



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-First Sunday of the Ordinary  
Season - 24<sup>th</sup> August 2025

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## "LATE HAVE I LOVED YOU, O BEAUTY SO ANCIENT AND YET SO NEW. LATE HAVE I LOVED YOU!"

### Saint Augustine of Hippo - Feast Day on Thursday

**O**n Thursday we remember the great of Saint Augustine. Sometimes nowadays parents and grandparents look on perplexed as they witness the choices made by their loved ones - choices where God and the Church rarely figure. Often, they are tempted to think that they have failed their families and that God has deserted them. Augustine is a beacon of hope not only for parents and grandparents, but for children and grandchildren too, because he was able to turn his life around in the direction of God.

Augustine was born in 354 in Tagaste (Algeria), to a pagan father, Patricius and a Christian mother, Monica; his brother and sister were Navigius and Perpetua. At the age of eleven Augustine was sent to school at Madaurus; he had brains to burn, but he fell in with the wrong crowd. In his autobiography, the *Confessions*, he says that he stole and lacked respect for his elders and their property, including his parents. While studying in Carthage (Tunisia), he began a relationship that lasted fifteen years with a young woman whom he



never names. Together they had a child, a boy, whom they called Adeodatus, who would die when he was eighteen years of age.

He taught Grammar for a while in Tagaste (373-4) and then moved back to Carthage where he was head of a school of Rhetoric for the next nine years. All the while, a frantic Monica pleaded with him to settle down and receive baptism. Instead, he became part of a popular sect called Manicheism (with Christian and pagan elements, it reduces everything to a struggle between

good and evil, without a mention of God). A priest counselled Monica that "the son of so many tears, could never be lost by God, but that in his own way, and in his own time, he would bring him to himself."

Augustine went to Rome, and then to Milan, in 384. One day, while passing a church, he was drawn by the music coming from inside. He describes his heart as melting away, realising the hurt he had caused his parents, and many others too. He was moved to tears by what the Bishop, Saint Ambrose, had to say, and would later write of the experience in the *Confessions*, "Late have I loved you, O Beauty, so ancient and yet so new, late have I loved you." Monica had followed him to Milan, and both became friends of Ambrose.

There are two incidents in his conversion story that are crucial: he was profoundly influenced by reading the life of early third century Saint Anthony of the Desert, who when he read "Go, sell all you have, and give to the poor, and come and follow me", he did just that. Later on, while experiencing the turmoil of his own conversion, Augustine was sitting one day in a garden and heard the voice of a child repeatedly saying, *Tolle, lege!* "Take and read!" Augustine interpreted this as a call from God to take up the Bible and read he opened it at the passage from Paul's Letter to the Romans "Let us live decently as people

do in the daytime...Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ." He described this event as, "a light of serenity piercing his darkness and all melting away all doubt."

Augustine with Adeodatus, was baptised by Ambrose at Easter 387. In August that year, Augustine, Monica, Adeodatus and Navigius; they travelled to Ostia outside Rome, with the intention of sailing back to Africa. Monica, however, died at Ostia, but not without giving her family the timeless advice to "Remember me at the altar of God, wherever you may be."

Augustine would later go on to become the Bishop of Hippo. He had to navigate his way through difficult times for the Church for the next thirty years: the Vandals were destroying the Roman Empire; and there were the heresies of Donatism and Pelagianism spreading in North Africa. Augustine would spend a great deal his time writing and preaching. Augustine was seventy-six when the Vandals arrived in North Africa and were at the gates of Hippo as he lay dying. It is often said that he died of a broken heart as he watched the world he had known drift away.

His remains were taken to Sardinia and then to Pavia in northern Italy, where they can still be visited today. Along with Saints Jerome, Ambrose, and Gregory the Great, he is one of the four doctors of the Western Church. His life story should give hope to us all: that God in his own way, in his own time, will bring our loved ones back to himself. **Father McGachey**

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### **THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S**

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN** from 9am-5pm daily, or until after the evening service

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

**CONFESSIONS** - Saturday 9.30am-9.50am, after 10am Mass; 4pm-4.20pm and Mass

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

**HOLY ROSARY** - Monday-Saturday at 9.30am

**PRO-LIFE ROSARY** - Wednesday after 10am Mass

**HOLY MASS** - Monday to Saturday 10am

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL** - on Tuesdays after 10am Mass

**NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA** - on Thursdays after 10am Mass

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### **MASS FOR THE SICK - THIS THURSDAY, 28<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

Our next Mass for the Sick will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 10am. The holy anointing with the Oil of the Sick will be given during the Mass. Please join us for rolls and sausage and tea and coffee after Mass in the Hall.

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### **COULD THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONERS PLEASE SPEAK TO ME AFTER MASS?**

Anne Guidi, Edward Williamson, Jacqueline Stenhouse, Deirdre Maxwell Stuart, Siobhan McGee, Geraldine Emans, Gillian Baker, Alison Gibbons, Yvonne Kirkwood and Elizabeth Laurie.

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### **ORGAN RECITAL - SAINT BRIDGET'S, BAILLIESTON**

An invitation from Saint Bridget's Church, Baillieston to come and experience a recital by one of the most exciting organists of our time, Kevin Bowyer, organist of Glasgow University Chapel, playing the newly installed Bruggencate-MacKenzie pipe organ. On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August. Admission £10.

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## CLUB 200

Last week's winner was **Elizabeth O'Neill**. This week's winner is **Rose McCabe**. Collect your cheque from the sacristy.

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## NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN - SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

The National Pilgrimage at the National Shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes, Carfin, will take place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September. The theme for this year's Pilgrimage will be Pilgrims of Hope. Holy Mass will be celebrated at the Shrine at 3pm, the main Celebrant and Preacher being the Most Reverend Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrew's and Edinburgh, who is celebrating his 40th Anniversary as a Priest this year. Pope, Leo XIV, recently announced that Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, will be canonised on this day in Rome, so it seems an ideal day for the Scottish Catholic Community to come together to joyfully celebrate our faith in communion with Pope Leo and the Universal Church.

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## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

Our new session, 2025-2026, is due to start at the beginning of September. An initial meeting will take place on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September at 7pm, in the Library at the side of the church. We invite anyone who has been thinking of becoming a Catholic; anyone who is interested in deepening and sharing their understanding of their faith; and anyone who would simply like to know more about Catholicism. We look forward to hearing from you. Team contact details: Margaret Farrell 07791 081706. Mairi McKenna 07841 976779.

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## CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

Our Annual Christmas Coffee Morning will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December after 9.30am and 11.30am Masses. We are looking for helpers to get involved, and will hold a meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm in the Library. All welcome.

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## FOOD BANK UPDATE

Our next Collection is on 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> the weekend of August. Please hand all items into the Hall. Leaflets will be distributed today with urgent items needed. Boxes for cash and vouchers will be at the front and the back of the Church. New volunteers and helpers are needed. Please speak to John Henvey about getting involved.

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## THIS WEEK...

Father Martin will be covering the Masses in Holy Family Parish, Mossend this weekend. Father McGachey will be at funeral Saint Teresa's, Newharthill on Tuesday. Additionally, he will be leaving on Thursday to travel to Eastbourne, for a funeral, returning Saturday.

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## CALENDAR

On **Monday** we honour **Saint Joseph Calasanx** (+1648) he founded the Order of Piarists. **Wednesday** is the memorial of **Saint Monica** (+387). **Thursday** is the feast day of **Saint Augustine** - see front cover. **Saturday** is the memorial of the **Passion of Saint John the Baptist**.

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## SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*  
Rev. Colm E. Martin *Assistant Priest, High School and Hospital Chaplain*

**EMAIL** frmcgachey@rcdom.org.uk  
frmartin@rcdom.org.uk

**ADDRESS** Saint Bride's Parish, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN

**TELEPHONE** 01355 220005

**WEBSITE** www.sbek.org **TWITTER** @StBrideEK **FACEBOOK** @StBrideEK

**HALL BOOKINGS** Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org

**BULLETIN NOTICES** Contact Fr. McGachey or Fr. Martin or bulletin@sbek.org

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER** 07712 903732

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - Monica McShane, Mary Easton, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart, Margaret Hannigan, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Gayle Cochran, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, Theresa Tierney, Gary Jones, Paul Ellis, Colette Roxburgh.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Steven Russell, Catherine Keenan, Mary Andrew (Wales), Gary Stuart, James Murphy, Norris McWilliams, Paul McGrath, Catherine Stalker, Tyrone Steel, George McNabb.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Brian Curran, Thomas Burns, Michael Docherty, Gertrude Stewart, Angela Malone, John Keavney sen., Mary Keavney, Gisella McMurray, Monica Gibbons, Marie Therese Kelly, Nancy Rooney, Maria Conway.

**DEATHS** - Catherine Keenan. Requiem Mass, Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August 10am.

Steven Russell. Reception, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 6pm. Requiem Mass, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 10am.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August** - £2,990. This Standing Orders in favour of the off donation to the Parish or take Parish. Offerings can be made by are as follows: St Brides Parish scanning the adjacent QR code. It If you pay Income Tax, you can will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.



included the Basket Collection and Parish. You may wish to make a one-out a Standing Order in favour of the Bank Transfer, the details of which 10246966 and 80-12-97 or by will take you to a secure web page. Giftaid your offering - the parish