



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
Universal King - 26th November 2023

'VIVA CRISTO REY...'

Today is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King, and the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year.



None of us will remember the Holy Year of 1925, or the political situation which was the background to the teaching of the Pope of those days, Pius XI: in Russia, the Bolsheviks, and in Mexico, extreme left-wing politicians, had established atheistic regimes, bent on the eradication of all religion, sending priests and laity to death or exile in persecutions as terrible as any since the time of the Roman Emperors.

These events came with the potential for evil, with regimes which demanded unconditional loyalty to the State - things which Pope Pius XI was later to condemn.

In these circumstances the Pope wrote the letter '*Quas Primas*' (*In the first*) which described the events and successes of the Holy Year that had passed, and proclaimed, as a climax to that Year, a new feast of the *Kingship of Jesus Christ*.

The Pope fully realised that the liturgy - for instance in the feast of the Ascension - already celebrated the Kingship of Jesus foretold in the Old Testament prophecies. His kingship was referred to often in the Gospels: the angel Gabriel said 'Of his kingdom there will be no end'; or when Jesus himself would say 'All power has been given to me in Heaven and on earth' and then to Pontius Pilate 'Yes, I am a king,' but 'my Kingdom is not of this world'. Pius XI stated that this Kingdom of Christ must oppose regimes, whose basis was the abolition of God, not by material force, but with the weapons of prayer, pardon and peace.

He went on to explain that loyalty to Christ must have first place in our hearts, and that governments must accept that they have no claim on the conscience of believers. Our Catholic faith is rooted firmly in Jesus of Nazareth, who was not a dictator. Worldly kingdoms will come and go; the kingdom of Jesus will never pass away. The Pope felt it was time to have a special feast to celebrate all of this.

The icon pictured above is one found on the *Book of the Gospels*, which we will use at Mass today. It is a fitting image of Christ's kingship since the Greek letters 'IC XC' mean 'Jesus Christ' and 'NIKA' means 'conquers' (hence the name of the sports brand 'Nike' meaning 'to conquer'). They correspond to the Latin 'Christus Vincit' and remind us how a hundred years ago, priests and believers in Mexico and Spain faced death with the cry 'Viva Cristo Rey', 'Long live Christ the King' on their lips.

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

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 (Requiem Mass on Saturday)

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

THE CHURCH IS OPEN - Monday-Sunday 9am-4pm - please note the change of time

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

A pupil representative from Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will read the First Reading at the 9.30am Mass this Sunday. Several pupils will distribute special leaflets produced by the school at the end of this liturgy. Because there are so many calls on your generosity over these next few Sundays, we will postpone the retiring collection to help support the work of the *Scottish Catholic Education Commission* (SCES) to another date.

MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER - FEAST OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL



Monday is the feast of the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. On the 27th November 1830, at the convent of the Daughters of Charity, on the Rue du Bac, Paris, Our Lady appeared to Saint Catherine Labouré, a novice in the community. She showed Catherine the design of a medal that she wanted to be made and distributed to all the world (see opposite). The medal was initially known as the Medal of the Immaculate Conception, but due to the many miracles that the medal seemed to produce, it received the popular title of 'The Miraculous Medal.'

I am grateful to the Parish Legion of Mary for having procured several hundred Miraculous Medals. Please take these for yourself and pass them on to your family and friends. There are leaflets with the Novena Prayers and the history of this devotion, please take these too. At the end of Mass, I will bless the Miraculous Medals and say the Prayers of Enrolment. We will conclude by saying our weekly Novena Prayers to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER - SAINT ANDREW'S DAY

Thursday is the feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle and Patron of Scotland. A native of Bethsaida, a fisherman by trade, and a disciple of John the Baptist, he introduced his brother Peter to Jesus. After Pentecost, Andrew is said to have been martyred at Patras in Greece, on a cross which was in the form of an X known as 'Saint Andrew's cross.'

Our Mass on Thursday morning will be a Solemn Mass with organ and incense to honour Saint Andrew. Bishop Toal will say Mass on Thursday at 11.45am for Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School in honour of their co-patron.

The Dyet Family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all those who attended the Requiem Mass for their son Paul. Special thanks to those who sent Mass and Sympathy Cards, as well as messages of support. Holy Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

THE STALL

There is a wide selection of modestly priced Advent Calendars, children's books, as well as a new selection of Christmas cards, which arrived last week. There are cribs and other seasonal gifts too. On sale is the December edition of 'My day by day' price £1.00.



THE SEASON OF ADVENT 2023 AT SAINT BRIDE'S

The Season of Advent begins next Sunday. The Advent Wreath will be blessed at the beginning of all the Masses that day.

We will pray a special Litany for the Advent Season after the Rosary each morning.

On the Tuesdays of Advent, we will have Devotions in honour of Our Lady at 7pm. They will begin with a Torchlight Procession from Our Lady's Altar, a *Lucernarium* (A Thanksgiving for Light), the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. [Please note the change of day from Monday to Tuesday].

On the Thursdays of Advent, we will introduce two short Novena Prayers to Saint Monica at the end of the 10am Mass - these prayers are especially for children and grandchildren who have lapsed from the practice of their faith. I am sure we all have some such people in our families who need our prayers.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FRIDAY 8th DECEMBER MASS FOR THE SICK



On this special feast of Our Lady, we will have a Mass for the Sick, during which the Anointing of the Sick will be given to all those who wish to receive it, at 10am. The Mass will be followed by rolls and sausage, tea and coffee, in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAYRE - SUNDAY 17th DECEMBER 2023

We are looking for donations of all sorts of bottles for the Wheel of Fortune and Bottle Stall. We also looking for Ladies coats, jackets, handbags and shoes, in good condition. for the Ladies' Fashion Stall.

Raffle tickets are on sale this week, and for the next few weeks, before and after weekend Masses. Amongst the prizes are £500 cash, a Fortnum and Mason's Luxury Christmas Hamper in its traditional wicker basket, another Luxury Christmas Hamper, Chocolates, de luxe whiskey etc.

On the day of the Fayre, we have two *bona fide* football shirts to auction: one is a Brazil National shirt signed by Pele, and the other a signed Lisbon Lions Celtic shirt. They would make special presents for Christmas!

The money the Fayre generates, will be used to help fund some essential work to enhance our parish Church!



CANON RYAN'S CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Our annual appeal for Christmas gifts and toys for less fortunate children in the East End of Glasgow begins today and will run until the 10th December. The items can be left beside the gate to the Choir Loft. Since the Church is open each day, the gifts will taken after each Mass to the Library. Please do not wrap any gifts. Thank you for your generosity.

BROADCAST FOR 'ADVENT SUNDAY'

Next Sunday at 3pm BBC Radio 3 will broadcast the traditional 'Advent Sunday' service live from Saint John's College, Cambridge, at 3pm. It is a beautiful liturgy of readings and congregational and choral music for the Season of Advent. I am sure you would enjoy it, if you get the chance to listen. You can listen any time on 'BBC Sounds'.

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Margaret Farrell. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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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 McMahan, Chris McBain, 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 - Robin McKechnie, Frances Maxwell, Robert Sutherland, May O'Neill.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - McKay Family, Neil Kurdell, Mary T. Sweeney, Gerry Kennedy, Margaret Anne Kennedy, Paul Livingstone, Andreas Snell, Antonio de Vitto, Lorenzo di Vitto, Annemarie Logan.

FUNERALS

Frances Maxwell - Vigil and Reception Friday 1st December 6pm; Requiem Mass Saturday 2nd December 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 19th November 2023 £2516. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £165,000. 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.