



St John the Evangelist  
Stevenston

# 28th June 2026

## Sts Peter & Paul—Solemnity

### 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](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) and  
Peter Sharp (Trainee Deacon)



Our Lady Star of the Sea  
Saltcoats

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	11am Mass with St John's PS	9.30am Mass in St Anthony's PS	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	—————	10am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)
Wednesday	10am Mass (L)	—————	10am Funeral Mass (L) <b>Philip McAuliffe</b>
Thursday	—————	10am Funeral Mass <b>Mary Frew</b>	10am Mass (L)
Friday	10am Mass (L)	—————	10am Funeral Mass (L) <b>Grant Mitchell</b>
Saturday	—————	4.30pm Mass (L)	5.30pm Mass (L)
Sunday	11.30am Mass (L)	10am Mass (L)	10.30am Mass (L)

**L = LIVESTREAMED**

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

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

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTION:** Will restart in the Autumn.

#### CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES.

To Bishop Frank who celebrates his Silver Jubilee in the Priesthood this weekend.

#### PETER'S PENCE SPECIAL COLLECTION.

Will take place at all masses next weekend.

*Please remember the following in your prayers*

**Mary Frew RIP**

**Margaret Smith RIP**

Mary's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Thursday at 10am in St Mary's.

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

Margaret's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday 8th July at 10am in St Mary's

Followed by burial in Ardrossan Cemetery.

*+May they rest in peace+*

**BISHOP FRANK'S PASTORAL LETTER—Sustainability.** Parish Consultation meeting will take place in St Mary's Church hall on Sunday 16th August at 3pm and in St John's Church hall on Sunday 13th September at 1pm.

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

**Anniversaries:** Janet Collins and Ian Gargan (2nd).

**Recently deceased:** Mary Conway, Mary Frew, Margaret Smith and Mark Graham.

*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: Fourteenth Sunday of Year A: Zechariah 9:9-10; Psalm 145; Romans 8:9,11-13; Matthew 11:25-30**

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

**For all the sick in our parishes**

**Those who have an anniversary:** Janet Collins, Ian Gargan (2nd), James Moffat, Harry Boyle, Agnes (Cameron) McCaffery, John Mitchell (2nd) and Joe McKeever.

**Those who have died recently:** Mary Conway, Mary Frew, Margaret Smith, Eva Needham (London), Dessie West (Ireland), Grant Mitchell, John Thomasson, Liam Ferguson, Richard McGarry, Jamie Napier, Bernie Lavelle (Mayo), Donald Gibson and James Monaghan.

**SCIAF SHIELD. Football. Faith. Fundraising.** Returns on Saturday 1st August 2026. Put your faith into action and take part in the SCIAF Shield – our knock-out tournament that uses football to raise money for the world's poorest people. Get ready for a day of fun, football, and fundraising. The SCIAF Shield is a 5-a-side tournament that brings together 16 teams for an exciting afternoon of community and sport - all in support of SCIAF's life-changing work overseas. This year, funds raised by the SCIAF Shield will go towards our Emergency Hunger Appeal, to provide emergency food packages and help people grow more food in places devastated by floods and droughts in Africa. Sign your parish team up here: [www.sciaf.org.uk/sciafshield](http://www.sciaf.org.uk/sciafshield)

**PODCAST.** Peter Sharp is working on different podcasts, you can find them by visiting the following link. [www.youtube.com/@TheCatholicCafeGalloway](http://www.youtube.com/@TheCatholicCafeGalloway)

**MARY'S MEALS.** Once again the Mary's Meals Team would like to thank everyone who gave us donations for Mary's Meals. Since the start of this year we have sent them £1,096 to help feed more than 3 million children in some of the world's poorest countries. A special thank you to the first communicants who donated £235 of their money gifts to Mary's meals.

**FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION DAY.** The Diocesan Youth Office invites all those who have made their First Communion this year to join them for a celebration at St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock on Saturday 25th July from 11am to 4pm. The day will include a variety of fun and engaging games, a couple of short talks, Mass, and lunch: pizza and a BBQ. Interested? Scan the QR code to register. There's no charge to take part in the day.

**YOUNG ADULTS' (S5-30) EVENING:** The next Young Adults' evening takes place on Sunday 5th July in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock. This month, the group will be joined by Marianne Luchessi from the Jesuit Spirituality Centre as she speaks on the theme of prayer: looking at various forms of prayer, how we pray, and taking the group through some practical examples. The evening begins with Adoration in the church from 6pm, following which Marianne's talk will be in the hall from 6.30pm. Can't make it in person? Sign up at [youth.rcdg.org.uk](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk) to follow the evening online.

**GALLOWAY'S SEOUL.** In 2027, Pope Leo will join young people from across the world in Seoul, South Korea. While it is not possible for us to travel to Seoul, the Diocesan Youth Office will be running a parallel event in our Diocese at Gowanbank SU Centre (near Darvel). Join young people (current P5-S4) from across the Diocese as we gather for the week to follow the World Youth Day programme, hear inspiring Catechetical talks from local priests, take part in a range of different outdoor activities, and have a fantastic week of faith and friendship. Galloway's Seoul runs from 7th – 11th August 2027 and costs £400 per person (grants are available for those in need and if more than one child in a household is taking part), but we'll be supporting young people in fundraising to reduce the cost. For full details pick up a flyer or go to our website: [youth.rcdg.org.uk](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk).

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

**SOUP AND CHAT.** Wednesday in St Mary's from 11.30am-1.30pm in the parish hall. This will stop this Wednesday and will return later in the year.

**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](mailto: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.

**R.C.I.A.** Following the completion of this years programme we hope that the new programme will begin around September/October. Anyone interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith or becoming a full member of the Church should contact either the parish office or Canon Martin.

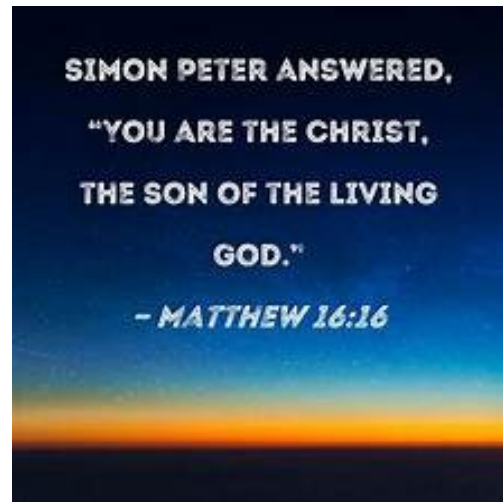
**GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION**

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

**GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-19**

At that time:

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the Prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.'



**FOR REFLECTION**

*Reflect on your experience of leaders within the church. Which leaders have you known who make God's presence clear? Which have been more challenging to work with?*

*Knowing Peter's whole story, how do you feel about him being chosen as the "rock" upon which Jesus builds the church? Is there reassurance there that God can work with you in all your imperfection?*

*In the second reading, Paul uses athletic metaphors to describe the challenges of Christian life: "I have competed well; I have finished the race." What might we learn from athletes' disciplined training about what the life of faith calls for from us?*

**The Parish office will be closed until Monday 6th July.**

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for July:** *For respect for human life. Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.*

**Summary of the Holy Father's words at the General Audience on Wednesday:** *Dear brothers and sisters, as we continue our series of catecheses on the Second Vatican Council, today we consider the celebration of the Eucharist as presented by the Constitution on the Liturgy, Sacrosanctum Concilium. This sacred mystery is described in the second chapter of the document as "a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, a paschal banquet in which Christ is received, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us". The Constitution also emphasises that at Mass, the faithful are not passive spectators. Rather, all are encouraged to offer themselves in union with Jesus Christ, the spotless victim, to the Father, through the hands of the priest and together with him. Participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice also means being formed by God's word and nourished at the table of the Lord's body. Indeed, these two parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharistic Liturgy, "are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship". Brothers and sisters, as we seek our nourishment from this abundant source of divine life, let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the mystery we celebrate. Full text [www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)*

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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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