



St John the Evangelist  
Stevenston

# 14th September 2025 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Year C

**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)



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)	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Mass (L)	—————	10am Mass (L)
Saturday	11am Memorial Service <b>Cathie McBride</b>	4.30pm Mass (L)	5.30pm Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

**L = LIVESTREAMED**

**GOSPEL REFLECTION.** Tuesday at 2pm but can be viewed on You Tube any time after the livestream. We reflect on the readings for the following Sunday Mass.

**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.

*Please remember Dusty in your prayers*

**Dusty Millar RIP**

Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place in St Mary's on Tuesday 23rd September at 10am.

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery

*+May he rest in peace+*

**JUBILEE EVENT—TODAY** 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" - 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. 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.

**RETIRED PRIESTS—SPECIAL COLLECTION.** Will take place at all masses this weekend. Gift Aid Envelopes available

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

**Anniversaries:** Peter Grant, Marie Cambridge, David Dunbar (20th), Sarah Wright, Jean Tortolano, Charloette Mitchell, Tracey Lafferty Fitzsimmons, Georgina McWhirter and Jim McGrath

**Recently deceased:** Maureen Anne Robinson, Margaret Nolan (Wishaw), John McGlynn, Dusty Millar and John Hughes.

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

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

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

**RIP Birthday Intentions:** John Mitchell and Rosemary Smith.

**Those who have an anniversary:** Peter Grant, Marie Cambridge, David Dunbar (20th), Sarah Wright, Jean Tortolano, Charloette Mitchell, Tracey Lafferty Fitzsimmons, Georgina McWhirter, Jim McGrath, Mary Conti, Matt Lunardi, Tommy Kirk, Johnny Quinn, Tommy McFarlane, Michael Pollock and James O'Meara

**Those who have died recently:** Margaret Nolan (Wishaw), Maureen Anne Robinson, Dusty Millar, John Hughes, Jennifer Williams, Danny Dorrans, John McGlynn, Stephen Grimes, Elizabeth Sinclair, Arthur Breslin, Bishop Timothy Yoa and Ken McAulay.

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: *Twenty Fifth Sunday—Year C; Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13***

**DAY FOR LIFE SPECIAL COLLECTION:** £951.97 from both parishes.

**ST. JOHN'S HALL COMMITTEE – TREASURER NEEDED.** The Hall Committee is seeking a volunteer to take on the role of Treasurer. If you are interested in helping out or would like more information, please have a chat with Canon Martin or a member of the Hall Committee.

**THANK YOU.** To all who supported St John's Fete last Sunday which raised £3,738.99. Special thanks to the hall committee and all who donated prizes including local businesses.

**ST JOHN'S SVDP.** Wish to thank all who donated bottles for the Tombola.

**PARENTS MEETINGS FOR THE SACRAMENTS.** Will take place on Monday (15th) at 6pm for P3 and 6.30pm for P4 for St John's pupils in St John's Hall and Wednesday (17th) at 6pm for P3 and 6.30pm for P4 for St Anthony's pupils in the school.

**VOCATIONS MASS.** Takes place on Tuesday at 7pm in St Mary's, Largs.

**MARY'S MEALS.** With great joy we pass on the latest message from Mary's Meals. They are now feeding over 3 million children in 16 counties around the world. Your contributions have helped them to reach this goal. Thank you for your support.

**2025 CENTENERY PIMGRIMAGE FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF THE VENERABLE MARGARET SINCLAIR.** Will take place next Sunday (21st) from 12.30pm-6pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1NA. 12.30pm-1.30pm: Refreshments & sale of candles/goods; 1.30pm-2.30pm: Holy Hour; 3pm-4pm: Reflection; 4.30pm: Holy Mass concelebrated with Archbishop Cushley. Confessions available all day.

**ECUADOR TRUST GALA.** Will take place on Friday 31st October 2025 at 7pm-Midnight in Christ the King Church Hall, 220 Carmunnock Road, Glasgow, G44 5AP. Tickets are £35 which includes a 3 course meal, please call 07983 803 222.

**YOUNG ADULTS (S5-30) EVENINGS.** The next Young Adults evening takes place in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock (KA3 1HB), today (Sunday) when Sr Placida McCann will be joining the group to talk about the Missionary Church and her experience as a Missionary in Africa. The evening begins with Mass at 6.00 pm following which Sr Placida will speak in the hall from 6.30 pm.

**NATIONAL YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS PILGRIMAGE.** Join Youth and Young Adults from across Scotland for the annual National Youth Pilgrimage next Saturday (20th). This year, they'll be gathering in Perth where they'll be talking about the Reformation and the Nicene Creed. In Perth, the group will be split into Youth and Young Adults with content delivered according to age. Free transport is available, but please register to secure your place by going to: [youth.rcdg.org.uk](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk) and clicking 'National Youth Pilgrimage'.

**200 CLUB.** Are you passionate about supporting youth and young adults ministry in Galloway? The Youth Office runs events across the Diocese to help young people grow in faith and friendship to come to know and love God through like minded groups. To help continue to run and grow these events, as well as supporting participation for disadvantaged persons, they're launching a new 200 Club. For £5 a month you can help support their work and win cash prizes. For details, and to register, go to: [youth.rcdg.org.uk/200-club](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk/200-club)

**GALLOWAY DIOCESAN CHOIR.** The 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 25 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 7.15pm until about 8.45pm. If you are Interested in joining them or would like more information please contact: David Robinson at [david.robinson.mj@gmail.com](mailto:david.robinson.mj@gmail.com) or on 07714 340854.

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

**SOUP AND CHAT.** St Mary's every Wednesday from 11.30am-1.30pm.

**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)

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

**JUSTICE & PEACE SCOTLAND NEWSLETTER.** Is now available. It highlights a summer of powerful advocacy with gatherings at Faslane and Dungavel, and important campaigns and forthcoming events – including the Red Line For Gaza - you are encouraged to support. Find it at [www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk](http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk)

**A CALL TO PRAYER AND PUBLIC WITNESS FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND.** Churches across Britain are asked to pray for peace next Sunday (21st), coinciding with UN World Peace Day and the global call to prayer from the World Council of Churches. For more information contact [office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](mailto:office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

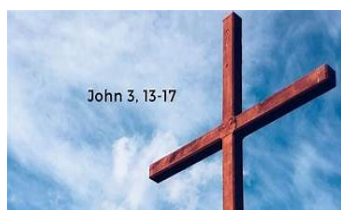
**ST JOHN'S SVDP.** Are collecting non perishable food for the Crisis Bags. **FOODBANK STEVENSTON.** 07437 521 930.

**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@redg.org.uk](mailto:vocations@redg.org.uk) or 01563 521832.

**R.C.I.A.** Candidates will meet on Tuesday (23rd) at 6pm.

**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.



**GOSPEL: John 3:13-17**

At that time: Jesus said to Nicodemus, 'No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.'

**PROMPTS FOR FAITH SHARING**

*Carrying our cross is not meaningless suffering but a path to spiritual growth, love and union with Christ.*

*The cross is the school of love.*

*Do not seek a cross—the right one will find you. But when it comes, take it up bravely, without counting the cost.*

*The weight of the cross may press heavily on your shoulders, but it is the very thing that will keep you close to the heart of Christ.*

*God does not measure the cross by its size—but by our willingness to carry it.*

*The cross is the ladder to heaven.*

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for September- For our relationship with all of creation.** Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect. See the video - <https://thepopevideo.org/>

**A call from Pope Leo.** The parish priest of Gaza's Holy Family church says his phone call on Tuesday with Pope Leo XIV was a blessing. The parish continues to shelter 450 people, including elderly, sick, and children, as many residents remain despite the danger. "We told him we are well, even if the situation remains difficult," the Argentine priest said. "The Pope gave us his blessing and prayed for us and for peace. He follows everything closely and is committed to ending the war." **Vatican News**

**This is the glory of the cross of Jesus.** Today the cruelty of the Cross is not what is exalted but the love that God manifests to humanity by accepting death on a cross. Who, though in the form of God emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. This is the glory of the cross of Jesus. **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 Parish:**

Father Duncan McVicar, St Peter's, Ardrossan 464063.

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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