



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Eleventh Sunday of the Ordinary
Season - 18th June 2023

SAINT JOHN FISHER AND SAINT THOMAS MORE

This Thursday, 22nd June, the Church honoured two courageous men who were martyred during the Reformation: John Fisher and Thomas More.



John Fisher was born in Yorkshire in 1465, the son of a draper. He was educated at Cambridge University, where he became a noteworthy scholar; he was elected a Fellow of Trinity College and ordained to the Priesthood in 1491. In 1502 he became chaplain to Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of the future King Henry VIII, and with her help, he re-founded the University both financially and academically.

Fisher was consecrated Bishop of Rochester, England's smallest See, in 1504. As one of the King's most trusted bishops, he had no escape from declaring his mind regarding the validity of King Henry's marriage to Catherine of Aragon when the King wanted to have the marriage annulled. For this he was condemned and imprisoned in the Tower of London. Here not only was he deprived of food and clothing, but perhaps most cruelly of all, from the visit of any priest. In the final days of his life, Pope Paul III created him a cardinal. On 22nd June 1535, John Fisher was taken from the Tower of London to the scaffold on Tower Hill. Pardoning his executioners, he declared that he was dying for the Catholic Church.

Thomas More was born at Milk Street in London, just behind Saint Paul's Cathedral, in 1478. The son of a distinguished judge, he was apprenticed in the household of the Archbishop of Canterbury as a page. The Archbishop, seeing that Thomas had great potential, nominated him for a place at Oxford University - where he would spend only two years, and then return to London, at his father's insistence, to study law. He was called to the Bar in 1502.



Two years later, he married Jane Colt, and entered Parliament. Together they had four children: three girls and a boy. But tragedy struck when Jane died in their sixth year of marriage. More remarried thirty days after her funeral; his new wife, Alice Middleton, loved him and the four children, while Thomas in his turn was generous husband and father. He published a whole series of books, including his most famous book *Utopia* in 1516. Later, he would put his pen at the service of the Church, defending its teachings against Martin Luther.

More's work in Parliament attracted the attention of King Henry VIII, who appointed him Speaker of the House of Commons (the last Catholic Speaker until Michael Martin in 2000). In 1529, he became Lord Chancellor of England. His tenure, however, was short-lived, when he resigned four years later, because he could not back the King in his attempts to have his first marriage to the Spaniard, Catherine of Aragon, dissolved. Like Fisher, he refused to swear allegiance to the King as the Supreme Head of the Church in England. For this reason, he was arrested, and imprisoned in the Tower of London for fifteen months without trial. Nine days after Fisher's execution, he was tried and convicted of high treason: it took the jury only fifteen minutes to find More guilty. He was sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered (the usual punishment for traitors), but the King commuted his sentence to decapitation. He told the court that he could not go against his conscience and wished his judges that "we may merrily meet in heaven again." On the 6th of July 1532, as he was being led to the scaffold, he cried out to the crowd that he was dying "the King's good servant, but God's servant first."

In 2000, Pope Saint John Paul II declared More "the heavenly Patron of Statesmen and Politicians."
Father McGachey

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - Saturday after 10am Mass, 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday to Friday at 9.30am

HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Saturday at 9.40am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am.

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

NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS - WEEK 8

This powerful Novena continues on **Wednesday** evening at 7pm. If you missed the Novena, there are leaflets with the Novena Prayers for the seventh week on the ledge at the Notice Board. Please take a copy and pass it on. After the Novena this coming Wednesday, there will be an opportunity for Confession.



MASS FOR THE SICK

On Thursday 22nd of June, the Feast of the martyrs Saints John Fisher and Thomas More, we will have a special 10am Mass during which the Sacrament of the Sick will be given to anyone who would like to receive it. After Mass there will be a special breakfast in the Parish Hall. All welcome.

SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Thursday 29th of June, is a Holyday of Obligation - a day when we are expected to be at Holy Mass. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 10am and 7pm. Please note that there will be no Vigil Mass because of the Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots.



PETER'S PENCE - RETIRING COLLECTION - NEXT SUNDAY

Next week there will be a retiring collection for 'Peter's Pence' to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

CLUB 200

This week's winner is John Maguire. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

FATHER JIM MORRIS - GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS

Father Jim Morris, curate at Saint Bride's between 1974 and 1978, has requested that he celebrate a Mass to mark his Golden Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood, on the 5th July at 7pm, in Saint Bride's. If you remember Father Morris, please join him at the special celebration.

ALTERATIONS TO THE CHURCH

Over the past few months, the local undertakers have requested more space to manoeuvre coffins when coming down the small stairway between the confessionals into the aisle on the way to the central aisle. In fact, a pallbearer had a bad fall a few months ago narrowly missing banging his head on the bench. While we cannot make the stairway any bigger or remove the white pillar without affecting the integrity of the gallery, we can make the small aisle wider. The Parish Fabric Committee have given the go ahead to take away the last bench on either side of the Church in the large section of benches. These benches are to be moved to the back of the Church on the lefthand side facing the altar. This will mean the demolition of the small platform on which the cross presently sits. Hopefully this work will be carried out this coming week. Apologies for any inconvenience.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The final Children's Liturgy session in the Parish Hall for the current school year will take place the Sunday 18th June. We thank all the children for their attendance and participation, and also to their parents and carers who brought them. We celebrate all the children who took part in the sacramental preparations and made their First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation. We will be back again in September.

BISHOP MAURICE TAYLOR, RIP



Bishop Maurice Taylor died last week, at the age of 97, being the oldest living Catholic bishop in Great Britain. Bishop Taylor was born on 5th May 1926 in Hamilton, the eldest of four children. He attended St Cuthbert's Primary, Burnbank, before going on to St. Aloysius' College, Glasgow, and, later, Our Lady's High School, Motherwell. He studied philosophy at Blairs College, from 1942 to 1944 and then served in the Royal Army Medical Corps, at home, in India and in Egypt. He attended the Pontifical Scots College, Rome from 1947 to 1951, studying theology at the Gregorian University and being ordained a priest for the Diocese of Motherwell in Rome on 2nd July 1950.

After a year as assistant priest in St Bartholomew's Parish, Coatbridge, he returned to Rome in 1952 where he took his doctorate in theology in 1954. He would spend a further year as assistant priest at St Bernadette's Parish in Motherwell, before returning to teaching. For 10 years from August 1955 he taught philosophy and theology at St Peter's College, Cardross. From 1965 until 1974 he was rector of the Royal Scots College, Valladolid, Spain, after which he returned to parish ministry as **parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in East Kilbride.**

He was ordained Bishop of Galloway by Cardinal Gordon Gray on 9th June 1981. For more than ten years he represented Scotland on the Episcopal Board of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), and was its chairman from 1997 until 2002. He retired as bishop in 2004 and was succeeded by Bishop John Cunningham.

FOOD BANK

Grateful thanks for the more than 350 tins and food items, £100 cash, £250 of vouchers. This week: pasta, rice, flour etc. Next week: Toiletries etc. We will take a break for the school holidays and collect all items once a month. Thank you for your kindness and support.

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PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Frankie Logan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Neal McDermott, Patricia Williamson.

RECENTLY DEAD - James Stevenson, Ann Morrison, Els van der Zwan de Graf, Anne Mendes, Gerard Shearer, Phil Trainer.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Patricia Lorimer, Grace Geraghty, Moira and Pat McLaren, William S. Muldoon, Eddie O'Neil, John Wright, Alberto and Elio Faccenda, Don Smeaton.

FUNERALS

James Stevenson - Reception Monday 26th June 6pm; Requiem Mass Tuesday 27th June 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

For the week ending 11th June £2519. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £189,000. 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.

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.