

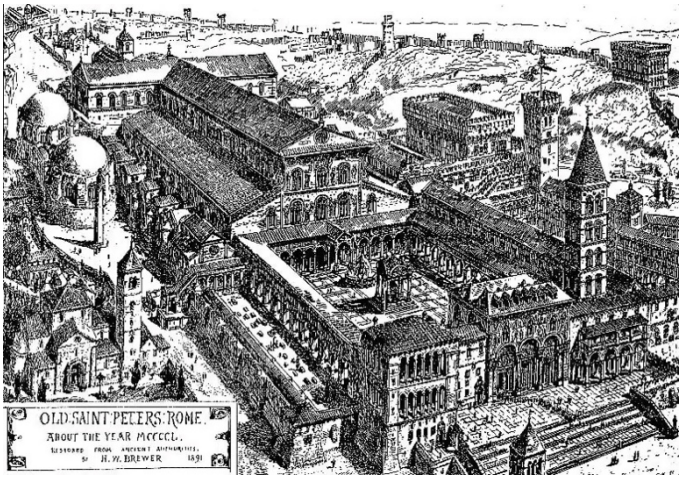
SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Thirty-Third Sunday of the Ordinary Season - 15th November 2026

THE WORLD'S PARISH CHURCH

On Wednesday of this week, 18th November, Saint Peter's at the Vatican, celebrates the four hundredth anniversary of its consecration. Pope Leo XIV will preside over a Solemn Pontifical Mass at 4pm GMT which can be seen on www.vaticanmedialive.org.

The Basilica marks the spot where the Apostle Peter, was laid to rest after his martyrdom. A few miles from the ruins of the Roman Forum, the beating heart of the Empire, the world's largest Church stands as a testament to the enduring power of martyrdom for sake of Christ. We live in a very different world from the one the Basilica was consecrated in 1626, but one thing that remains the same is the stream of people from the four corners of the earth. In the Holy Year 2025 an estimated twenty-five million people visited Saint Peter's; in the height of the summer, it is not uncommon for forty thousand people to pass through its doors on any given day. Saint Peter's Basilica is indeed the world's Parish Church!



Saint Peter was martyred in 64AD, during the reign of the Emperor Nero, in the *Imperial Circus*, the palace gardens on the Vatican Hill. In the years that followed, this site became the place where thousands of Christians were put to death. Peter was buried nearby, in the *Vatican Necropolis* or Cemetery. After his death, crowds flocked to his burial site, from every part of the world. Eventually a Church was built around his tomb, and when in the fourth century, the Emperor Constantine built a magnificent Basilica over the tomb (see opposite), the site had already been a place of pilgrimage for more than two hundred years.

The original tomb of the Apostle is located exactly under the famous Papal Altar which is flanked by four bronze columns and covered by an ornate bronze *baldacchino* or canopy. The tomb itself cannot be seen with the naked eye, but is located two levels below the floor level in the area called the *Vatican Necropolis.* This lies beneath the intermediate level called the *Vatican Grottoes,* which is the floor level of Constantine's fourth century Basilica. Today the Vatican Grottoes serve as the burial place for over ninety Popes, along with some Kings and Queens who were notable for their support of the Catholic Church over the centuries.

During the 1960s, archaeologists found a small *edicule* or shrine, directly below the altar, dating from the second century, which was built in front of a wall which was painted red. On it there was a *graffiti* or an inscription in Greek that read: Πέτρος ἐν or ***Petros eni***, meaning *Peter is here.* In a niche, inside the red wall, bones belonging to a robust man, between sixty and seventy, where found. They were wrapped in a purple cloth, embroidered with gold, a sign of great prestige in the ancient world. In 1968, after years of forensic analysis, Pope Saint Paul VI was able to announce that these bones could be considered to be the authentic remains of Saint Peter the Apostle. The American Space Agency, NASA, made several air-tight perspex boxes to house the sacred relics, some of

which lie below the Papal Altar; the others are kept in the private Chapel of the Pope in the Apostolic Palace.

Constantine's fourth century Church was vast for its time, but by the fifteen hundreds it was no longer capable of hosting the large numbers of people arriving on pilgrimage to the Eternal City. The building showed its age, and its structure was beginning to give way. Failed attempts at restoring and enlarging the Basilica finally led to the decision to tear it down and rebuild. On 18th April 1506, Pope Julius II (+1515) laid the foundation stone of what would become the new Basilica. It took more than 120 years to complete because of constantly changing plans. It involved dozens of the best artists and architects of the Renaissance — including Bramante, Raphael, Michelangelo and Bernini.

On 18th November 1626, Pope Urban VIII consecrated Saint Peter's Basilica in an elaborate rite. The immense Basilica was not even completely finished: many of its decorations were still not installed inside; Saint Peter's Square and Bernini's famous Colonnade, around the Square, would not be completed forty years.

Few buildings can claim to have shaped for centuries the visual identity of a city, as well as the history of Western art and Church architecture. Saint Peter's Basilica is not a lifeless museum, but it is a living Church in which God praised and worshipped. The phrase from the Book of Genesis 28,17 springs to mind, where Jacob has a dream in which he sees ladder (Jacob's ladder) going up to heaven, and he exclaims: "*Locus terribilis est iste! Hic domus Dei est, et porta caeli*"…"How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and the gate of heaven." **Father McGachey**

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

We will be running a programme for children in P3 who will be making their First Reconciliation in 2027. The continues today and runs for two weeks afterwards in the Parish Hall. Beginning at 9.15am, for about 45 minutes; the children will come into Mass.



ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE MASS FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

The Annual Mass for the family and friends of those whose funerals took place in Saint Bride's over the past twelve months, will take place on **Monday of this week at 7pm**. During the Mass, there will be an opportunity, for everyone present, to light a small candle and place it before the altar, in memory of the dead, and then either to take the candle home, or place it at Our Lady's altar or at the statues of the Saints.

At the Mass, all those who have died over the past 60 years at Saint Bride's will be remembered too, priests and people alike. Everyone is most welcome to take part.

NOVEMBER LISTS – 'REMEMBER ME AT THE ALTAR OF GOD' Saint Monica

Please complete a *November List*, writing the names of those you would like to be prayed for during the month at each Holy Mass and Service during November. They will be placed in the *Books of Remembrance*, which form part of special November Shrine. Please have a look at the Books!



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND COFFEE MORNING - SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER

Tickets for our Annual Christmas Raffle will be on sale today before and after Holy Mass. Prizes this year include: a Fortnum and Mason's Luxury Christmas Hamper, a Cash Prize of £150, Magnums of Moet and Chandon Champagne, a 55Inch Smart Television, amongst many other items.

We are looking for donations of bottles for the Bottle Stall at the **Christmas Coffee Morning which will take place on Sunday 13h December, after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses.** These can be handed into the sacristy at any point.

All the proceeds from the Raffle and Christmas Coffee Morning will go to the Parish, to help us face the winter months with renewed confidence. Thank you.

THIS WEEK - FORTY HOURS ADORATION – A NOTE FROM FATHER MARTIN

Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will have a *Forty Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* in the School Oratory, from Tuesday 17th November until Friday 20th November. Adoration will begin each morning at 8am with Morning Prayer of the Church and end at 5pm with Evening Prayer of the Church. **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. The sheets are at the Stall. Thank you.**

WEDNESDAY - EUCHARISTIC PRAISE AND WORSHIP

The Craig Lodge Missionaries from Dalmally who are giving retreats to the High School children this week as part of the Forty Hours Adoration, are going to offer a Eucharistic Praise and Worship Liturgy on Wednesday night, from 7pm until 9pm. Confessions will be heard during this time. All are most welcome to attend.

THE STALL

Copies of 'My day by day' for **December** are now on sale at the Stall – £1.00. New Christmas merchandise is on display too, including Cribs, Christmas ornaments and Christmas Cards. On sale too is a selection of Seven Day Candles, in red, as well as a whole range of other piety items. If you have ordered a Christmas Lantern from the Stall, these can be collected.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK – NEXT WEEK

Catholic Education Week begins next weekend. School pupils from Saint Kenneth's Primary School and Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School, will be involved in our Sunday Masses. A Retiring Collection to support the work of the *Scottish Education Service*, will be taken-up at all Masses this weekend. **The senior pupils from the High School have organised a Coffee Morning after the 9.30am Mass next Sunday to support the Charity, Mary's Meals. Please support this initiative if you can – by donating via the QR code.**

LEARNING ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITH

RCIA classes continue on Tuesday at 7pm. This week's topic is: *The Church.*

This week's 200 club winner is John Doogan. Please collect your winnings from the Sacristy.

CANON RYAN'S CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Our appeal for Christmas gifts and toys for less fortunate children in the East End of Glasgow begins today and will run until the weekend of the 13th December. The items can be left beside the gate to the Choir Loft. Please do not wrap any gifts. Thank you for your generosity and support.

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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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
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, Claire Elliot, Michael Phimister.

RECENTLY DEAD – Greg Taylor, John McCarron, Niven Wilson, Gerrard Keavney, Aidan Martin.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES – Francis Leonard Moran, Frances Maxwell, Alan R Dunbar, John, Michael and Mary McGinley, Lorenzo and Antonio Di Vito, Helen Hendry, Mary Boyle, John Carr.

FUNERALS

Please note that Intimations given in this week will be included in the Bulletin in two weeks' time

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 8th November - £3090. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. 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: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 or by scanning the adjacent QR code. It will take you to a secure web page. If you pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid your offering – the parish will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation. you give**.