



St John the Evangelist
St4evnston

18th February 2024

First Sunday in Lent 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.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
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	—————	12.45pm Funeral Mass Eddie Clarke	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	—————	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Mass (L)	—————	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 Vigil Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

L = LIVESTREAMED

GOSPEL REFLECTION. Livestreamed on Monday at 7pm

EXPOSITION. St John's-Friday 10.30am-11am

RECONCILIATION. St John's—Saturday 10am-10.30am. St. Mary's— Saturday 3.45pm - 4.15pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS. During Lent: Tuesday at 9.30am in St Mary's led by the Synod Group. Friday at 7pm in St John's led by the Caritas Students from St Matthews. There will be tea in the hall afterwards on Friday.

SCIAF—HAVE YOU GOT YOUR WEE BOX? This Lent, use your WEE BOX to make a BIG CHANGE in the lives of our sisters and brothers overseas, especially women and girls in Rwanda. If you don't yet have a WEE BOX at home, please pick one up today, [visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox](http://visit.sciaf.org.uk/weebox) or call 0141 354 5555.

SYNOD NEWS. One of the objectives of the next session of the Synod (in October) is to identify the paths we can follow and the tools we might adopt in our different contexts and circumstances in order to enhance the unique contribution of each baptised person and of each Church in the one mission of proclaiming the Risen Lord and his Gospel to the world today. **"Towards October 2024", the outline for the Final Session of the Synod.**

Please remember the following death in your prayers

Eddie Clarke RIP

Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Monday at 12.45pm in St Mary's.

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

+May he rest in peace+

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Anniversaries: Chrissie Coleman, James MacDonald (1st), Bridget Ward (20th), Ellen McCarroll Reilly (70th). Mary Ann & Con McGeehan, Bridie Reid, Harry Crawford, James (Bud), Cassidy, Patrick Joseph Hamilton Snr, Robert Ferguson (3rd), Brendan Dorrian and Deceased members of the O'Pray family

Recently deceased: Sarah Armstrong, Brian Hodge, Anne Blair (Irvine), Stephen Hughes, Mark Quinn, Eddie Clarke and May Hand.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: *Second Sunday in Lent*
Year B: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Psalm 115; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes.

Special Intention: Sick

Those who have an anniversary: Chrissie Coleman, James MacDonald (1st), Bridget Ward (20th), Ellen McCarroll Reilly (70th). Mary Anne & Con Meehan, Bridie Reid, Harry Crawford, James (Bud) Cassidy, Patrick Joseph Hamilton Snr, Robert Ferguson (3rd), Brendan Dorrian, Deceased members of the O'Pray family, Joseph McGarvey, John Ross, Pat Maxwell, Peter Finnegan, Anne Hughes, Tommy Murphy and Albert Garrett.

Those who have died recently: Sarah Armstrong, Brian Hodge, Anne Blair (Irvine), Stephen Hughes, Mark Quinn, James McGuire, Eddie Clarke, May Hand, Janette Sweeney, Mary Meechan, Alison Trayner, Alan Anderson, Karen Watts, Jim Hammond, Lucie Franssens-Muller, Robert Robinson, Ella Henderson, Lydia Monaghan, Mary Wilson and George Ross.

BISHOP FOR THE DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY. Fr. Frank Dougan will be ordained Bishop of Galloway on Saturday, 9th March 2024 at 11am in St. Peter's in Chains, Ardrossan. He will be installed in St. Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on the 10th March 2024 at 3pm. A limited numbers of tickets per parish have been allocated both for St Peter's and for the Cathedral. If you would like to attend either of these occasions please place your name and contact number on the sheet in the porch and names will be drawn after Mass on Tuesday 27th in St Mary's and Wednesday 28th in St John's.

ST JOHN'S SVDP. Are collecting non perishable food for the Crisis Bags they share with the High Kirk.

THE RITE OF ELECTION. Will take place in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr today at 3pm.

2024 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—FRIDAY 1ST MARCH. This year's service has been written by Christian Women from Palestine, with the theme 'I beg you to bear with one another in love' Ephesians 4:1-3. **In Saltcoats** the service will take place in Adelaide College, Nineyards Street at 2pm. **In Stevenston** the host Church is St John's also at 2pm. To which everyone is invited.

ST MARY'S STALL. Now have St Patricks' Day cards, Mother's Day cards, Easter Cards and St Bridget's Crosses on sale. Maureen also has a collection of thimbles if anyone is interested.

SOUP AND CHAT. St. John's Church Hall Mondays 11.30am-1.30pm. St Mary's Church Hall Wednesdays 11.30am-1.30pm

ROME TRIP. A meeting has been arranged regarding a possible Rome trip, this will take place on Thursday 29th February in St Mary's church at 7pm with a presentation about Rome and a Q&A.

PILGRIMAGE OF PRAYER—ST MARY'S, LARGS. Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be designated a Year of Prayer, as a preparation for the Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope" in 2025. The Year of Prayer is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God and rediscover anew the power of prayer. We are being encouraged to reflect on our life of prayer: what we pray, how and why we pray. This is for two reasons: 1) To encourage people to go deeper in their commitment to pray, and in their love of God; 2) To think about how they might accompany someone else to pray during the coming Year of Prayer. To facilitate this we will be offering a series of "Pilgrimage of Prayer" workshops exploring a variety of different ways of praying, throughout this year. Workshops will take place in St Mary's, Largs, parish hall or church at 2pm on the first Saturday of the month. Our Pilgrimage of Prayer workshops will include: The Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Guided Meditation, Taizé Prayer, Prayer and Praise, Prayer and Sacred Art, The Divine Office, Our Lady Untier of Knots, Prayer and Sacred Music. All welcome.

ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S SUNDAY TEAS. Takes place after both Sunday Masses.

DRUMALIS. Will take place on 17th-19th May 2024. Please contact Anne Brennan on 604591 before the end of February to book a place.

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

THE SCOTTISH CATHOLIC HERITAGE COLLECTIONS TRUST (SCHCT). Is working with the Bishops' Conference of Scotland to create a new museum of Scottish Catholic History. We would love your help by spending a few minutes answering a short survey. The survey can be found at: <https://forms.office.com/e/6D7EuB8EvU>.

PROPOSED NEW LAW THREATENS TO CRIMINALISE PRAYER IN SCOTLAND. For more information and action plan visit: [Buffer Zones – Catholic Parliamentary Office \(rcpolitics.org\)](https://www.rcpolitics.org)

ST MARY'S CHURCH CLEANERS. Helpers still required on Thursday at 10.30am.

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.



GOSPEL: Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come" he said "and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News."

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

In the first reading God institutes a covenant between himself and the earth. What role do you see creation playing on our relationship with God?

The psalm says, "Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant." How would you like to grow in love and faithfulness this Lenten season?

Today's verse before the gospel reminds us, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" What nourishment have you received from God's word recently?

After Jesus's baptism, the Spirit drives "Jesus out into the wilderness." Where do you find solitude and quiet to be with God?

Holy Year FB page is Holy Year Scotland 2025 and can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/holyyearsScotland2025>

Mark's Gospel. He proclaims: "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand"; and then he cautions, "repent, and believe in the gospel", that is, believe in this Good News that the kingdom of God is at hand. In our lives, we always need to convert — every day! —, and the Church invites us to pray for this. **Pope Francis**

X/TWITTER ACCOUNT. Has started so that members can be up-to-date on parish events and other news. The X/Twitter handle is [@stmarysstjohns](https://twitter.com/stmarysstjohns) for those who wish to follow it.

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 stephen.mcgrattan@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.