



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

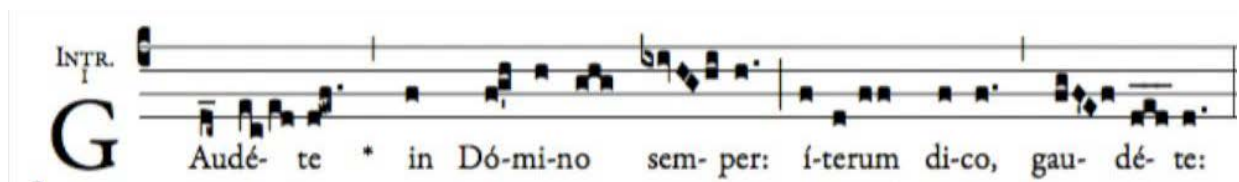
Bulletin for the Third Sunday of Advent  
Gaudete Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

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## GAUDETE IN DOMINO SEMPER Rejoice in the Lord always...

In the days when Mass was celebrated in Latin, certain Sundays throughout the liturgical year took their names from the first word of the Introit or Entrance Antiphon. In our own time this Antiphon, although still found in the Missal, has largely been replaced by a processional hymn, at least on Sundays and major feasts.

Two well-known examples of this would be: the Sunday after Easter (often referred to as 'Low Sunday' in Britain because of its contrast to the high solemnity of Easter Sunday) was known as '*Quasimodo* Sunday' from the First Letter of Saint Peter chapter 2 verse 2 "*Quasi modo geniti infantes...*" ("Like newborn babes...").



The Fourth Sunday of Lent was known as '*Laetare* Sunday' because the Introit began "*Laetare Ierusalem...*" ("Rejoice, Jerusalem..."). See text above is written in Plainsong or Gregorian Chant notation.

This Third Sunday of Advent is often still known as '*Guadete* Sunday' taken from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians chapter 4 verse 4: "*Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete*" (Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice). '*Gaudete*' means therefore 'rejoice' - it is the imperative (or command) form of the Latin verb '*Gaudere*' that is, 'to rejoice'.

The reason for our rejoicing is that we have now passed the mid-point in Advent, and we are asked not so much to focus on the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time, but rather to turn our minds to celebrate the feast of his First Coming at Bethlehem - Christmas.

You will notice that the mood lightens somewhat in the readings and prayers of today's Mass. This lightening of the mood of Advent is also reflected in the use of rose coloured vestments today - normally royal purple or violet is used during Advent. For this same reason, the third candle of the Advent wreath on this *Gaudete* Sunday is traditionally rose-coloured. In the purple floral arrangement before the altar some roses have been added as another sign of rejoicing and the proximity of Christmas.

Father McGachey

## THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - See below

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday-Friday at 9.15am

HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Friday at 9.35am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday-Saturday 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - on Tuesday after Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA FOR THE LAPSED - on Thursday after Mass

THE CHURCH IS OPEN - Monday-Sunday 9am-3.30pm - please note the change of time

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## PARISH CHRISTMAS FAYRE - THIS SUNDAY

We hope that you will come along to the Christmas Fayre in the Parish Hall this Sunday. It begins at 12.30pm until 3pm. There will be rolls and sausage, season mince pies and other sweet treats, as well as teas and coffees and soft drinks.

The Christmas Raffle will be drawn in the Hall. Amongst the prizes are: £500 cash, a Fortnum and Mason's Luxury Christmas Hamper in its traditional wicker basket, another Luxury Christmas Hamper, Chocolates, Johnny Walker Blue Label whisky etc.

There will be a variety of Stalls: Wheel of Fortune, Bottle Stall, Ladies Fashions, face painting for children etc.

We have two *bona fide* football shirts to auction: one is a Brazil National shirt signed by Pele and the other a signed Celtic shirt; and a Chris Sutton Celtic shirt too. They would make special presents for Christmas!



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## CONFESSION TIMES BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Father Quinn, at Saint Leonard's, will host a Penance Service, with an opportunity for individual Confession, on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

I will hear Confessions at the following times in Saint Bride's:

- Saturday after 10am Mass; from 4pm until 4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass
- After the 9.30am Mass and after the 11.30am Mass on Sunday
- After 10am Mass each morning, Monday to Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> December
- From 6.15pm until 6.45pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, before Devotions

Please consider making a new start with God and with those around you, by making a good Confession. It may be a long time since you were last at Confession... Come and experience the healing power of God's mercy.

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## 200 CLUB

This week's winner is Irene Learmonth. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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## ADVENT DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

On Tuesday we will have Devotions in honour of Our Lady at 7pm. They will begin with a Torchlight Procession from Our Lady's Altar, the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

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# THE MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER - THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

The *Vigil* Mass of Christmas - 4pm, The *Night* Mass of Christmas - 8pm

MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER - THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

The *Dawn* Mass of Christmas 9.30am, The *Day* Mass of Christmas 11.30am

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## CHURCH CLEANING FOR CHRISTMAS

We would like to have a big church clean this Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December, after 10am Mass, for two hours. We would like to wash down the benches and kneelers, as well as the other woodwork around the Church, the altars too. We would like to have the floors mopped and the high dusting done. And a thousand other small jobs besides! The Crib figures from the basement will have to be carried upstairs and washed. If you can, please bring your own bucket; we will provide cloths and detergents. Thank you for your help.

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## PLEASE REMEMBER

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, and the obligation to attend Sunday Mass on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas Eve morning, stands as normal. So, Masses will be at the usual times: Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 4.30pm and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am and 11.30am.

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## CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCES

In some parishes it is traditional for the Priest to offer the Masses he says on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for our dead relatives and friends. I will do this at the four Christmas Masses here at Saint Bride's this year. Their names will also be included in a special Christmas Day edition of the Bulletin - these are called 'Christmas Remembrances'. If you like to have your loved ones remembered in this way, then please hand in their names to the Sacristy or the Chapel House by 7pm on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> of December.

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## STALL

There is a wide selection of modestly priced Christmas cards, Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards and some calendars and cribs. The statues of the Sleeping Saint Joseph have arrived.

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## THE CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

You should find with your bulletin today the traditional 'Christmas Collection' envelope. This was one of the old 'Quarterly Collections' of the past. This income from this Collection is used to help support the Parish's daily liturgical life, the costs of heating and lighting the Church, which are very considerable (combined, they were almost £3,000 in November), as well as looking after the general fabric of the Church properties.

We are fortunate in this Parish not to have a weekly second collection, as many other parishes do. Therefore, this the only time, apart from Easter, when we ask for a little extra help. **But please, give only if you can afford to give, because of the cost-of-living crisis and the financial demands that we are all under at this time.** If you are a member of the Giftaid scheme, then please mark as the envelope 'Giftaid' and add your blue envelope number or write your name on the envelope. Thank you very much for your continued support of Saint Bride's. It is much appreciated and will help us face the new year with more confidence.

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*  
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**WEBSITE** www.sbek.org    **TWITTER** @StBrideEK    **FACEBOOK** @StBrideEK  
**HALL BOOKINGS** Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org  
**BULLETIN NOTICES** Contact Fr. McGachey or bulletin@sbek.org  
**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER** 07873 263801

### **PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS**

**SICK** - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Patricia Williamson, Jean O'Neil, Mary Connor (Canada), Steven Holiway, Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Jimmy Waite, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Father Pierre Potie (France), Therese Martin.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Kenneth Woods, Elizabeth Spicer, Sister Laurena, Anne Marie Cuffe, Ernest Robson.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Chris Roberts, Charlie McCartney, Susanne Mair, Michael McGee, Willie Maxwell, John Thompson, Catherine Boyd, Eleanor Stirling, Anne Gallagher Goodwin, Patricia Burns, Bonnie McMenamin, Ave Docherty.

#### **FUNERALS**

Kenneth Woods - details to be confirmed.    Elizabeth Spicer - details to be confirmed

### **WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023 £2439. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £162,000. You may wish to make a one-off donation to the Parish or take out a Standing Order in favour of the Parish. Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the details of which are as follows: Stbrides, Sort Code 82-62-24, Account Number 40500017.

### **SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

If you wish to donate by Bank Transfer to Saint Vincent De Paul Society, the details are: SSVP, Sort Code 82 - 62 - 24, Account No. 20538417. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need of help, please contact John Mullen on 07712 903732.

### **CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL**

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your Parish Priest to show that you accept and live Catholic Faith. For those living in Saint Bride's, this means from Father McGachey. This applies to those about to enrol in the teacher training Course, those about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts (promoted or otherwise) within the Catholic Sector. If you have any questions, please speak to Father McGachey.

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## UPDATE...

Belated but sincere thanks to the Bereavement Group for organising the Parish Memorial Mass for the Dead at the end of November, and indeed for the work they do throughout the year in keeping in touch with the families of the bereaved.

Thank you too, to the Children's Liturgy group for all their hard work over the past few months. It is much appreciated. The Children's Liturgy will resume at the 9.30am Mass early in the new year. Thank you to those who have donated chocolates for the children for the end of Mass each week, and to the generous parishioner who has donated sixty selection boxes to be distributed to the children on Christmas Day.

Thank you to all those who came to the Mass for the Immaculate Conception last Friday - around 200, I reckon - and to the ladies who prepared the hot food and refreshments in the Hall afterwards, and for the work they do every Thursday in offering a Coffee Morning after 10am Mass.

Thank you to the parishioner who represented me at the interviews for the new Headteacher of Saint Kenneth's Primary School on Friday of last week. I am personally in your debt.

I have visited almost all the parishioners on the Sick List over the past fortnight - around eighty people. Could I ask the Eucharistic Ministers who bring Holy Communion to the sick, to take a Bulletin to give to each of them - so they know what is happening in the Parish. I will be hearing around 200 Confessions of the children in Saint Kenneth's Primary School this week.

New lighting has been installed in the sanctuary area - above the tabernacle and on the side walls. There is additional lighting work still to be done in the new year around the statues of Our Lady, Saint Bride and Saint Anthony and in the staircase to the choir loft and elsewhere, as well as general repairs to the Church electrics. I wonder does anyone know if all the small decorative recesses on the lefthand side of the Church were lit in past? Only a few of them are illuminated presently. Please speak to me if you have any memories of this. I am sure it would enhance the Church if more of these were lit.

I am having a wooden Ambry (a small glass fronted cupboard) made for the Holy Oils to be placed in and fixed to the wall behind the baptismal font - this is the time immemorial position for the Holy Oils in Churches. Thank you to the parishioner who has given me money to pay for this job.

I have had meetings this past week about rewiring the Chapel House in order to comply with the Law (estimated cost £20,000) - the existing wiring is from the 1960s and is potentially dangerous. The gas pipe which sits across the threshold of the entrance on Plattthorn Drive must be lowered and covered over, in order to meet health and safety regulations (estimated cost £6,000). These are expensive jobs, but they must be done to comply with the Law.

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