings will need to be worn inside hall when moving around.

MONEY COLLECTED AT CRIB. Will be forwarded to St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society.

52ND AYRSHIRE / 1ST SALTCOATS SCOUT GROUP—A PLEA FOR HELP. We find ourselves in a position where we need YOUR help desperately so that Scouting can continue here in Saltcoats. We need people to work with the young people in the Beavers (aged 6 – 8), the Cubs (aged 8 – 10 ½) and the Scouts (aged 10 ½ - 14). We also need someone to manage the group, someone who would support the leaders. If you think you can help in any way please get in touch with Pat Campbell 01563 526325 or Margaret Craik 07747770687. Please see poster in church and parish hall noticeboard and parish website for more information.

CHANA. The Lunch Club meets in the Kirkgate every Friday.

2022 PARISH DIARIES. £1 from both church stalls.

“IN GOD'S IMAGE VERSION 2. 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. 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.

ST MARY'S SVDP. Please call 07379 400 568. **ST JOHN'S SVDP.** Please call 07498 501 326.

FOODBANK STEVENSTON. St John's Hall from 4pm to 5pm on Wednesdays.

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 will see clients face to face at the Connexions centre, Irvine or at any office location. Please call our freephone number which is 0800 328 0006.

HOMEWORK FOR THIS WEEK Today, the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, let us ponder the day of our Baptism. All of us were baptised, let us give thanks for this gift. I ask you a question: which of you knows the date of your Baptism? Surely not everyone. Therefore, I encourage you to find out the date, by asking, for example, your parents, your grandparents, your godparents, or going to the parish. It is very important to know it, because it is a date to be celebrated: it is the date of our rebirth as Children of God. For this reason, homework for this week: go and find out the date of your Baptism. Celebrating that day means and reaffirms our adherence to Jesus, with the commitment to live as Christians, members of the Church and of a new humanity, in which all are brothers and sisters. **Pope Francis**

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: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Thus says the Lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flames. Faithfully he brings true justice; he will neither waver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, The Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and form you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon., **The Word of the Lord**

PSALM 28

R/ The Lord will bless his people with peace

1. O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Adore the Lord in his holy court **R/**
- 2.. The Lord’s voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **R/**
3. The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: “Glory!” The Lord sat enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits as King for ever. **R/**

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: “The truth I have now come to realise,” he said “is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him. “It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ—but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.” **The Word of the Lord**

Gospel: Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, “I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.”



PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

Why do you think Jesus was baptised, if he is God?

What is your favourite image of God in this week’s readings? What about that image brings you comfort?

What is your relationship with the Holy Spirit like? Do you ever pray to the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?

How do you prepare the way of the Lord in your family, neighbourhood, career and community?

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for January - We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

The Bible in a Year Podcast. This podcast can be found on YouTube or on your podcast app.

***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

Rev Robert Mackie is chaplain for Ayr hospital.

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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.