



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

15th February 2026 Sixth Sunday of Year A

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 Funeral Mass (L) James Monaghan | 10am Mass (L) |
| Tuesday | _____ | 10am Mass (L) | 10am Funeral Mass (L) Sophia Orr |
| Ash Wednesday | 11am & 7pm Masses with distribution of Ashes | 10am Mass (L) with distribution of Ashes | 10am Mass (L) |
| Thursday | _____ | 10am Mass (L) | 10am Mass (L) |
| Friday | 10am Mass (L) | _____ | 10am Funeral Mass (L) Christine Coby |
| Saturday | _____ | 4.30pm Mass (L) | 5.30pm Mass (L) |
| Sunday | 11.30am Mass (L) | 10am Mass (L) | 10.30am Mass (L) |

L = LIVESTREAMED

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: Tuesday at 2pm.

EXPOSITION: St Mary's—Tuesday 9.30am-10am. St John's—Friday 10.30am-11am

RECONCILIATION: St. John's—Saturday 10.30am-11am. St. Mary's— Saturday 3.45pm-4.15pm.

Please remember James in your prayers

James Monaghan RIP

Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place tomorrow (Monday) at 10am in St Mary's.

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

+May he rest in peace+

Wednesday. Is Ash Wednesday and a Day of Fasting and Abstinence. St Anthony's PS Service will take place in school and St John's PS will join the 11am Mass.

GROWING IN FAITH, LIVING IN HOPE, SERVING IN LOVE – Given by the Craighead institute in St Mary's and St John's over 5 Saturdays and 4 Thursdays starting next Saturday, 21st February at 10am in St Mary's hall. Tea/Coffee from 9.45 am To sign up phone Lorna at 01294 463461 or email saltcoats@rcdg.org.uk There are a limited number of spaces available.

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

Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for February - For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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

Special Intention: For family and Dionne & Alan Poole (Silver Wedding Ann)

Anniversaries: Joseph McGarvey, Pat Maxwell, Anne Hughes, Tommy Murray, Harry Crawford and James (Bud) Cassidy.

Recently deceased: Douglas Orr, Robert McGeown (Auchterarder), James Monaghan (Ardrossan), Isabella Lawler and Joseph McMullen (Largs).

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: First Sunday in Lent Year A; Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7; Psalm 51; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

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

For all the sick in our parishes

Special Intention: For family and Dionne & Alan Poole (Silver Wedding Ann)

Those who have an anniversary: Joseph McGarvey, Pat Maxwell, Anne Hughes, Tommy Murray, Harry Crawford, James (Bud) Cassidy. Michael Boyd (8yrs), Pat Monan Snr and Margaret Nellis.

Those who have died recently: Douglas Orr, Robert McGeown (Auchterarder), Joe McMullen, James Monaghan (Ardrossan), Anne Stevenson, Desmond Donnelly, Mary Teresa Hughes, Isabella Lawler, George Reid (Southport), Tom Collins (Bolton), Mother Mary Matthias of the Sacred Heart (Benedictine Monastery, Largs) and Catherine Monagle

THE RITE OF ELECTION. Takes place in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr next Sunday (22nd) at 3pm for those joining the Church at Easter.

THE DIOCESAN WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK MASS. Will be held today at 4pm in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr. The Hospitalité looks forward to welcoming you, if you wish to be anointed please make yourself known to a member of the Hospitalité team on arrival. Following Mass there will be refreshments in the hall and the AGM of Galloway Lourdes Hospitalité.

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

SOUP AND CHAT. Monday's in St John's 11.30am-1.30pm and Wednesday's in St Mary's 11.30am-1.30pm.

MARY'S MEALS. Walk For Hope—This year, the charity Mary's Meals is organising a selection of pilgrimage walks around the UK, bringing people together to pray for our mission to feed hungry children. Routes include Dalmally (9 May), Glasgow (28–30 May) and the Peak District (3–5 July). Visit our website to find out about our selection of walks and register your interest: <https://bit.ly/MarysMealsPilgrimage>. **Do you have any leftover foreign coins or notes from your holidays?** Donate them to Mary's Meals. The money will go to an organisation called Leftover Currency. They will donate the exchange value plus 5% extra to Mary's Meals. You can also add UK coins & notes that are no longer legal tender. Over the next few weeks a box will be available at the back of both churches for your donations.

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD? Do you sense a call to serve God and his people in the Priesthood? The Catholic Church in Scotland is inviting you to explore the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood. If you are considering a life dedicated to serving in the ministry, we encourage you to apply for seminary starting in 2027. To learn more about the application process and what a Priestly vocation entails, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Stephen McGrattan on stephen.mcgrattan@rcdg.org.uk. The Vocations Director will support you in your journey of discernment and guide you through the steps along the way. Don't hesitate; the Lord may be calling you to something extraordinary. Take the first step and contact the Diocesan Vocations director today!

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.

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

GALLOWAY DIOCESAN CHOIR. Rehearsals take place in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on Wednesday evenings from 7.15pm until about 8.45pm. Please contact: David Robinson at david.robinson.mj@gmail.com or on 07714 340854.

YOUNG ADULTS PILGRIMAGE TO ROME. Join Young Adults from across the Diocese for a 5 day/ 4 night pilgrimage to Rome from 12th – 16th October 2026. The itinerary will feature a wide range of different spiritual and cultural activities, including the Wednesday Audience, Vatican Museums, and a walking tour of Rome, as well as a free day to explore the city. The pilgrimage is open to young adults in S6 (at time of departure – current S5) to age 30 and costs £1000 (the group is planning to fundraise to reduce this) which includes all flights, accommodation, breakfast, dinner, and admission costs. If you're interested, scan the QR code on the poster, or go to youth.rcdg.org.uk, for more details and to register.

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. 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

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

ADVENT YOUTH RETREAT. Takes place from 27th – 29th November at Gowanbank SU Centre, near Darvel. The retreat is open to all young people in P6-S3 (P7-S4 at time of the retreat) and costs £160 pp, however if you register before Easter it's only £140 pp. The weekend includes a range of times of prayer, Mass, spiritual reflection, different outdoor activities and lots of time to relax and spend time with friends. Subsidies are available for those in need, or for families with more than one child wishing to attend – please contact the Youth Office by emailing: youth@rcdg.org.uk. Places are limited so be sure to sign up early to guarantee yours. Sign up by scanning the QR code or going to youth.rcdg.org.uk.

YOUTH EVENING. Join Youth from across the cluster tonight as they gather for their monthly evening in St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan. They'll be reflecting on the theme of Lent: what Lent is and what they're called to do during it. The evening begins with Mass at 5pm after which they'll continue in the hall with games, activities, a short talk, and pizza. All young people in P6-S4 are welcome, if it's your first time, please complete an Annual Consent Form online: youth.rcdg.org.uk.

GOSPEL: Matthew

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples,

'I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

'You have heard that it was said to those of old,

"You shall not murder;

and whoever murders will be liable to judgement."

But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement.

'You have heard that it was said,

"You shall not commit adultery."

But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent

has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again you have heard that it was said to those of old,

"You shall not swear falsely,

but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn."

But I say to you:

Do not take an oath at all.

Let what you say be simply "Yes" or "No";

anything more than this comes from evil.



PROMPTS FOR FAITH SHARING

- Which of Jesus's commands in this gospel is most challenging to you here and now?
- How could letting go of internal sins such as anger and lust enable you to live more wholeheartedly as a disciple of Jesus?
- What moral teachings of the church do you struggle with? Is there anything that could help you see them as a loving invitation to a life of wholeness?

Speaking about today's Gospel Pope Francis said, "We must always ask for this grace: to know what is happening in our heart, to constantly make the right choice, the choice for good. And that the Lord helps us to love one another. And if I cannot love another well, why not? Pray for that person, pray that the Lord make me love him. And like this we move forward, remembering that what taints our lives is the evil that comes from our hearts. And that the Lord can help us."

On the feast day of our Lady of Lourdes last Wednesday Pope Leo visited the Lourdes Grotto in the Vatican gardens.

There he said :- "It is a most beautiful day that reminds us of the closeness of Mary, our Mother, who always accompanies us and who teaches us a great deal: the meaning of suffering, love, and delivering one's life into the hands of the Lord." Vatican News

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.

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

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 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: Fr Duncan McVicar, St Peter's, Ardrossan 464063. Fr Jim Hayes, 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.

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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