



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday of the Ordinary
Season - 28th September 2025

THE FORTY HOURS ADORATION

On Tuesday a *Forty Hours Adoration* of the Blessed Sacrament begins in Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School. Father Martin encourages us to pay visits to the School Oratory to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, during week. The Oratory is on the first floor of the school, and can be accessed by a lift, just beyond the second set of doors at the Entrance. You will be asked to sign-in to the school and accompanied by pupils to the Oratory. We are assured a warm welcome.

I hope you will find time to visit the Blessed Sacrament this week, especially on Wednesday, the day allotted to Saint Bride's Parish to keep watch, and to attend the special 12.30pm Mass that day. I think we can give a great witness to the pupils of the importance and the beauty of our faith and our love for the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. But what is the origin of Forty Hours Adoration?



The Forty Hours Adoration, sometimes known by its Italian name *Quarant'ore*, is a special period when the Blessed Sacrament, that is to say, the Sacred Host, consecrated at Mass, displayed in the Monstrance (opposite) is exposed on the altar over a period of forty hours, sometimes continuously, sometimes with interruptions. Why *forty* hours? According to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, Jesus was crucified at the "sixth hour" (the Jews measured the day from 6am-6pm, so the "sixth hour" was midday); they tell us that he died at "ninth hour" (three o'clock). Saint Augustine, amongst others early writers, tells us that Jesus' body "rested in tomb for forty hours", until early on the Sunday morning. Forty is, of course, a significant number in the Bible, often associated with times of trial and suffering, with preparation and glory.

In Medieval Europe, the veneration of Christ's Eucharistic Presence, in the form of a Consecrated Host, placed in a *tomb* (a small tabernacle), that was referred to as the 'Easter Sepulchre' on Good Friday, and watched before until Easter Sunday, was widespread. The custom was repeated outside of Holy Week, beginning in the sixteenth century, in response to the Reformation's denial of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, to show honour to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

The Forty Hours Adoration as we know it today, originated in the Archdiocese of Milan (the biggest in Europe), in the times of Saint Anthony Zacchary (+1539), founder of the Barnabite Order. Later, in 1575, the Archbishop of Milan, Saint Charles Borromeo (+1584), decreed that the Blessed Sacrament be exposed for three days before Ash Wednesday, not only in the city's cathedral, but in thirty other churches in the city, in such a way that there would always be a large number of adorers before the exposed Sacrament. Saint Philip Neri (+1595) introduced the Devotion in Rome; he was the saint too who popularised the tradition of visiting the Blessed Sacrament in *Seven Churches* - something he personally did every evening. The founder of the Redemptorist Order, Saint Alphonsus Ligouri (+1787), always recommended the Forty Hours, when preaching Missions all over Italy.

Another famous promoter of the Forty Hours was the holy Bishop of Philadelphia, Saint John Neumann (+1850), in the nineteenth century. He wanted to establish the Forty Hours

Devotion, but some priests in his diocese were hesitant, believing that it might fan the flames of anti-Catholic sentiment that were prevalent at the time, and even result in the desecration of the Eucharist and possibly the burning down of Churches. But late one night, while pondering over how to best to respond to the clergy, he fell asleep at his desk. He woke-up to find that his candle had ignited the papers on which he had been working. He extinguished the fire, and saw amongst the charred remains of his correspondence, the papers concerning the Forty Hours Devotion remained undamaged. As he fell to his knees in thanksgiving, and he tells us that he heard Our Lord say to him: "As the flames have burned here without consuming your writings, hesitate no longer to carry out your design for my greater glory." Neumann promoted the Devotion throughout his Diocese and it spread all over the American Church.

In our own time, the Church teaches us that Eucharistic Adoration should hold a prominent place for Catholics - that is why we have 45 minutes of Adoration each day in our Parish, Monday to Friday, and why our Church is open all day. It is not an old-fashioned Devotion, but something that is part of the "required" life of the faithful, the Church says. The *Code of Canon Law* (1983), states in Canon 937: 'Unless there is a grave reason to the contrary, the Church in which the Most Holy Eucharist is reserved, is to be open to the faithful for at least some hours every day, so that they can pray before the Most Blessed Sacrament.' Canon 942 says: 'It is recommended that in these same Churches and Oratories, an annual Solemn Exposition of the Most Holy Sacrament be held during a suitable period of time, even if not continuous, so that the local community may meditate and may adore the Eucharistic Mystery more profoundly.' This is what we have in the High School this week.

Father McGachey

SINCERE THANKS

Sincere and heartfelt thanks for your generosity to last Sunday's Retiring Collection for Parish needs. The Collection realised the magnificent sum of £5,456. God reward your generosity! It allows us to face the coming months with a little more confidence. I had said previously that we would have another Retiring Collection on the first Sunday of October. We will not need to do this now. Thank you.

FORTY HOURS ADORATION - A NOTE FROM FATHER MARTIN

Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will have a *Forty Hours Adoration* in the High School Oratory, from the 30th of September until the 3rd of October this year. Adoration will begin each morning at 8am with Morning Prayer of the Church and end at 5pm with Evening Prayer of the Church. On Thursday the 2nd of October the day will finish at 7pm.

Saint Bride's Parish allotted day is Wednesday the 1st of October. We would like parishioners to volunteer to help watch before the Blessed Sacrament, between 8am and 5pm. And especially to attend to 12.30pm Mass. Each period is covered on the sign-up sheet, but any number of parishioners can attend any period, on any day.

Father Martin.

200 CLUB WINNERS

This week's winner is Anne Guidi. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

THE NEW OCTOBER EDITION OF "MY DAY BY DAY", IS AVAILABLE AT THE STALL - £1.00

TRAINING FOR NEW EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Could the parishioners that I approached recently about helping us as new Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, please come to a thirty-minute meeting next Tuesday, 7th October, at 7pm, in the Church. If you are unable to attend, please let me know, and we will arrange an alternative time.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS

Since this is the September Weekend Holiday, there will be no liturgy this weekend. It resumes next weekend at 9.15am for the Confirmation children and 9.30am for all others.

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY



On the **Mondays** of October at 7pm, we would like to have traditional October Devotions in honour of Our Lady, with a torchlight procession, prayerful recitation of the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, along with the traditional elements: organ accompaniment and the use of incense. Perhaps it is many years since you attended these Devotions, maybe you have never attended them before. Please come and take part! Remember – Our Lady will not be outdone in repaying any efforts and sacrifices we make in her honour! On the Monday mornings of October, there will be no public recitation of the Rosary.

CALENDAR

Monday is the feast of the **Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**. **Tuesday** is the memorial of **Saint Jerome** (+420). Born in Dalmatia, he was an extraordinarily gifted man, who heard and obeyed the Lord's call. He was entrusted with the task of revising the Latin Bible, which took 30 years to complete. On **Wednesday** we remember **Saint Thérèse of Lisieux** (+1897), popularly known as "the Little Flower". Although an obscure Carmelite nun, she has had universal appeal since her death. Saint Thérèse is the patroness of the Foreign Missions. **Thursday** is the memorial of the **Guardian Angels**. Each person on earth has a Guardian Angel who watches over them. Angel, or *angelos* in Greek, means 'messenger'. They assist us our work, in moments of temptation and physical danger. On **Friday**, we remember **Saint Francis of Assisi** (+1226). Founding a new Order, his followers were called *Friars Minor* because they considered themselves as the least among Religious. Out of humility, Francis never accepted the Priesthood but remained a deacon.

PARISH CLUB 200

Thank you for your continued support of the Parish through the 200 Club. It is much appreciated! For those who pay the Club 200 subscriptions by cheque or cash, the subscriptions are due on the 1st October 2025. If you pay annually, the amount is £60 for twelve months and £30 for those who pay for a six-month period. Envelopes with cash or cheques, can be handed into the sacristy. Please mark 'Club 200' and your name on the envelope. Thank you.

TRIBUTE NIGHT

There will be a Kenny Rodgers and Neil Diamond Tribute Night, featuring Pat Cairns, in the Parish Hall, on Saturday 11th October. For tickets, priced £15, contact Pat on 07989392287.

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

CLERGY	Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, <i>Parish Priest</i> Rev. Colm E. Martin, <i>Assistant Priest, High School and Hospital Chaplain</i>
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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, John Paul Quinn, John Saroli, Lizann O'Hare, Susan and Robin Topping, Arthur Connor (Canada).

RECENTLY DEAD - Ali Downie, Roisin Shirrifs, Margaret Byrne, Raymond Cosgrove, Nancy Rooney, Margaret Stewart, Ronaldo Gonzalez Moratalla, Jason McDermott, Teresa Coyle.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Rose McCabe, Dominic James Saroli, Stephen Doyle, Monica Sinclair, Adolf Johnston, Carol McLernnan, Norman Mason, Dominic Eardley, Cathy Clarke.

DEATHS

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 21st September - £3005.
Collection and Standing Orders in wish to make a one-off donation to Order in favour of the Parish. Transfer, the details of which are 10246966 and 80-12-97 or by It will take you to a secure web can Giftaid your offering - the percent on the basis of the donation you give.



This included the Basket favour of the Parish. You may the Parish or take out a Standing Offerings can be made by Bank as follows: St Brides Parish scanning the adjacent QR code. page. If you pay Income Tax, you parish will receive a further 25