



St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

25th October 2026

Thirtieth Sunday of Year A

Parish Priest: Canon Martin Poland
 St John's, Hayocks Road, Stevenston, KA20 4DE
 Tel No: 01294 463225. Email: stevenston@rcdg.org.uk
 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. Email: saltcoats@rcdg.org.uk
 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 (L)	10am Funeral Mass (L) Bernadette Quinn
Wednesday	10am Mass with P3/4 pupils from St John's PS	_____	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

RECONCILIATION: St. Mary's— Saturday 3.45pm-4.15pm. St John's – Saturday 10.30am-11am.
EXPOSITION: St Mary's – Tuesday at 9.30am-10am. St John's - Friday at 10.30am-11am
ROSARY: St John's at 7pm every Tuesday during October.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY. Thank you for your generous response to **World Mission Sunday**. Your prayers and offerings through Mission Scotland will strengthen the Church's mission in places where resources are limited but faith is vibrant. As we continue to live the call to be "**One in Christ, United in Mission**," let us remember missionaries and the communities they serve, asking God to bless them with courage, joy and hope.

DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL OPEN MEETING. There will be an Open Meeting of the Deanery Pastoral Council of the North Ayrshire Parishes ("St Mary's Deanery") tomorrow (Monday) in St John's Church Hall. Bishop Frank will lead the meeting and give us all an update on how he sees us moving forward as Parishes, a Deanery and across the Diocese in the years ahead. Could all parish representatives on the DPC please do their best to be there, but the meeting is also open to any parishioners who wish to attend. The evening begins with an (optional) period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6:30pm with the formal meeting starting at 7pm.

ST JOHN'S FOOD TASTER.

Takes place after the 11.30am Mass today in the Church hall.

Dishes available from different countries to sample including India, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Korea and other national dishes. All welcome in this Mission Month when we are reminded we are members of the Universal Church.

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS. Lists are available for our deceased relatives and friends during the month of November. Please hand them into St Mary's parish office or St John's Sacristy where they will be placed on the Altar during this month. Those included on the list will be remembered in masses in both churches as well as Canon Matt and Fr McCabe in Cape Town.

ANNUAL CEMETERY MASS. Will take place in Ardrossan Cemetery on Sunday 8th November 2026 at 2pm

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

Special Intention: 90th Birthday and Isabel Lawler (RIP Birthday)

Anniversaries: Sarah Murray, George Lafferty, Stephen (Tiney) Brennan, Jimmy Kelly, James McCann, Matthew Taylor, Bobby Fleming, John & Mary McCann and Cathy Murphy (McGurran).

Recently deceased: Harriet Scott, Patricia Aitkin, Anne Templeton and Sheila Kerrigan.

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: All Saints – Solemnity Year A:
Revelation 7:2-4,9-14; Psalm 24; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12a

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

For all the sick in our parishes

Special Intention: 90th Birthday, Isabel Lawler (RIP Birthday)
Special Intentions, Cyril Martin Dorrian (60th Birthday remembrance)

Those who have an anniversary: Sarah Murray, George Lafferty, Stephen (Tiney) Brennan, Jimmy Kelly, James McCann, Matthew Taylor, Bobby Fleming, John & Mary McCann and Cathy Murphy (McGurran). Monica Anne Taylor (Reilly), Barry McKeever, Rosemary Duncan, Francis & Josephine Morrison, Joe Coleman and Charlie Conti.

Those who have died recently: Harriet Scott, Patricia Aitkin Joe Sloan (Dundee), Anne Templeton, Ellen Carson, Rosaria Lee, Jim Harper, James McNamara, Sheila Kerrigan, Ellen Carson, Riccardo Lucchesi and Theresa Wilson (North Wales).

300 CLUB. Congratulations to the winners of the October draw. No 190 – R. Kane £30 and No 229 – C. Thornton £20. Thank you to all members for their continued support and generosity. £880 has been transferred to Church funds.

FUNDRAISER – COFFEE MORNING. Will take place in St Mary's parish hall on Saturday 14th November from 10am-2pm with home baking and a raffle. All welcome.

CHANA (Churches Homeless Action North Ayrshire). Is teaming up again with the Night Before Christmas Charity (NB4CC) to provide a Christmas present for those who are homeless & being supported by North Ayrshire Council. Last Christmas, Liz Brown of North Ayrshire Council's Homeless Unit wrote *"Through your year-round help and generous donation to The Night Before Christmas we are able to make life easier and bring a little bit of joy to the lives of those who need it most in our communities."* If you can help, please put a cash donation in an envelope marked NB4C & put it in the usual collection bag or donate online at nbcc.scot

FOODBANK TESCO COLLECTION. This is the Foodbank's biggest food drive of the year and brings in the bulk of the food they require to get through the winter months and ensure they meet all the requests they receive. Your past support has been critical to the success of the work of the Foodbank. The dates are November, Thursday 26th - Saturday 28th between 10am until 4pm. The Caritas Students usually do the Saturday. Can you help by doing a two-hour shift on the Thursday or Friday? Please contact Danny on 07979542319

EVENTS IN ST JOHN'S- Christmas Fayre - Sunday 22nd November. Join us for our annual Christmas Craft Fayre! We always have a fantastic selection of stalls, the tea room will be open, and of course, Santa will be making a special visit! We also have tables available for hire for any crafters who wish a stall, they are £15 each. If interested please get in touch with Brenda 07812758415, Lorna 07833347035, or Michael 07813650411. **Annual Visit from the Wayside Club of Glasgow - Sunday 29th November 1pm - 5pm.** We look forward to welcoming our friends from the Wayside Club of Glasgow for this very special annual event. It is always a fantastic day and is greatly appreciated by everyone who attends. As always, we would be grateful for donations of toiletries, hats, scarves, gloves, raffle prizes and home baking to help make the day extra special. Please hand in donations to any of the hall committee. We look forward to seeing you all at these upcoming events. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and generosity!

CALLED AND SENT - LEADERSHIP FORMATION FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH. The journey into a synodal way of being Church together, begun by Pope Francis and continued by Pope Leo is one where we will require a new passion for equipping, and using the gifts of, leaders. Responding to this call and to what people have asked for, the Bishops' Conference are excited to offer Called and Sent, formation for Christian leaders. This course will equip people with skills and tools that, while necessary in the Church today, will be even more so in the Church going into the future, where clergy, lay and religious are called to be co-responsible for the 'the being and action of the Church'. (Pope Benedict). The course will be conducted in a spirit of prayerfulness and entail one full day's formation and four follow up online formation sessions. We are looking for people who are prayerful, faith-filled and already involved in the life of the Church in their parish, diocese or organisation. Please consider if you might be the right person for this course. For more information, and to apply for Called and Sent, go to; <https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/called-and-sent>

P4 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME. After School Club in St Mary's on 12th and 26th November at 3pm-4pm. Saturday Club in St John's on 7th November and 5th December at 9am-10.30am.

R.C.I.A. Will meet again on Wednesday at 6pm in St Mary's parish house.

NORTH AYRSHIRE FUNDING FAYRE. Has been organised to take place at Saltcoats Town Hall, 18-20 Countess Street, Saltcoats this coming Friday (30th) from 9:30am – 12:30pm.

SPUC CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION. Will take place this coming Thursday. Rosary at the Mercat Building, Glasgow Cross at 6:30pm; Candlelight Procession at 7pm; Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral at 7:30pm.

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

COP31 CLIMATE SUMMIT – Mass and Livestream Presentation. Come together to pray for all those taking part the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31) and for the care of our common home. Hosted by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland's Care of Creation Office and supported by Justice & Peace Scotland, SCIAF, and SCES this Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Nolan to pray for the success of the COP31 climate summit in Türkiye. After Mass, join us for refreshments in Eyre Hall and a live video update from CAFOD who will be reporting to us live from COP31. All are welcome. Date: Thursday 12th November 2026. Time: Mass - 1pm | Livestream & Refreshments - 2pm. Location: St Andrew's Cathedral & Eyre Hall, 196 Clyde Street, Glasgow, G1 4JY

SOUP AND CHAT. Every Wednesday in St Mary's from 11.30am-1.30pm in the parish hall. St John's have stopped serving on a Monday for now – thank you to those who supported and to all the volunteers.

GALLOWAY DIOCESAN CHOIR. Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:15–8:45pm (September–March, except December/January) at St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr. Contact: David Robinson: david.robinson.mj@gmail.com or 07714 340854.

ST MARY'S AND ST JOHN'S SUNDAY TEAS. Takes place after Sunday Masses today in St Mary's and St John's.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-40

At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?'

And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'

PROMPTS FOR FAITH SHARING

Jesus asks for our whole selves: heart, soul, and mind. What parts of yourself do you find challenging to give to God in love?

Which of the church's moral teachings is most challenging for you right now? Is there a way to see it as an invitation to form your heart in the love God calls us to? If not, bring this to God, who sits with us in all our suffering.

Choose one of the images for God from the psalm and sit with it for a while. How does it resonate with your usual working image of God? How does it challenge it or help it to expand?



Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for October: Let us pray that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses. <https://thepopevideo.org/>

GENERAL AUDIENCE ON WEDNESDAY Summary of the Holy Father's words: Dear brothers and sisters, in our ongoing catechesis on *Gaudium et Spes*, today we consider the dignity of marriage and the family in the context of contemporary challenges. The Council Fathers recognised that the well-being of all in society is closely linked to the health of marriage and the family and sought to present a renewed vision of conjugal love as an intimate partnership which reflects the life of the Trinity and is rooted in and enriched by the redemptive power of Christ. Let us, therefore, pray for God's blessing and protection upon all families. www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2026

THIS IS THE TEST: if I say "I love God" and do not love my neighbour, it does not work. The verification that I love God is that I love my neighbour. As long as there is a brother or sister to whom we close our hearts, we will still be far from being disciples as Jesus asks us. But his divine mercy does not allow us to be discouraged, but rather calls us to begin anew each day to live the Gospel consistently. Pope Francis Full Text <https://www.popefrancishomilies.com/matthew-chapter-18-22>

PODCAST. Peter Sharp is working on different podcasts; you can find them at: www.youtube.com/TheCatholicCafeGalloway

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 GAINST 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.



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front of bar!*

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