



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

26th April 2026 Fourth Sunday of Easter 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) 6pm Prayers of Reception Betty Loye	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Eucharistic Service	10am Funeral Mass Betty Loye	10am Mass (L)
Thursday	_____	7pm Deanery Vocations Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Mass (L)	_____	10am Mass (L)
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.

MASS FOR THE SICK. Will be celebrated in St John's today at 3pm with the Sacrament of the Sick.

Please remember the following in your prayers

Betty Loye RIP
Pat McNamara RIP
Donna Davidson RIP

Betty's Prayers of Reception will take place on Tuesday at 6pm in St Mary's. Funeral Mass on Wednesday at 10am.
Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.
Pat's Prayers of Reception will take place on Sunday 3rd May at 6pm in St John's. Funeral Mass on Monday 4th at 10am.
Followed cremation at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium.
Donna's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Tuesday 5th May at 10am in St John's.
Followed by burial in High Road Cemetery.
+May they rest in peace+

SCIAF BOXES. The amount raised from both parishes is a fantastic £5,049.11!!

DEANERY VOCATIONS MASS. Will take place this coming Thursday at 7pm in St Mary's. Refreshments will be available in the parish hall afterwards.

THE FOLLOWING MASS INTENTIONS ARE BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEK:

Special Intentions: Diamond Wedding Anniversary and for the sick.

Anniversaries: Jean Monan, Joseph & Jessie Stevens, Joe McIver, Arthur Collins and Agnes Lennon (4th).

Recently deceased: John Chalmers (USA), Denise Reilly, Betty Loye, Pat McNamara, Donna Davidson, Liam McBirnie, Grace McGahon and Tom Cassidy (Switzerland).

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: *Fifth Sunday of Easter*
Year A: Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 33; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:6

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes

Special Intentions: For the sick.

Those who have an anniversary: Jean Monan, Joseph & Jessie Stevens, Joe McIver, Arthur Collins, Agnes Lennon (4th), Joe Coleman, Peter Gerald O'Hare, Lyndsay Lunardi, Donald John MacCormick, Alex Lynn, Peter Lynn, Matthew Stewart, Lina Badiali and Hugh Donald.

Those who have died recently: John Chalmers (USA), Liam McBirnie, Grace McGahon, Tom Cassidy (Switzerland), Denise Reilly, Margaret Cannon (Irvine), Ann Stuart (Nairn), Pat McNamara, Donna Davidson, Sr Dominic Savio C.P. (Lytham St Anne's), Betty Loye, Cathy McGinn, Kathleen McGarva (Greenock) and Paul Carmichael.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCILS. St Mary's will meet this coming Tuesday at 7pm in the parish house. St John's will meet this coming Wednesday at 7pm in the parish house.

FOOD TASTING SESSION. Will be held in St Mary's Church hall next Sunday at 1pm. We invite members of the congregation from other countries to supply a national dish of their choice. Please contact Canon Martin or Yolanda Cowan for more details.

SYNODALITY DAY— 16th MAY— ST MARGARET'S CATHEDRAL. Bishop McGee will lead workshops on Conversations in the Spirit. Each parish is asked to send 2 representatives to take part. The question at the heart of the day is how the Holy Spirit wants us to proclaim the Passion, death and resurrection of Christ in 2023. Volunteers please contact Canon Martin.

FIRST EUCHARIST. Will be celebrated in St John's on Saturday 9th May at 11am and in St Mary's on Saturday 16th May at 11.30am and 1pm.

THANKSGIVING MASS AT CARFIN. Will take place Sunday 24th May 2026 at 3pm. Our Lady of Compassion Praesidium have organised a bus leaving Irvine Cross at 11.45am, Dalry Road Kilwinning at 12 Noon and St Brigid's Kilbirnie at 12.15pm. To book a seat please contact Gerry Quirk on 556680 or 07795 632889.

YOUNG ADULTS' (S5-30) EVENING. The next evening takes place on Sunday 3rd May when Fr Philip Kitchen will be joining the group for the second in our series of evenings on "The History of the Church" as he speaks on the Middle Ages. Join Young Adults from across the Diocese at St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock, beginning with Mass at 6pm, or join from 6.30pm in person or online for the talk. To follow online, register through their website: youth.rcdg.org.uk and click on 'Young Adults'.

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

SOUP AND CHAT. St Mary's from 11.30am-1.30pm in the parish hall. St John's will return later in the year. **Due to funeral teas St Mary's Soup and Chat will not be on this week.**

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 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.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for April. For priests in crisis. Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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

FESTIVAL OF SYNODALITY – SATURDAY 6 JUNE 2026. At Glasgow Caledonian University, a day inspired by Pope Francis' call to be "witnesses to synodality." Lunch is included. All are welcome. Tickets available: bit.ly/synodality26.

CAMP OUT FOR HOPE. Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Scotland invite you to the Camp Out for Hope on Saturday 30th May-Sunday 31st May in Carfin Grotto from 8am - 8pm. Go to Trybooking.com to sign up for free. You must be aged 16+ to participate. Contact ACN Scotland at scotland@acnuk.org or 01698 337 470 for more information.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

At that time: Jesus said,
'Truly, truly, I say to you,
he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door
but climbs in by another way,
that man is a thief and a robber.
But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
To him the gatekeeper opens.
The sheep hear his voice,
and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.
When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them,
and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.
A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him,
for they do not know the voice of strangers.'

This figure of speech Jesus used with them,
but they did not understand what he was saying to them.



So Jesus again said to them,
'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.
All who came before me are thieves and robbers,
but the sheep did not listen to them, I am the door.
If anyone enters by me, he will be saved
and will go in and out and find pasture.
The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.
I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

There are at least two related images for Christ in today's readings: he is both the shepherd who guides and protects us and the gate into the sheepfold, our point of entry into safety and rest. Which of these images do you prefer? Why?

The first reading emphasises that repentance and baptism are the appropriate responses to the good news of Christ. How do you live out the call of your baptism in a continuous way, even if it occurred long ago?

It can feel like the members of a flock of sheep have no individuality, but Christ's images of shepherding often stress the individual love he carries for each of us. How could you care for a member of your community in an individualised way this Easter season.

Shepherds Today, too, as in the time of Jesus, many put themselves forward as "shepherds" of our lives; but only the Risen One is the true Shepherd, who gives us life in abundance. I invite everyone to place their trust in the Lord who guides us. But he not only guides us: he accompanies us, he walks with us. Let us listen to his Word with minds and hearts opened, to nourish our faith, enlighten our conscience and follow the teaching of the Gospel. **Pope Francis**

On the first anniversary of Pope Francis' death. Death is not a wall, but a door that opens out onto the Mercy that Pope Francis tirelessly proclaimed. The Lord called him to Himself on 21 April last year, in the heart of the Paschal light. He concluded his earthly pilgrimage in the embrace of the Risen Christ, in that "joy of the Gospel" that inspired one of his most incisive Apostolic Exhortations. He was the Successor of Peter and Shepherd of the universal Church at a time that marked, and continues to mark, an epochal change—a change of which he was fully aware, offering all of us a courageous witness that represents a significant legacy for the Church. **Pope Leo**

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



Emma Durkan Music

Professional musician plays clarsach (Scottish harp) and fiddle; traditional, modern and classical. Book for weddings, funerals, events/gigs, and 121 tuition.

Contact me on Facebook or at
emmadurkanmusic@outlook.com or
07714788871



A.W. BLAIR & SONS

Seabank Street
SALTCOATS

01294 468238

*Independent Family
Funeral Directors*

PAUL STEVENSON

29 Chapelwell Street
SALTCOATS

01294 607001

*Independent Family
Funeral Directors*

WARDEN MOTORS

(Prop. – Kevin Warden)
CANAL STREET, SALTCOATS

01294 463333

*All types of repairs
MOT & Service
Quality Used Cars*

BREEN ROOFING & BUILDING CONTRACTORS

4b Castlehill Yard, Hill Street
ARDROSSAN

01294 464733

*Slating, Tiling, Flat Roofing,
Roughcasting, Plastering
- general building works*

The Albion Bar

16 Dockhead Street
Saltcoats

01294 462436

*Well 'Kent' faces behind and in
front of bar!*

IRVINE MEMORIALS MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS

Headstone sales & installation.
Small memorials, plaques & vases.
Additional inscriptions to existing
Headstones.

Headstone re-erection & refurbishment
Processing of permits & paperwork
Tel: 01294 215990/Mob: 07563335025
irvinememorials@gmail.com
www.irvinememorials.com
17 Macadam Place, Irvine, KA11 4HP

*Caring, sensitive and professional
service*

ST. ANTHONY'S PRIMARY

Dykesmains Road, Saltcoats
KA21 6DE
01294 468559

ST. JOHN'S PRIMARY

Morrison Avenue, Stevenston
KA20 4HH
01294 464557

WRIGHT WAY **Monoblock and patio cleaning services and car valeting service**

Email:
Chris@WrightValeting.co.uk

Website:
www.WrightValeting.co.uk

Twitter:
@WrightValetingDetailing

JAS CAMPBELL & CO LTD
WS
solicitors notaries estate agents

www.jascampbell.co.uk
 57 Dockhead Street, Saltcoats
 mail@jascampbell.co.uk
 01294 464301



Eglington Diner & Fish Fry

28/30 Windmill Street
Saltcoats

01294 601126

Traditional fish teas.
Lunchtime specials.
Sit in or carry out.

THREE TOWNS YOGA

Friendly, down-to-earth yoga classes
for all levels including complete
beginners. Move and breathe -
feel calmer, stronger, more flexible,
balanced and relaxed.

Contact Steph to book.
07470435735

threetownsvyoga@gmail.com
www.threetownsvyoga.com

**To advertise in this
Bulletin please
contact Lorna:
01294 463461**

Taylor and Henderson

51 Hamilton Street
Saltcoats
KA21 5DX

01294 464341

Solicitors and Estate Agents
www.taylorandhenderson.co.uk
Offices in Saltcoats, Irvine,
Kilwinning and Largs

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

Please support our advertisers