



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

12th July 2026

Fifteenth 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) and
 Peter Sharp (Trainee Deacon)



Our Lady Star of the Sea
Saltcoats

Day	St John's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Monday	_____	_____	10am Mass (L)
Tuesday	_____	_____	10am Mass of the Holy Spirit with Bishop F Dougan (L)
Wednesday	10am Mass (L)	_____	10am Mass (L)
Thursday	_____	10am 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

EXPOSITION: 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.

SEA SUNDAY. Seafarers and fishers play a vital role in all of our lives, but they often work in difficult, hazardous conditions. Sea Sunday is today. It is when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Your support will make a big difference to seafarers and fishers in need. You can donate in church, by visiting www.sellamaris.org.uk/donate, or by texting 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously. **A Special Collection will take place at all masses next weekend.**

Please remember the following in your prayers

Michael Murray RIP
William Gorman RIP

Michael's Prayers of Reception and Funeral Mass on will take place Wednesday 22nd July at 10am in St John's.
 Followed by burial in High Road Cemetery.

William's Prayers of Reception will take place on Thursday 23rd July at 6pm in St John's. Funeral Mass on Friday 24th at 10am. Followed by burial in Ardrosan 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:**

Special Intention: McCarrey family

Anniversaries: Connell Thomas, Annie Thomas, James Kelly, Agnes Kelly, Alan Duncan, John Lynn, Michael Cowan, Margaret McAteer and Agnes Gailley.

Recently deceased: William Gorman, Anne Leonard (New Zealand), May Fitzsimmons (Dalry), Margaret Smith, Michael Murray, Andrew McGinn and Grant Mitchell

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: *Sixteenth Sunday of Year A: Wisdom 12:13. 16-19; Psalm 85; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43*

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

For all the sick in our parishes

Special Intention: McCarrey family

Those who have an anniversary: Connell Thomas, Annie Thomas, James Kelly, Agnes Kelly, Alan Duncan, John Lynn, Michael Cowan, Margaret McAteer, Agnes Gailley, Agnes Crawford, George and Ali Burnett, Betty McConnell, Anna Teresa Gallagher (1st) and James Joseph (Jimmy) Gallagher.

Those who have died recently: William Gorman, Anne Leonard (New Zealand), May Fitzsimmons (Dalry), Andrew McGinn, Mary Conway, Mary Frew, Margaret Smith, Mark Graham, Michael Murray, Eva Needham (London) and Grant Mitchell.

CANON PAT KEEGANS. Canon Pat has been appointed Spiritual Director to the College in Salamanca. We wish him well in this ministry.

WELCOME. To Fr Gerard McCabe, home on holiday, who will join us for Mass over the next 3 weekends.

WHITHORN. The Annual Whithorn Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday 30th August with Mass at the shore at 4pm. If anyone is interested in travelling there by bus please add your name to the sign up sheet in either church porch. Please note this year because of increased fuel prices there will be a charge of £10/person to offset costs.

300 CLUB. Congratulations to the winners of the June draw. No 164—P. Brown £30 and No 151—A. Anderson £20.

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

PODCAST. Peter Sharp is working on different podcasts, you can find them by visiting the following link. www.youtube.com/@TheCatholicCafeGalloway



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.

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.

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

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.

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

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.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9

At that time:

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake.
And great crowds gathered about him,
so that he got into a boat and sat down.
And the whole crowd stood on the beach.
And he told them many things in parables, saying:
'A sower went out to sow.
And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path,
and the birds came and devoured them.
Other seeds fell on rocky ground,
where they did not have much soil,
and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,
but when the sun rose they were scorched.
And since they had no root, they withered away.
Other seeds fell among thorns,
and the thorns grew up and choked them.
Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain,
some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.
He who has ears, let him hear.'



PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

Jesus names three dangers in this gospel: lack of understanding, lack of rootedness, and worldly anxiety can all prevent us from bearing fruit for Christ. Which of these feels like it carries the most risk for you?

When your faith is challenging, what keeps you rooted in the word of God? How do you maintain trust in Jesus in times of trial?

What anxieties do you have that threaten to smother your faith? How can you set them aside to make space for God's word to take root in your heart?

Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for 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. www.popesprayer.va/praywiththepope/

This Parable of the Sower is somewhat the 'mother' of all parables, because it speaks about listening to the Word. It reminds us that the Word of God is a seed which in itself is fruitful and effective; and God scatters it everywhere, paying no mind to waste. Such is the heart of God! Each one of us is ground on which the seed of the Word falls; no one is excluded! The Word is given to each one of us. We can ask ourselves: what type of terrain am I? Do I resemble the path, the rocky ground, the bramble bush? If we want, with the grace of God, we can become good soil, ploughed and carefully cultivated, to help ripen the seed of the Word. It is already present in our heart, but making it fruitful depends on us; it depends on the embrace that we reserve for this seed.
Pope Francis

*In slavery, Christ is liberation. Amid the scourge of war, Christ is hope. In the hour of sin, Christ is forgiveness. This is true wisdom and the path that we wish to walk together, united as disciples in his name. Jesus teaches us this as the Son, by becoming our brother. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, he reveals to the Church the truth about God and about humanity, for "no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him" (v. 27). **Pope Leo at the Angelus on Wednesday.** Full Text at 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

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



Eglinton 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

threetownsvoga@gmail.com

www.threetownsvoga.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

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

Please support our advertisers