



St John the Evangelist
Stevenson

30th July 2023

Seventeenth Sunday of Year A

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 Ursula and Sr Anna
 Canon Matt McManus (Retired)



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	_____	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Mass (L)	_____	10am Mass (L)
Thursday	_____	10am Mass (L) 6pm Prayers of Reception Gilbert Templeton	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Funeral Mass (L) Gilbert Templeton	10am Mass (L)
Saturday	_____	4.30pm Vigil Mass (L)	5.30pm Vigil Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

L = LIVESTREAMED

GOSPEL REFLECTION. Livestreamed Monday at 7pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION. Saturday 10.30am-11am in St John's. 3.45pm-4.15pm in St Mary's
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. St Mary's Tuesday 9.30am-10am.

SYNOD NEWS. Fr Jan Nowotnik – who is Director of Mission for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales was appointed as one of the voting members of the upcoming General Assembly of the Synod, set to take place in October. Ultimately, he says, synodality is a matter of “helping us to understand what the Lord is asking of us to do now, rooted in our tradition, rooted in our teaching, and that desire to walk with each other and accompany each other on the journey which we share as our common baptismal heritage.” **Vatican News**

Please remember the following deaths in your prayers

Gilbert Templeton RIP
Margaret Dickie RIP

Gilbert's Prayers of Reception will take place on Thursday at 6pm in St Mary's
 Funeral Mass on Friday at 10am. Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery

Margaret's Prayers of Reception will take place on Tuesday 15th at 6pm in St Mary's
 Funeral Mass on Wednesday 16th at 10am. Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery

+May they rest in peace+

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Sp Int: 13yr old Sick (Cancer)

Anniversaries: Alec McCann (4th), Des Blanche, Annie Cavani, Ellen Hastings, Isabel Platts (Bell), Joe Murray and John McGarvey

Recently deceased: Mary MacDonald (Sister of Canon Pat Keegans), Mary Monroe, Elsie Brankin (Coatbridge), Helen Curran (County Longford, Ireland), Margaret Dickie, Gilbert Templeton, Davena Reid and Agnes Crawford.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Eighteenth Sunday of Year A: Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 144; Romans 8:35. 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes and Family Special Intentions

Sp Int: 13yr old Sick (Cancer)

Those who have an anniversary: Alec McCann (4th), Des Blanche, Annie Cavani, Ellen Hastings, Isabel Platts (Bell), Joe Murray, John McGarvey, Matthew Brady, Rose Brady (Sr Anne of Jesus), Agnes Lennon (15 months mind), Bill & Mona Smith, Margaret Morrison, David Stevenston, John Quinn and Flora Cameron.

Those who have died recently: Mary MacDonald (Sister of Canon Pat Keegans), Mary Monroe, Elsie Brankin (Coatbridge), Helen Curran (County Longford, Ireland), Margaret Dickie, Gilbert Templeton, Agnes Crawford, Sadie Sloss, Dave McCurry, Theresa Quidley, Davena Reid, Helen Watson, Simonne Mathivat, Naden Veeramootoo, Peter Gallacher, Ellen Madden, Effie Speirs (Blantyre), Frank Keegans, Helen Lynn, Peter Conaghan (Donegal) and Francis Yang.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN. Will take place on Sunday 27th August 2023 with Mass at St Ninian's Cave at 4pm, with Archbishop Leo Cushely as celebrant. There will be Mass in the church of St Martin and St Ninian at 4.30pm for those unable to walk to the beach. If anyone is interested in travelling by bus please add your name to the sign up sheet in both church porches. Please note this year because of increased fuel prices there will be a charge of £6/person to offset costs.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN. To pray for peace in the world, especially in the Ukraine on Sunday 3rd September 2023. Holy Mass at 3pm with Main celebrant Bishop Hugh Gilbert —President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, followed by a Rosary Procession. All welcome.

THE 2023 NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO PRAY FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF THE VENERABLE MARGARET SINCLAIR. Will take place on Sunday 17th September from 12.30pm - 6pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1NA. 12.30pm-1.50pm. Refreshments and sale of candles & goods; 2pm Holy Hour with Rosary, Confession, Silence, Hymns & Benediction; 3pm Reflection & Novena Prayers; 3.30pm Break for refreshments and sale of candles & goods; 4.30pm Holy Mass.

ST MARY'S CHURCH CLEANERS. We currently only have 4 volunteers who clean our church. If you can spare 1-2hrs every Thursday (after Mass) we would love to hear from you. If we get enough volunteers we could have teams and this would mean only volunteering every other week. Please contact Canon Martin, the parish office or just come along on a Thursday.

ST MARY'S SUNDAY TEAS. Will return after a few weeks holiday.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS FUNDRAISER. Will take place in St Mary's Parish Hall on Sunday 20th August at 2pm. Tickets are priced at £5 which includes tea/coffee. Tickets are available from Kathleen Quinn (Kilwinning) on 01294 556986 or from Maureen Moffat at St Mary's Stall.

ST JOHN'S ANNUAL SUMMER FETE "REVIEWED DATE". St John's will be holding their Annual Summer Fete in the Church hall on Sunday 10th September 2023. We will also be celebrating the 60th anniversary of St John's so are looking for ideas to help with the celebrations. Perhaps different types of stalls or fundraising events that could help mark our 60th Anniversary. If you would like to help in anyway or have any ideas please speak to any of St John's Church Hall Committee or phone Brenda 07812758415 or Lorna 07833347035

MINISTRY. Opportunity to take part in ministries in the Church and in the parish. For more information please complete the form available and return it as soon as possible.

PARISH HALLS. To book any of our halls please call the Parish Office on 463461 for St Mary's and Michael Lafferty on 461234 for St John's. Please note booking form has to be completed to confirm your booking.

SVDP. Please call 07379 400 568 for St Mary's. Please call 07498 501 326 for St John's. Please call 07825 726 904 for St Peter's.

FOODBANK STEVENSTON. 07437 521 930.

R.C.I.A. Anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or joining the Church should contact the parish office or Canon Martin.

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions for August 2023 - For World Youth Day. We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives. The Holy Father will celebrate Mass with the young people in Lisbon next Sunday. www.lisboa2023.org

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: I Kings 3:5. 7-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared in a dream to Solomon during the night. God said, "Ask what you would like me to give you." Solomon replied, "Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. "Since you have asked for this," the Lord said, "and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you." **The Word of the Lord**

PSALM: 118

R/ Lord, how I love your law!

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word. The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold **R/**
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant. Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. **R/**
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold. That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. **R/**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. **R/**

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory. **The Word of the Lord**

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said to his disciples, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They said, "Yes". And he said to them, "Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old."



PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

What do you truly value? Consider where you spend your money, your time, and your attention. Do they align with what you claim is important to you?

Where and when have you encountered God in such a way that it brought you great joy and wonder?

What have you been called to sacrifice for commitment to the Christian life? How does that make you feel?

*I knew an old religious brother who was the doorman of a boarding school, and every time he could, he would approach the chapel, look at the altar, and say, "Hello", because he was close to Jesus. He didn't need to say blah blah blah, no: "Hello, I am close to you and you are close to me". This is the relationship we must have in prayer: closeness, affective closeness, as brothers and sisters, closeness with Jesus. A smile, a simple gesture, and not reciting words that do not reach the heart. As I said, talk to Jesus as a friend talks to another friend. **Pope Francis.***

COST OF LIVING CRISIS. Funds currently available to assist St Mary's parishioners who need help to cope with rising energy and food costs. Need assistance, please phone 07379 400 568. All contacts will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

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

The Bible and Catechism in a Year Podcast with Fr Mike Schmitz. 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.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY: The hospital chaplains of Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals are pleased to visit patients on request. For general visiting in Crosshouse Hospital please contact Fr Stephen McGrattan at stephenmcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01563 521832. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri at benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01655 882145. For the urgent or emergency assistance of a chaplain please ask the hospital staff to page the priest on call.

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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.