



St John the Evangelist
Stevenson

20th March 2022 Third Sunday of Lent Year C

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
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	6pm Reception Robert Swan	10am Funeral Mass (L) Andy Millar	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	10am Funeral Mass Robert Swan	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Funeral Mass (L) Bernard Cassidy	10am Mass (L)
Thursday	—————	10am Mass (L)	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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS. During Lent. **St Mary's**—9.30am every Tuesday and **St John's**—7pm every Friday

THE SYNOD OF THE CHURCH IN ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S. . The Church of God is brought together in Synod. We are including the Synopses of the responses with today's bulletin. Please feel free to submit comments using the sheet provided with the Synopses. We are currently seeking the views of those who have children at our schools by means of a short questionnaire. If you wish to take part in the Synod on line the full questions are available - either in paper format at the back of the Church or online, the link is: <https://form.jotform.com/213292942112954> Please continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in this important process.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES. **St Peter's, Ardrossan**—Monday 4th April at 7pm; **St John's, Stevenston**—Tuesday 5th April at 7pm and **St Mary's, Saltcoats**— Wednesday 6th April at 2pm.

Please remember the following deaths in your prayers

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

Robert Swan RIP—Prayers of Reception will take place on Monday (21st) at 6pm in St John's Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday (22nd) at 10am. Followed by burial in High Road Cemetery

Bernard Cassidy RIP—Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday (23rd) at 10am in St Mary's followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery

Elizabeth Law RIP—Funeral Service will take place in Holmsford Bridge Crematorium on Friday (25th) at 3.30pm

Francis Ferguson RIP—Funeral Service will take place in Masonhill Crematorium on Friday 1st April at 2.45pm.

+May they rest in peace+

ROSARY FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE. Will be held on Friday (25th) in George Square, Glasgow at 6.30pm. On the day that Pope Francis will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, please come along to George Square at 6.30pm and join with Archbishop Nolan and the other Scottish Bishops in praying the Holy Rosary for Peace in the Ukraine and for all those affected by this tragic conflict.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Anniversaries: Philip Burns (2nd), Connell Thomas, Annie McKeever, John Dunwoodie, Elizabeth Molaney and Cathrine Girvan

Recently deceased: Francis Ferguson, Kevin Traynor (Northern Ireland), Elaine Stratton (Glasgow), Jim Butler, Marie Louise Paterson, Betty Law, Elliott Gibson, Robert Swan, Andy Millar and Bernard Cassidy.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Fourth Sunday in Lent Year C; Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 33; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3. 11-32

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: Philip Burns (2nd), Connell Thomas, Annie McKeever, John Dunwoodie, Elizabeth Molaney, Cathrine Girvan, Billy Convery, Justine McAllister, James Ward, Bridget Ward, Joseph Ward, Sarah Crawford, Luke Gargan, Patrick Hamilton Jnr, Ellen McGarvey and Bridget MacDonald

Those who have died recently: Francis Ferguson, Kevin Traynor (Northern Ireland), Elaine Stratton (Glasgow), Jim Butler, Marie Louise Paterson, Rina Donald, Sirio Nardini, Jim Carragher (Ayr), Betty Law, Andy Millar, Bridget Rooney, Elliott Gibson, Robert Swan, Sr Paola Miosec, Bernard Cassidy, Alex McCann (Australia), Ann Gaffney (Whitburn), Paul Green, Margaret Russell (Kilbirnie), Peter Gallagher, Cathrine McCreath and Henry McCarthy.

UKRANIAN CRISIS. Thanks to all who donated goods/cash to the appeal. Thanks also go to the parishioners who helped with the collection on the day. Due to the volume of clothing donated, we will have to postpone the collection due at St John's on Friday 25th. A new date will be announced shortly.

LEPRA SPECIAL COLLECTION. St Mary's £1,127.07. St John's £726.38

SCIAF—UKRAINE APPEAL. St Mary's £1,780.93. St John's £1033.25

MARYS MEALS. We wish to inform you that after much consideration Marys Meals have taken the difficult decision to end the Backpack Project. Due to logistical problems and increased transportation costs they feel it is no longer sustainable. They wish to focus on feeding the many many hungry children living in the world's poorest countries with a nutritious meal each school day. We would like to thank everyone, who over the past years, has helped us fill & send nearly 3,000 backpacks. We would also like to assure you that any money left in our funds and any future money donations will be forwarded to Marys Meals to help them in this very important work.

ST. MARY'S WEEKLY ENVELOPES. Those of you who use weekly offering envelopes may pick up your new sets for the coming year from the Sacristy or the parish office. If you are a tax payer and wish to Gift Aid your collection please consider doing so-it makes such a difference. Please contact the parish office.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE. This Lent the 40 Days for Life prayer group in Scotland will hold its annual vigil outside the maternity unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Glasgow until Palm Sunday 10th April, from 8am until 8pm the site will be manned daily. As you can imagine this is a big undertaking, but we have managed to do it for the past five years. Today I ask you to join the Pro Life cause by signing up for a slot during the 40 days – come hail, rain or shine. Usually, people give an hour of their time when we say the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries. We have placards if you want one – my favourite is from Jeremiah “ Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.” We do get hassle from time to time from passing motorists, but we also get support. If you want to help to try to turn the tide from a Culture of Death to a Culture of Life please contact Matt Lynch on 0797 12343 13.

NEW SAFEGUARDING AGENCY BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE. The latest issue of the Safeguarding Matters newsletter (available: <https://bit.ly/3tyeInn>) provides details of what the agency will do, who it will work with and how it will be governed.

SUNDAY TEAS. After 10am and 11.30am Masses. Face coverings will need to be worn inside hall when moving around.

CHANA. The Lunch Club meets in the Kirkgate every Friday from 12.30pm—2pm.

“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. Instead of us sitting in the hall waiting for customers we have decided to open a phone line to respond to those in need of groceries. The number is 07437 521930

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.

DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD. Are you thinking about being a Priest in 2022? The Diocese of Galloway is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information please contact Fr. Martin Chambers at: martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

SCOTTISH LAITY NETWORK – LENTEN JOURNEY 2022. Please see posters on noticeboards or parish website.

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: Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was a bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. "I must go and look at this strange sight," Moses said "and see why the bush is not burnt." Now the Lord saw him go forward to look and God called to him from the middle of the bush. "Moses, Moses!" he said. "Here I am" he answered. "Come no nearer" he said. "take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father," he said "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, "I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow." Then Moses said to God, "I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?" And God said to Moses, "I am who I Am. This" he added "is what you must say to the sons of Israel: 'I Am has sent me to you.'" And God also said to Moses, "You are to say to the sons of Israel: 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come."

The Word of the Lord

PSALM 102

R/ The Lord is compassion and love

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name,. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R/**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **R/**
3. The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons. **R/**
4. The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. **R/**

Second Reading: I Corinthians 10:1-6. 10-12

I want to remind you, brothers, how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses and this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert. These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer. All this happened to them as a warning, and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

It was just about this time that some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them. "Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did." He told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, 'Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?' 'Sir', the man replied 'leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

Do you get frustrated when you do all you can to live a holy life, and bad things still happen? Has there been a particularly frustrating situation recently? How do you deal with earthly suffering?

Do you have any experience watching a fruitless fig tree finally begin to bloom? Did you give up on it, or fight to keep it planted?

Has God ever broken into your life in a radical scene, like Moses encountering the burning bush?

Is there anyone in your life who lives as an example to you of how to grow in holiness? How did you encounter this person's story? How does looking at the story of someone else's faith influence your own growth?

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for March. *A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges - We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.*

Online Lenten Retreats *Pray as You Go - pray-as-you-go.org/retreats-and-series/; Ignatian Spirituality Centre Glasgow - www.iscglasgow.co.uk/; Sacred Space - www.sacredspace.ie/content/lent-a-springtime-for-the-spirit*

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.