



St John the Evangelist
St4evnston

11th February 2024

Sixth Sunday of 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	_____	_____	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Ash Wednesday	11am & 7pm Mass with distribution of Ashes	10am Mass (L) with distribution of Ashes	10am Mass (L) 7pm Mass (L)
Thursday	10am Funeral Mass George Ross	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Funeral Mass (L) May Hand	10am Mass (L)
Saturday	9am Funeral Mass Mary Meechan	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 Mary's—Tuesday 9.30am—10am. **RECONCILIATION.** St. Mary's— Saturday 3.45pm - 4.15pm.

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and a Day of Fasting and Abstinence. School Services will take place in both schools.

SCIAF launch the WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal on Ash Wednesday. This year's Lent appeal focuses on communities in Rwanda. In April 1994, 100 days of mass genocide began in Rwanda. Thirty years on, Rwanda and its people are still recovering from the genocide that ripped their country apart and the deep trauma it left behind. This Lent, use your WEE BOX to make a BIG CHANGE. To find out more please visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox or call 0141 354 5555.

Please remember the following deaths in your prayers

George Ross RIP

Mark Quinn RIP

May Hand RIP

Mary Meechan RIP

Eddie Clarke RIP

George's Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday at 10am in St John's.

Followed by Cremation in Holmsford Bridge Crematorium.

Mark's Graveside Service will take place on Thursday at 2pm in Ardrossan Cemetery.

May's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Friday at 10am in St Mary's.

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

Mary's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Saturday at 9am St John's.

Followed by cremation in Clyde Coast & Garnock Valley Crematorium.

Eddie's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Monday 19th at 12.45pm in St Mary's.

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

+May they rest in peace+

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Sp Int: Sick

Anniversaries: Joseph McGarvey, John Ross, Pat Maxwell, Peter Finnegan, Anne Hughes, Tommy Murphy and Albert Garrett.

Recently deceased: Stephen Hughes, Mark Quinn, Eddie Clarke, May Hand, Janette Sweeney (Portaferry), Mary Meechan, Alison Trayner and Peter Stoney.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: First Sunday in Lent Year B: Genesis 9:8-15; Psalm 24; I Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes.

Special Intention: Sick and William & Grace Lundie RIP (Wedding Ann)

Those who have an anniversary: Joseph McGarvey, John Ross, Pat Maxwell, Peter Finnegan, Anne Hughes, Tommy Murphy, Albert Garrett, Moira Grant (6th), Elizabeth Dunwoodie, John Girvan, Ellan Jane Harbinson, Agnes Hazelton, Patsy Reid, Margaret Nellis, Rachel Cairnie, Michael Boyd and Pat Monan Snr.

Those who have died recently: 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. Francis 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. Details regarding tickets for St. Peter's and the Cathedral will be available when we know.

BISHOP ELECT—FR MARTIN CHAMBERS. Congratulations and good wishes were sent on behalf of both parishes and Fr Martin replies 'Nervous and hopeful at the same time. I'm sure there will be highs and lows but as long as I keep myself connected with family and friends we'll be able to do God's work'.

CONFIRMATION. Congratulations to all our Candidates who were Confirmed last Tuesday. Thank you to all who assisted with their preparation in school, at Church and at home. Thanks also to those who assisted with the celebration both in the Church and in the Church hall.

THE RITE OF ELECTION. Will take place in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr, on Sunday 18th February, at 3pm.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED ABUSE. Next Friday is the Day of Prayer for those who have suffered abuse—please keep this intention in your prayers.

2024 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. 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 on Friday 1st March 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 Bridgets Crosses on sale. Maureen also has a collection of thimbles if anyone is interested.

THE DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK MASS. Will be held today (Sunday) at 4pm in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr. Following Mass there will be refreshments in the hall and the AGM of Galloway Lourdes Hospitalité.

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

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.

SYNOD NEWS. There will be a worldwide meeting of Parish Priests called "Parish Priests for the Synod" in Rome in April. This is in response to the findings of delegates at the Synod last October, who identified the need to "develop ways for a more active involvement of deacons, priests, and bishops in the synodal process during the coming year." "A synodal Church," the participants had written, "cannot do without their voices, their experiences, and their contribution." It is expected that there will be around 300 delegates from all over the world. **Vatican 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

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

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>.

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

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 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: "If you want to" he said "you can cure me." Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. "Of course I want to!" he said. "Be cured!" And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, "Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery." The man went away, but he started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

- *In the first reading from Leviticus we hear of people with leprosy being ostracised from the community due to fear over their disease. Which groups in your community face ostracism and isolation due to fear?*
- *The responsorial psalm lifts up the joy to be found in the Lord, even in the midst of trouble. Where do you experience the most joy in your life at this moment?*
- *St Paul urges the Corinthians to "do it for the glory of God." How does your parish community live out this command?*
- *We hear that Jesus is "feeling sorry for him" at the plight of the leper and reaches out to touch him, breaking the law at the time. How as Christians shall we respond when law, rules or regulations stand in the way of compassion?*

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

"Compassion" is a most profound word: compassion means "to suffer-with-another". Jesus' heart manifests God's paternal compassion for that man, moving close to him and touching him. And this detail is very important. Jesus "stretched out his hand and touched him.... And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean". **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.