



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

29th March 2026 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 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 Mass (L)
Tuesday	—————	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	11am Mass with St John's PS	9.30am Mass in St Anthony's PS	10am Mass (L)
Holy Thursday	7pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (L)	—————	7pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper (L)
Good Friday	—————	3pm Passion of the Lord (L)	3pm Passion of the Lord (L)
Holy Saturday	10am Morning Prayers 8.30pm Vigil of the Resurrection (L)	No 4.30pm Mass	8.30pm Vigil of the Resurrection (L)
Easter Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

L = LIVESTREAMED

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION: Tuesday at 2pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—DURING LENT. Tuesday in St Mary's at 9.30am led by The SVDP and Friday at 7pm. Friday in St John's at 7pm led by Music Liturgy Group.

CHRISM MASS IN ST MARGARET'S CATHEDRAL, AYR. Will be celebrated by Bishop Frank this Tuesday at 7pm. A sign up sheet is available at the back of both churches for those wishing transport. The coach will leave St Mary's at 6pm and St John's at 6.15pm. The cost will be £5 per person.

Please remember Margaret in your prayers

Margaret Trainer RIP

Funeral Service will take place on Wednesday at 2.30pm in Holmsford Bridge Crematorium.
+May she rest in peace+

THE EASTER TRIDUUM 2026. **Holy Thursday:** 7pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper in St John's; Collection for poor (SCIAF Boxes); Washing of Feet; Procession to Altar of Repose; Night Prayer at 9.30pm. **Good Friday:** 3pm in St Mary's; Day of Fasting and Abstinence; 3pm Liturgy including Passion, Veneration of the Cross; Distribution of Communion, Collection for Holy Places. 7pm Stations of the Cross in St John's and St Mary's. **Holy Saturday:** 10am Morning Prayers in St John's followed by Blessing of Easter Baskets. Vigil of the Resurrection: 8.30pm in St John's; Blessing of Fire and Easter Candle, Readings from Old and New Testament; Blessing of Easter Water and Renewal of Baptismal Promises. **NO 4.30PM MASS.** **Easter Sunday:** 10am Mass in St Mary's, 11.30am Mass in St John's. A Sign up sheet for ministries is available in both sacristy's.

Praying Holy Week - St Bueno's Prego - stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com/prego/

INVITATION TO MINISTRY. Completed leaflets can be returned to the church porch or Sacristy in each Church.

Parishes of the RC Diocese of Galloway Charity Registration No: SCO10576

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Easter Blessings: Spc Sisters in UK and Ireland

Special Intention and for the sick

Anniversaries: Agnes Forbes, Annie McKeever and Norah McCutcheon.

Recently deceased: Margaret Trainer, Elizabeth Evans, Hannah Millar and Jean Monaghan.

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: *Easter Sunday Year A;*
Acts 10:34. 37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

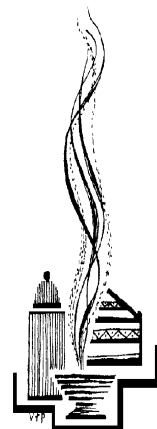
For all the sick in our parishes

Easter Blessings: Spc Sisters in UK and Ireland

Special Intention and for the sick

Those who have an anniversary: Agnes Forbes, Annie McKeever, Norah McCutcheon, Connell Thomas, Agnes Kelly and Margaret Peacey.

Those who have died recently: Margaret Trainer, Jim Fleeting (Kilwinning), Mary Moran, Jean Monaghan, Bernard Quinn, Gerry McCulloch, Geordie Higney, Elizabeth Evans, Hannah Millar, Isobel Stewart, Maria Hilferty, Betty Kelly and Peter Freeman.



300 CLUB. Congratulations to the winners of the March draw. No 277—K. Palm £30 and No 5—C. McGuire £20.

ST MARY'S WEEKLY COLLECTION ENVELOPES. New sets of weekly offering envelopes are still available from the Sacristy or the parish office. If you are a tax payer and wish to Gift Aid your collection please consider doing so-it makes such a difference. Please contact the parish office.

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

SOUP AND CHAT. St Mary's soup and chat will be closed for the next 2 weeks, returning on Wednesday 15th April. St John's will return later in the year.

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. 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. To learn more about the application process and what a Priestly vocation entails, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Stephen McGrattan stephen.mcgrattan@rcdg.org.uk

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.

CHOIR PRACTICE ST JOHN'S. Takes place on Sundays (when guitars are on) from 10.30am. All welcome.

YOUNG ADULTS' (S5-30) EVENING. The next evening takes place tonight when Bishop Frank will be joining the group for "An Evening with Bishop Frank" as he speaks on and discusses a range of different topics. Join Young Adults from across the Diocese at St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock, beginning with Mass at 5.30 pm, or join from 6.30 pm online for the talk. To follow online, register through their website: youth@rcdg.org.uk and click on 'Young Adults'.

ADVENT YOUTH RETREAT. (Register by Easter Sunday to secure your place at the early-bird rate of £140.00) Takes place from 27th – 29th November at Gowanbank SU Centre, near Darvel. The retreat is open to all young people currently in P6-S3. 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. Go to youth.rcdg.org.uk for more details and to register.

*So as we joyfully acclaim our King, let us also think of the sufferings that he will have to endure in this week. Let us think of the slanders and insults, the snares and betrayals, the abandonment to an unjust judgment, the blows, the lashes and the crown of thorns... And lastly, the way of the cross leading to the crucifixion. **Pope Francis.***

***Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for March - For disarmament and peace.** Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.*

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 available on the Diocesan website. www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy-and-gdpr

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord needs them", and he will send them at once.' This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, 'Say to the daughter of Sion, "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them.

Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.'



GOSPEL: St Matthew's Passion

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

With which character of the passion story do you most identify? Why?

How can you imitate the humility of Jesus, who chose to empty himself out of love?

How have you seen God transform sorrow into joy? Where would you like God to do so?

*We cannot remain silent. With dismay I continue to follow the situation in the Middle East, which like other regions of the world is torn apart by war and violence. We cannot remain silent in the face of the suffering of so many defenseless people who are victims of these conflicts. What hurts them hurts all of humanity. The death and pain caused by these wars is a scandal for the entire human family and a cry that rises to God! I strongly renew my appeal to persevere in prayer, so that hostilities may cease and paths to peace may finally open up, based on sincere dialogue and respect for the dignity of every human person. **Pope Leo, last Sunday.***

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 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@rcdg.org.uk or on 01563 521832. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri at benjamin.mkeri@rcdg.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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front of bar!*

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