



St John the Evangelist
St4evnston

8th September 2024 Twenty Third 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	6pm Prayers of Reception James Ferguson	—————	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	10am Funeral Mass James Ferguson	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Funeral Mass (L) Ian McGale
Wednesday	10am Mass (L) 1.30pm Mass in St John's PS	—————	10am Mass (L)
Thursday	—————	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Funeral Mass June Trundle	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. Will return in September

RECONCILIATION. St. John's—Saturday 10.30am-11am. St Mary's—Saturday 3.45pm-4.15pm
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. NOT ON THIS WEEK

Please remember the following deaths in your prayers

James Ferguson RIP

June Trundle RIP

Margaret Smyth RIP

James' Prayers of Reception will take place on Monday 9th September at 6pm in St John's.
Funeral Mass on Tuesday 10th at 10am. Followed by Cremation in Holmsford Bridge Crematorium.
June's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Friday (13th) at 10am in St Mary's.
Followed by burial in Ardrossan cemetery

Margaret's Prayers of Reception will take place on Sunday 22nd September at 5pm in St Mary's.
Funeral Mass on Monday 23rd at 10am. Followed by burial in Dalry Cemetery

+May they rest in peace+

SYNOD NEWS. The terms synodal, derived from the ancient and constant ecclesial practice of gathering in synod, have been better understood and, above all, lived thanks to the experience of recent years. They have been increasingly associated with the "desire for the Church of God's home and family, a Church that is closer to the lives of Her people, less bureaucratic and more relational", the home and family of God. *Towards the Second Session of the Synodal Assembly (October 2024).*

RETIRED PRIESTS FUND—SPECIAL COLLECTION. Will take place at all masses this weekend. Envelopes are available for those who wish to Gift Aid their Donation.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Special Intention: 70th Anniversary of Religious Life

Anniversaries: Frances Donnelly (1st), Tommy McFarlane, Matt Lunardi, Mary Rourke, Catherine Bannerman, Helen McCall, Georgina McWhirter, Tommy Kirk (10th), Tracey Lafferty Fitzsimmons and David Dunbar.

Recently deceased: A. Petrie, June Trundle, Betty McCafferty (Hamilton), Campbell Wilson, Willie Burns, Jan McGabe, Raymond McGhee, James Ferguson, James Carroll (Glasgow) and Margaret Smyth.

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: *Twenty Fourth Sunday of Year B;* Isaiah 50:5-9; Psalm 114; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes.

Special Intention: 70th Anniversary of Religious Life

Those who have an anniversary: Frances Donnelly (1st), Tommy McFarlane, Matt Lunardi, Mary Rourke, Catherine Bannerman, Helen McCall, Georgina McWhirter, Tommy Kirk (10th), Tracey Lafferty Fitzsimmons, David Dunbar, Michael Pollock, Emily McCarney, James O'Meara, Alex Doherty and Charles McRoberts.

Those who have died recently: A. Petrie, June Trundle, Betty McCafferty (Hamilton), Campbell Wilson, Willie Burns, Jan McGabe, James Carroll (Glasgow), Raymond McGhee, Gertrude Robertson (Kilmarnock), James Ferguson, Jenna Doig (Coatbridge), Danny Thompson, Margaret Smyth, M. Devenay and John Gallagher.

CONGRATULATIONS To Beatrice and Tommy McCann who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary this weekend.

THANK YOU. To all who supported St John's Fete last Sunday which raised £3,858. Special thanks to the hall committee and all who donated prizes including local businesses.

ST MARY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL. Will meet this coming Thursday at 7pm in the parish house.

ST MARY'S SVDP. Are collecting toiletries— shampoo/conditioner, shower gel/soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, roll on antiperspirants only and would be grateful for any support you can give them. Items can be left in the marked box in the porch. Thank you.

ST MARY'S , LARGS—PARISH FESTIVAL. Will take place from 16th September until 29th September. More details and full programme are available in both parish noticeboards or the parish website.

2024 NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO PRAY FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF THE VENERABLE MARGARET SINCLAIR. Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh on Sunday 22nd September 2024 from 12.30–1.30pm. Goods and Candles for Sale, Tea & Coffee; 1.30–2.30pm Holy Hour (Exposition, Rosary, Benediction, Confessions); 2.45–3.15pm Individual Priestly Blessings at the Shrine of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair; 3.30–4.15pm Reflection on the Venerable Margaret Sinclair, Novena Prayers, Presentation from Pupils of Sinclair Academy; 4.30pm Holy Mass

GALLOWAY DIOCESAN CHOIR. Is looking to recruit new members who enjoy singing as part of a group and are committed to the enhancement of the liturgy through music. This four-part choir has been in existence in its present form for 24 years. They lead the music at diocesan events at least twice a year, and the rehearsal period runs from September to March (with a break in December/January). Rehearsals take place in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on Wednesday evenings from 7.15 pm until about 8.45 pm. The first rehearsal of the new season is on Wednesday 18th September at 7.15 pm. If you are interested in joining them or would like more information please contact: David Robinson at david.robinson.mj@gmail.com or on 07714 340854.

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.

ST JOHN'S SVDP. Are collecting non perishable food for the Crisis Bags they share with the High Kirk. The members of St. John's SVDP Conference wish to thank everyone who donated prizes for the Wheel of Fortune, which contributed to the success of the Garden Fete last Sunday.

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.

ST MARY'S PARISH OFFICE. Will be closed until Wednesday 18th September.

SOUP AND CHAT. Will reopen again this Wednesday 11.30am-1.30pm.

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

FOODBANK STEVENSTON. 07437 521 930.

SVDP. Please call 07379400568 for St Mary's. Please call 07498501326 for St John's. Please call 07825726904 for St Peter's.



St Mary's, Stevenston & St John's, Stevenston RC Parish Communities

We Are on 



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important dates
and critical celebrations
in the RC calendar.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION

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

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

LOOKING FOR A LATE CATHOLIC GAP YEAR? Do you know anybody who is Catholic, aged around 18 to 22 and still not got anything lined up for the year ahead? Castlerigg Manor (the Diocese of Lancaster retreat centre, located in the Lake District) are still looking for young people to join their youth ministry in internship scheme. The scheme provides comprehensive training and experience as well as accommodation and food for the year, and a stipend each week. Anyone who is interested can check out castleriggmanor.com >> join the team, or Email Jack Regan – director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed: and he said to him, "Ephphatha", that is, "Be opened" and his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. "He has done all things well," they said "he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak."



PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

The prophet Isaiah speaks of God's desire and intention to heal every ill. Where are you in need to healing?

God instructs Isaiah, "Say to all faint hearts: Courage! Do not be afraid." Where has being afraid crept into your life and how might you give this anxiety over to God?

St James urges his community to show no partiality based on wealth and social standing. How does your parish seek to treat all as equals in God's eyes.

In the Gospel, Jesus heals a deaf man through touch and the words "Ephphatha" - that is, "Be opened!" In what ways is Jesus calling you to be more open to his wisdom and word?

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER—FOR THE CRY OF THE EARTH - We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climate change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

<https://youtu.be/yybxtLFNHCw?si=k4E6G-OU1J9vmkH>

X/TWITTER ACCOUNT. The X/Twitter handle is [@stmarysstjohns](https://twitter.com/stmarysstjohns) for those who wish to follow it.

Holy Year FB page is

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 Bible in 10 minutes video can be found on www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jm3b4Q98vx8

***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