



St John the Evangelist  
Stevenston

## 27th July 2025 Seventeenth Sunday of Year C



Our Lady Star of the Sea  
Saltcoats

**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](http://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](http://www.rcsaltcoats.com)  
and Sr Ursula and Sr Anna  
Canon Matt McManus (Retired)

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	_____	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>
Tuesday	_____	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>
Wednesday	10am Funeral Mass <b>(L)</b> <b>Jim O'Hare</b>	_____	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>
Thursday	_____	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>
Friday	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>	_____	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>
Saturday	_____	4.30pm Mass <b>(L)</b>	5.30pm Mass <b>(L)</b>
Sunday	11.30am Mass <b>(L)</b>	10am Mass <b>(L)</b>	10.30am Mass <b>(L)</b>

**L = LIVESTREAMED**

**GOSPEL REFLECTION.** Will return in August

**EXPOSITION:** St Mary's—Tuesday 9.30am-10am. St John's—Friday at 10.30am-11am.  
**RECONCILIATION:** St Mary's Saturday 3.45pm—4.15pm. St John's Saturday 10.30am-11am.

*Please remember the following deaths in your prayers*

**Robert Stirling RIP**

**Jim O'Hare RIP**

**Elizabeth Sinclair RIP**

Robert's Funeral Service will take place tomorrow (Monday) at 11.30am in Holmsford Bridge Crematorium, Dreghorn.

Jim's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday at 10am in St John's.

Followed by burial in Hawkhill Cemetery.

Elizabeth's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Monday 11th August at 10am in St Mary's.

Followed by burial in Hawkhill Cemetery.

**+May they rest in peace+**

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for July.** Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel. **See the video at <https://thepopevideo.org/>**

**SPECIAL COLLECTION.** For Day for Life will take place at all masses next weekend.

**THANK YOU.** For all the good wishes, cards and gifts for my birthday last weekend. Special thanks to all who arranged the party in St John's hall.

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

**THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:**

**Birthday Intentions:** Celia McCann (RIP) and Canon Martin

**Anniversaries:** Matthew Brady, Sr Anne of Jesus (Rose Brady), John McGarvey, Martin Maughan (7 months mind), Sandra Convery, Rita McCann (Ferguson), Jimmy McCann, George & Ali Burnett and Annie Cavani.

**Recently deceased:** Monica Brady Dillon, Jim O'Hare, Elizabeth Sinclair and Robert Stirling.

*Masses are celebrated also by Fr Benjamin, Fr Gerard McCabe (South Africa) plus Retired Priests and*

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: *Eighteenth Sunday of Year C; Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Psalm 94; Colossians 3:1-5.9-11; Luke 12:13-21***

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:**

**For all the sick in our parishes.**

**Birthday Intentions:** Celia McCann (RIP) and Canon Martin

**Those who have an anniversary:** Matthew Brady, Sr Anne of Jesus (Rose Brady), John McGarvey, Martin Maughan (7 months mind), Sandra Convery, Rita McCann (Ferguson), Jimmy McCann, George & Ali Burnett, Annie Cavani, Ian McCall (Paisley), Gilbert Templeton, John Murphy (3rd), Anne Meechan, Margaret Morrison, John Higgins (1st), Flora Cameron and David Gilmour.

**Those who have died recently:** Monica Brady Dillon, Jim O'Hare, Roberta Williamson, Elizabeth Sinclair, Anna Gallagher (Snr), Mary McEwan, Jo Curlewis, Ian McCall, Kathleen McCallum and Robert Stirling.

**ST JOHN'S SUMMER FETE.** Join us for our annual Summer Fete in the grounds of St John's Church Hall on Sunday 7th September! We're looking for volunteers to help run the usual variety of stalls and assist with teas and coffees on the day. If you're able to lend a hand in any way, please speak to a member of the hall committee or Canon Martin - your support would be greatly appreciated. Donations needed - we are also seeking donations for the following: raffle prizes, tombola prizes, chocolate for the chocolate tombola, bottles for the bottle stall and home baking. If you can donate items, run a stall, help with refreshments, or assist in selling raffle tickets, please get in touch with: Lorna Walker - 07833 347035, Brenda Robertson - 07812 758415 or Michael Lafferty - 07813 650411 **Please Note:** We kindly ask not to receive donations of bric-a-brac, books, toys, clothes, DVDs, or videos. Thank you for your understanding. **Summer Fete - Lucky Boxes.** Are now available for purchase at the back of the church for £1 per box. Each A4 sheet contains 6 boxes, and we would be very grateful if you could support the hall committee by taking a few sheets to sell. Your help is much appreciated!

**WHITHORN.** The Annual Whithorn Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday 31st August with Mass at the shore at 4pm. If anyone is interested in travelling there by bus please add your name to the sign up sheet in either church porch. Please note this year because of increased fuel prices there will be a charge of £8/person to offset costs.

**JUBILEE EVENT.** The parishes of North Ayrshire (St Mary's Deanery) will be joined by people from across the Diocese for our event marking 2025 as a Jubilee under the theme "Pilgrims of Hope". On Sunday 14th September - the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross - we will walk from St John's Church Stevenston to St Peter's Ardrossan on a Pilgrims of Hope walk and then have a picnic for individuals, groups & families on the grass directly in front of St Peter's (near the HMS Dasher memorial). Those unable to walk the whole distance can choose to walk from St Mary's Saltcoats, or even just meet the 'Pilgrims' at St Peter's. After the picnic we will gather in St Peter's Church for a short service and celebration. Should the weather prove too poor to picnic outside we will 'picnic' in St Peter's Hall instead. Please keep the date and start making your plans for the day. Timings are 2:30pm at St John's, 3:15pm at St Mary's with the closing liturgy starting at 5pm in St Peter's Church. All very welcome, please bring your own picnic and come equipped for the weather on the day.

**NO TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS - FASLANE CHRISTIAN PEACE VIGIL: SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST, 10.30AM TO 12 NOON, HM NAVAL BASE CLYDE, SOUTH GATE.** In the week of the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki join Justice & Peace Scotland president Archbishop William Nolan; the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt. Rev. Rosemary Frew; Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, Most Rev Mark Strange; and members of the Iona Community for an ecumenical service of prayer, reflection and hymns. All are welcome as we raise our voices for a world without nuclear weapons on the site where these affronts to humanity are housed. A free bus will be provided from Edinburgh and Glasgow. The Lothian Buses coach will arrive at Waterloo Place (beside Waverley Station) in Edinburgh at 7.30am and depart at 7.45am, then pick up in Gordon Street, Glasgow (at the front of Central Station), leaving here at 9.15am. For any queries contact: [office@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk](mailto:office@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk).

**ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S SUNDAY TEAS.** After Sunday Masses.

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

**ST JOHN'S SVDP.** Are collecting non perishable food for the Crisis Bags. **FOODBANK STEVENSTON.** 07437 521 930.

**MONEY SMART.** Welfare Rights Advice—North Ayrshire Council 01294 310000 (Option 1) or email [moneysmart@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:moneysmart@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

**IS GOD CALLING YOU TO PRIESTHOOD?** If you sense a vocation to be a Priest and would like support to discern this call, please contact Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Stephen McGrattan, at [vocations@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:vocations@rcdg.org.uk) or 01563 521832.

**YOUNG ADULTS (S5-30) BBQ.** Regular or first timer? You're invited to join Young Adults from across the Diocese as we gather for our Summer Social - a BBQ in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock, on Saturday 2nd August. The BBQ will follow the regular Vigil Mass at 6pm in the Church Garden. Free transport is available from Dumfries. There's no charge to take part, but please register by scanning the QR code on the poster or searching @rcdgyouth on social media so we know that you're coming.

**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](http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-gdpr)

**GALLOWAY YOUTH (P6-S4) SUMMER GATHERING.** Are you in P6-S4? Come and join us on Saturday 9th August from 11am– 4pm in St Joseph’s Church, Kilmarnock for our Summer Youth Gathering! (*free transport available from Saltcoats, Ayr, and Dumfries*) Join with young people from across the Diocese as we gather to celebrate the theme of Hope with games, activities, talks, Mass – and of course pizza and a BBQ – all led by our fantastic S3 Junior Leaders! The day is free for all, but please register in advance by scanning the QR code on the poster or searching for @rcdyouth on social media.

**YOUTH (P6-S4) PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN.** As part of the annual National Pilgrimage to Whithorn the Youth Office will be running a Youth Pilgrimage. Join with young people from across the Diocese as we gather to learn more about the life and witness of St Ninian. In the morning we’ll have games, activities, lunch (please bring a packed lunch) and a talk at the Isle of Whithorn, before walking to the beach for Mass with Bishop Frank. Free transport available, please register by scanning the QR code on the poster or searching for @rcdyouth on social media.

**PARISH HALLS.** To book any of our halls please call the Parish Office on 463461 for St Mary’s and Michael Lafferty on 07813650411 for St John’s. Please note a booking form has to be completed to confirm your booking.

**FAITH. FOOTBALL. FUNDRAISING.** Parishes are invited to enter a team in SCIAF’s 5-a-side football tournament, ‘The SCIAF Shield’ on Saturday 30th August at Goals, Shawlands. It’s a fun, faith-filled way to support SCIAF’s work. Teams of up to 8 players (aged 16+) welcome. For more details or to sign up visit: [sciaf.org.uk/events](http://sciaf.org.uk/events)



**GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13**

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’ And he said to them, ‘When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name, Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation.’ And he said to them, ‘Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey and I have nothing to set before him’; and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What Father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’

**PROMPTS FOR FAITH SHARING**

- *If you had to retell the text of the Our Father in colloquial, modern times, how would you say it?*
- *What is an example in your life when you were persistent and achieved the desired result? What aspect of that experience do you credit with your success?*
- *Have you ever acquiesced to a friend because of his or her constant petition.*
- *If a neighbour showed up at your home in the middle of the night asking for help, what would you do?*

**Whatever our age.** Especially as we grow older, let us press forward with confidence in the Lord. May we be renewed each day by our encounter with him in prayer and in Holy Mass. Let us lovingly pass on the faith we have lived for so many years, in our families and in our daily encounter with others. May we always praise God for his goodness, cultivate unity with our loved ones, open our hearts to those who are far away and, in particular, to all those in need. In this way, we will be signs of hope, whatever our age. Pope Leo. Full text <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/grandparents.index.html>

**“Give me the Holy Spirit...!”** The great important thing that Jesus speaks of in today’s Gospel, which we almost never ask for, and that is the Holy Spirit. “Give me the Holy Spirit...!” And Jesus says, “If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him for it!” (v. 13). The Holy Spirit! We must ask that the Holy Spirit comes within us. But what is the use of the Holy Spirit? We need him to live well, to live with wisdom and love, doing God’s will. What a beautiful prayer it would be if, this week, each of us were to ask the Father: “Father, give me the Holy Spirit!” **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 Bible in 10 minutes video can be found on [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jm3b4Q98vx8](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## 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.

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: Mr Tony Fisher 01292 266750

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### **MONDAY NIGHT BROADWAY BOOGIE ENCORE CLASS**

*Ready to dance, sweat, and smile? Our  
Broadway Boogie Encore class is the  
perfect way to move, groove, and feel  
like a star—no experience needed!  
Come along and join in the fun!*

*St John's Church Hall 6.30pm-7.15pm  
Contact Jacqueline on 07780090076*

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