



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the  
Ordinary Time - 11<sup>th</sup> October 2026

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## O LOVE OF THE SACRED HEART - SAINT MARGARET MARY

**“Look at this Heart which has loved men so much, and yet men do not want to love me in return. Through you, my Sacred Heart wishes to spread its love everywhere on earth.”** Jesus speaking to Saint Margaret Mary

It has been wonderful to see the numbers of parishioners who pause before the statue of the Sacred Heart in prayer, perhaps lighting a candle, since we gave it more prominence in the Church at the beginning of the month of June. Devotion to the Heart of God's Son can be traced back to a series of apparitions that were given to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in the seventeenth century. Her feast day falls on Friday of this week. Who was she and why is she connected with the Sacred Heart?



Burgundy region of France – southeast of Paris - is famous for its white wines (Chablis) and its mustard (Dijon). But the region has another claim to fame: it produced some of the greatest Saints in the Church's history: the Cistercian monk, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (+1153), Saint Jane Frances de Chantal (+1641), Saint Catherine Laboure to whom Our Lady gave the Miraculous Medal (+1876) and Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque.

Marguerite Alacoque, to give her baptismal name, was born in 1647, at L'Hautueux, only daughter and the fifth of seven children. Her father Claude, a well-known lawyer, died prematurely of pneumonia when Margaret was seven. A year later, she was sent to a Convent School, run by the Poor Clares. While boarding there, she contracted rheumatic fever which

left her bedridden for six years. During her illness, she did two things to honour Our Lady: she took 'Mary' as her middle name and made a promise to her, that if she was made well again, she would dedicate her life in her service.

With her father's untimely death, his property and money were seized by one of his brothers, plunging the family into extreme poverty. She wrote later in life that during these years, her only consolation were the frequent visits she made to the local parish Church to pray before the Blessed Sacrament to pour out her woes. Things improve for her mother and siblings when her eldest brother turned twenty-one: he was able to reclaim the family home as his rightful inheritance, expelling his uncle. Her mother, Philiberte, encouraged her to socialise at dances and balls with her brothers, in the hope of her finding a suitable husband.

One night, after returning from one such gathering, she had a vision of Jesus, bleeding and lacerated from the scourges inflicted on him by the Roman soldiers. He reproached her for being so neglectful of him; but he also reassured her that his Sacred Heart was filled with love for her, because of the promise she had made to Mary, his Mother, as a child. As a result of the vision, she entered the Visitation Order (co-founded by Saints Jane Frances de Chantal and the Bishop of Geneva, Saint Francis De Sales [+1622]) at the famous Abbey of Paray-le-Monial in Burgundy in 1671.

However, Margaret Mary had to endure many trials, particularly those that came from the nuns themselves, some of whom put every possible obstacle in her way to prevent her from joining them – some of them believed that she did not have a genuine vocation to the Religious Life. But Margaret Mary bore these trials with patience. One of her fellow novices described her as “humble, simple and frank, kind and full of patience, although not very practical...” - she had been assigned to work in the infirmary but was extremely clumsy and cack handed. Eventually her perseverance won the day and she was allowed to make her final Profession as a nun in 1672.

Between 1673 and 1675, she received three apparitions of Christ: in the first he revealed how he wanted people to honour his Sacred Heart. In the second Our Lord made known his sadness because of the “coldness and indifference” of many towards him. In the third apparition, he revealed twelve promises to Margaret Mary, for all who would honour his Sacred Heart:

- I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
- I will establish peace in their families.
- I will console them in all their troubles.
- They shall find in my Heart an assured refuge during life and especially at the hour of their death.
- I will pour abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
- Sinners shall find in my Heart the source of an infinite ocean of mercy.
- Tepid souls shall become fervent.
- Fervent souls shall speedily rise to great perfection.
- I will bless the homes where an image of my Heart shall be exposed and honoured.
- I will give to priests the power of touching the most hardened hearts.
- Those who propagate this devotion shall have their names written in my Heart, never to be effaced.
- The all-powerful love of my Heart will grant to all those who shall receive Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die under my displeasure, nor without receiving their Sacraments; my heart shall be their assured refuge at that last hour.

Initially discouraged in her efforts to promote devotion to the Sacred Heart, she received support from Saint Cluade de la Colombiere, the Confessor to the community at Paray-le-Moniale. Eventually the Church accepted the veracity of the apparitions and began to promote devotion to the Heart of Jesus, especially through the introduction of an annual feast day to be celebrated on the Friday after the Feast of *Corpus Christi*. Margaret Mary died on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1690 and was made a saint by Pope Benedict XV in 1920.

Other feast days permitting, on a Friday at Saint Bride's, we often have a Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. On these days, after Holy Communion, we recite two prayers that Saint Margaret Mary composed. I think we should say them every day. They are: *Jesus, meek and humble of Heart, make our hearts like unto thine* and *Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in Thee*. Mindful of the twelve promises made by Jesus, why not pay a visit to the Sacred Heart statue before you leave the Church today? Perhaps to light a candle or to say the prayers above. Tell Jesus how much you love him and to make up for the “coldness and indifference” of so many in the world today. **Father McGachey**

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## MONDAY - OCTOBER DEVOTIONS TO HONOUR OUR LADY

It was wonderful to see more than one hundred people, including some children, at last Monday's Devotions. Again this Monday Devotions are at 7pm, beginning at Our Lady's altar, followed by a torchlight procession, the recitation of the Rosary with the Litany of Loreto, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us if you can.

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## TUESDAY

### - LEARNING ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITH

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) classes continue on Tuesday at 7pm. Last week we had nine converts!

This week's topic is: *A tour of the Church, with an explanation of its different liturgical parts.* It will be given by Father McGachey.

The tour is open to **ANYONE** who would want to attend to find out more about our Parish Church. **Please meet in the Church at 7pm.**



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## WEDNESDAYS - EVENING PRAYER WITH THE SAINTS

These *Vespers* will take place on Wednesday at 7pm, at Our Lady's Altar. Please join us.

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## DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

The Divine Mercy Prayer Group will meet in the Parish Library on Mondays after 10am Mass. This is a beautiful and important devotion. All welcome to join us.

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## CEILIDH - IN AID OF THE RENOVATION OF THE CHURCH HALL

A Ceilidh is being held on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October in the Parish Hall. Tickets will go on sale this weekend after all the Masses. All welcome. Any donations of raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated. They can be left in the Parish Library. Please support your Parish.

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## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will be taking a break today and next Sunday, returning on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October. On Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November, we will begin our 4-week programme of Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation for P3 children at Saint Kenneth's and Saint Hilary's - more details nearer the time.

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## PARISH 200 CLUB

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 now due. 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. This week's winner is Margaret Quinn.

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## WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - NEXT SUNDAY

We are keeping the World Day of Prayer for the Missions at Saint Bride's next Sunday. We remember in prayer the missionary efforts of the Church in which so many priests, sisters and lay people are engaged, often in very difficult circumstances, and those to whom the Christian message is brought in word and deed, often in the poorest parts of the world. **A retiring collection will be taken up to help finance the work of spreading the Faith. Please give generously as you always do.**

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## ANNUAL NATIONAL MASS CENSUS

Will take place on the last weekend in October, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October.

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## CALENDAR

**Wednesday** is the memorial of **Saint Callistus** (+223), Pope and Martyr. He was a Christian slave of Rome who became the guardian of the cemetery on the Appian Way. Elected pope, his charitable attitude toward repentant sinners incurred the wrath of rigorists, and he was martyred in the persecutions of the Emperor Alexander Severus. **Thursday** is the feast of **Saint Teresa of Avila** (+1588) the Carmelite nun and reformer of her Order. A mystic and woman of intense pray, she founded dozens of Convents all over Spain. On **Friday** we remember **Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque** (+1690) – see front cover. **Saturday** is the memorial of **Saint Ignatius of Antioch** (+107), a disciple of Saint John the apostle, who was condemned to be killed by wild beasts in Rome. On his journey there in chains, he wrote seven letters to local Churches, which provide us with an important snapshot of the Church of this day.

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## THERE IS NO SATURDAY MORNING MASS IN SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH

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## THE SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Sunday 1st November is the Solemnity of All Saints. The day remembers those men, women and children, of all times and places, who are now with God in heaven, including our family members and friends, and others whom we have known and loved.

We have several relics of the Saints, in beautiful gold reliquaries, including Saint Lucy, Saint Bernadette, Saint Pius X, Saint John Paul II. These will be displayed in the Church on that day. I hope you will go forward to venerate them.

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## ALL SOULS' DAY

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November is the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, more commonly called 'All Souls' Day'. It is a day of prayer and remembrance for our departed loved ones. There will be a special Mass with incense and organ at 10am. I hope that many of you will come to pray for your dead relatives and friends. At 7pm we will have Devotions in honour of Our Lady with a special remembrance of the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

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## **MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER - OUR ANNUAL MASS FOR THE DEAD**

Will take place on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm for those whose funerals have taken place at Saint Bride's, as well as all our dead and the clergy who have worshipped and served here in the past. All welcome.

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### **A NOTE FROM FATHER MARTIN - PARISH ALMA CLUB**

It is hoped to start an ALMA Club in the Parish for children with Learning Difficulties and Additional Support Needs. If you would be interested in helping out, please come along to the second meeting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm in the Hall.

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### **FABRIC AND FINANCE**

The Parish will pay the second last instalment of the annual Diocesan Levy later this week - £6,303. So far this year we have paid £37,818. We paid just under £1000 for combined gas and electricity costs for September. We have been told to expect a 22% increase in gas costs this year in comparison with last year. The Parish paid a water bill of £1,324 this month. In December we will pay the annual Insurance renewal for the three Parish properties - last year this was £8,254.

The new chairs have now been delivered to the Hall - they are a vast improvement on the previous ones. The painting of the Hall, inside and out, is now complete. The wall-mounted heaters in the Church are due to be serviced on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. To allow the engineers to complete the job in one day, there will be no Exposition, Rosary or 10am Mass that morning.

Thank you to those who paid for the new acrylic top for the Donations Box that was vandalised a few weeks ago. From now on the Church door on to the Piazza will be locked after morning Mass. The Church will remain open for visits during the day and can be accessed from Platthorn Drive.

The outside lights around the Chapel House on Platthorn Drive and Whitemoss Avenue were serviced last week. There are a few faults - due to the age of the fittings and lack of maintenance over the years. These issues will be dealt with this week.

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## **DIOCESE OF MOTHERWELL - LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2027**

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage will take place between 12<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July, flying from Prestwick with Joe Walsh Tours. If you are interested in joining the Group, then please contact Father Gerry Maguiness by email: [frmaguiness@rcdom.org.uk](mailto:frmaguiness@rcdom.org.uk).

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### **ANNUAL PRO-LIFE TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION**

The Annual Pro-Life Torchlight Procession will take place on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October. As George Square is out of commission Pro-Life Groups will gather at the Mercat Building (Glasgow Cross) from 6pm onwards. Rosary will be at 6.30pm, followed by the Torchlight Procession to Saint Andrew's Cathedral for Holy Mass at 7.30pm. All welcome.

# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

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

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

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

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

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

**THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL** - Monica McShane, Mary Easton, Margaret Rose McMahon, Jean Lafferty, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Noreen Lockhart, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Gayle Cochrean, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, John Paul Quinn, Thomas Finnigan, George Kelman, Ann Marie Kane, Rosemary Maley, Peter Friel, Molly and Robert Ward, Noreen Lockhart, Michael Conroy, Fiona Jane Anderson, Lindsay Sweeney, Robert Ward, Margaret Boyle, Kenneth McEwan, Rosie Maher Law, Stuart Gibbons, Sadie Elliot, Billy Wilson, Marie Quigley, Christopher Bailey, Margaret Saroli, Louise Brannan, Raymund Brannan, Louise MacFarlane, Brendan Darcy.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Theresa Tierney, Ann Chiapa, Elizabeth Broadley, Caroline Kurdell, Stephen Caughey, Assumpta Newart, Joyce Smeaton.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Rose McCabe, Rosaleen O'Neil, Cathie Finnegan, Rodrigo Mesa Moreno.

### FUNERALS

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October - £3,110.** This Standing Orders in favour of the one-off donation to the Parish or take the Parish. **Offerings can be made by which are as follows: St Brides by scanning the adjacent QR code. page. If you pay Income Tax, you parish will receive a further 25 donation. you give.**



included the Basket Collection and Parish. You may wish to make a out a Standing Order in favour of **Bank Transfer, the details of Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 or It will take you to a secure web can Giftaid your offering - the percent on the basis of the**