

St John the Evangelist
Stevenston

# 8th November 2026
## 32nd 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 | | 9.30am Mass in St. Anthony's School | 10am Mass **(L)** |
| Wednesday | 10am Mass **(L)** | | 10am Mass **(L)** |
| Thursday | | 10am Eucharistic Service | |
| 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)** |

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

**L = LIVESTREAMED**

**PARISH MASS FOR THE DECEASED.** St John's on Thursday 19th November at 7pm. St Mary's on Monday 23rd November at 7pm. Hospitality will be available in both parish halls after Mass.

**Please remember the following in your prayers:**

**Margaret Conway RIP**
Funeral Service at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium on Tuesday 17th November at 3.30pm.

**Ina McIver RIP**
Prayers of Reception in St. John's on 17th November at 6pm. Funeral Mass on Wednesday 18th November at 10am followed by burial in High Road Cemetery.

**Joyce McKechnie** RIP
Prayers of Reception in St. Mary's on Thursday, 19th November at 5pm. Funeral Mass on Friday 20th November at 10am followed by cremation at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium.

**ST. JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PRIMARY 1 REGISTRATION 2027.** Registration for P1 children commencing school in August 2027 will take place online between Monday 9th November 2026 and Sunday 22nd November 2026. Parents/carers will be required to complete an online form available on the Council website. Children whose fifth birthday falls between 1st March 2027 and 28th February 2028 are eligible to start primary school in August 2027.

**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.

***Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions for November**: For the proper use of wealth Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service of the common good and solidarity of those who have less. See https://thepopevideo.org/*

**PARISH OFFICE**. Will be closed until Tuesday 17th November.

**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:**

**Anniversaries**: Margaret Brennan (1st), William & Jeanie Smyth, Margaret Martin, Sandra Cassidy (3rd), Pat McMenamin, Mary Timmons, David Owen Murphy and Luigi & Marietta Tortolano, Laura Dickie, Theresa Loudon Alex Tulloch, Alice Burns, Cathie Dorrian, Cyri Martin Dorrian, James & Mary Timmons, Marie & Arthur Cambridge, Deceased members of Clyde & Kerr families.

**Recently deceased:** Billy Giffney, Ina McIver, Daniel McGreer, Canon John McGrorry (Balloch), Bernard McLaughlin (Glasgow), Bernadette Quinn, Anne Templeton, Margaret Conway, Ina McIver, Joyce McKechnie and Michael Neil.

*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*: Thirty second Sunday of Year A:*** *Wisdom 6:12-16; Psalm 63; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13*

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

**For all the sick in our parishes**

**Special Intentions**

**Those who have an anniversary:** Margaret Brennan (1st), William & Jeanie Smyth, Margaret Martin, Sandra Cassidy (3rd), Pat McMenamin, Mary Timmons, David Owen Murphy, Luigi & Marietta Tortolano, Sarah Murray, George Lafferty, Stephen (Tiney) Brennan, Jimmy Kelly, James McCann, Matthew Taylor, Bobby Fleming, John & Mary McCann, Cathy Murphy (McGurran), Laura Dickie, Theresa Loudon, Alex Tulloch, Alice Burns, Cathie Dorrian, Cyril Martin Dorrian, James & Mary Timmons, Marie & Arthur Cambridge, deceased members Clyde & Kerr families.

**Those who have died recently**: Billy Giffney, Ina McIver, Daniel McGreer, Canon John McGrorry (Balloch), Bernard McLaughlin (Glasgow), Bernadette Quinn, Harriet Scott**,** Patricia Aitkin Joe Sloan (Dundee), Anne Templeton, Ellen Carson, Rosaria Lee, Jim Harper, James McNamara, Margaret Conway, Ina McIver, Joyce McKechnie and Michael Neil.

**ST JOHN'S TWIN PARISH IN BRAZIL.** Sheet available for signatures to accompany Christmas Card.

**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. 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.

**ONLINE LOURDES SIGN-UP SUNDAY.** Galloway Lourdes Hospitalité and Youth For Lourdes are holding a joint Sign-Up Session on Sunday 22nd November, 3pm, St Quivox Hall, Prestwick, KA9 1LU. Please join them to find out more about the fulfilling experience that volunteering in Lourdes is. They are looking for helpers in all capacities - medical team, general helpers and young people from 4th year to 23 years for the Youth for Lourdes team. Whether it is your 1st or 21st pilgrimage, a warm welcome awaits!

**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 34085or on the night.

**ANNUAL EDUCATION MASS.** Will be celebrated by Bishop Frank in St John's, Stevenston on Wednesday 25th November at 6pm

**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

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

**NEW YEAR'S EVE CEILIDH.** Thursday 31st December, 7.30pm – 12.30am. Proceeds Ukraine Appeal. Tickets £15. More information contact – Michael on 0781 365 0411.

**ADESTE FIDELES** - Come All Ye Faithful - a Gathering for Advent. We are getting together with our two Primary Schools to celebrate Advent in St Mary's Hall at 3pm on Sunday, 29th November. The celebration will last one hour. **More details next week.**

**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.

**ST MATTHEW'S FUNDRAISER**. Quiz Night for the next visit from our friends in our partner school, St Peter's, Mzuzu in St Matthew's on Thursday 19th November. Tickets £5 adults & £3.50 for U18s. Doors open at 6.30pm. All welcome.
To reserve tickets please contact the school on 01294 606680. Limited tickets will be available at the door on the night.

**POPE FRANCIS HOMILY.** But with this parable he tells us that keeping watch does not only mean not to sleep, but to be ready; in fact all the maidens are asleep before the bridegroom's arrival, but upon waking some are ready and others are not. Thus, here is the meaning of being wise and prudent: it is a matter of not waiting until the last minute of our lives to cooperate with the grace of God, but rather to do so as of now. It would be good to consider for a moment: one day will be the last. If it were today, how prepared am I? But I must do this and that.... Be ready as if it were the last day: this does us good. Full text https://www.popefrancishomilies.com/matthew-chapter-23-25.

**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 25:1-13**




At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, "Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise answered, saying, "Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves." And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he answered, "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you." Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

***FOR REFLECTION***

- Do you identify more with the wise or foolish virgins in the gospel?
- How do you think you, particularly, are called to prepare your heart of Christ's coming?
- Re-read the first reading, remembering that "wisdom of God" is one of Christ's ancient titles. How does this reading work for you as an image of Christ? How does it compare with the gospel?

**Becoming a Catholic Teacher Online Information Event on 25th November from 5pm – 6pm.**
**Please email: catholic-education@glasgow.ac.uk**

***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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