



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Ordinary

Time - 20th September 2026

THE MONEYLESS ONES

Saturday of this week sees one of the oldest feast days in the Church's Calendar – that of the twin brothers, Saints Cosmas and Damian. Although their lives have been embellished over the centuries, they have been venerated from the earliest times as Saints.

A clear sign of the honour given them by the early Christians is the fact that they are mentioned in the list of Saints in the *Roman Canon* or *First Eucharistic Prayer*, composed between the end of the Fourth century and the Seventh century.

The Prayer lists forty-one Saints: as well as Our Lady and Saint Joseph, they are: Peter, Paul, Andrew, James (the Greater), John, James (the Lesser), Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Jude (the eleven Apostles plus the Apostle to the Gentiles Saint Paul). Linus, Cletus, Clement, Sixtus (the first four Popes after Saint Peter, all martyrs). The martyrs: Cornelius and Cyprian (the Pope and Theologian whose feast day was last Wednesday), Lawrence (the Roman Deacon), Chrysogonus (the Greek knight and Priest), John and Paul (the Roman blood brothers and soldiers) and Cosmas and Damian.

After the words of Institution and the Consecration, the Prayer lists: Stephen (the first Martyr), Matthias (the one who replaced Judas Iscariot), Barnabas (Paul's travelling companion). The martyrs: Ignatius (Bishop of Smyrna in Turkey who knew John the Apostle), Alexander (the sixth Pope), Marcellinus and Peter (the Roman Priest and Exorcist), Perpetua and Felicity (the married noble woman and her slave), Agnes (the Roman teenager) and Cecilia (the Patrician married woman, patron saint of musicians), Anastasia (the Roman healer, whose feast is the 25th December). The veneration of these men and women shows us that the Christians who emerged from the Roman Imperial persecutions, had a new set of role models and heroes: the martyrs of the early Church.



The brothers, Cosmas and Damian, were born in Cilicia, modern-day Turkey, and educated in Syria where they trained as physicians. They would return to Cilicia where they practised medicine but in a very singular way: they cared for the whole person: their bodily needs as well as their spiritual selves because they proclaimed the Gospel message, by telling those whom they treated, about Christ. Cosmas and Damian quickly earned the nickname in Greek 'Ανάργυροι' (pronounced Anargyroi) meaning literally 'the moneyless ones' – because they refused payment for their services.

In the bloody persecutions unleashed by the Emperor Diocletian in 303, being prominent Christians, they were arrested at the orders of the Governor Lysanias, tortured and killed. Their bodies were buried, and by 400, a Church had been built over the martyrs' graves. In the 6th century, Pope Saint Felix IV (+530) brought their relics to Rome and built a Basilica in their honour. The Church still stands today, tucked away next to the *Roman Forum* (the beating heart of Ancient Rome whose ruins can be visited today, just off the *Largo Argentina* street in the City Centre). It is adorned with stunning mosaics - one of Rome's hidden gems, and well-worth a visit.

An inscription in the Basilica reads: *Martyribus medicis populo spes certa salutis* – there is pun intended using the word ‘salutis’ – in Latin it means ‘eternal salvation’ as well as ‘good health’. So, the inscription can be read to mean: ‘Because of these martyred physicians, there is eternal salvation (and/or good health)’. After their martyrdom Cosmas and Damian were widely venerated and became patrons, with Saint Luke, of doctors, nurses and others in the medical profession.

In the light of their lives and example, let us think about three things. Firstly, we were created by God as spiritual and corporal beings, with both spiritual as well as physical needs. Secondly, that while we may not have the skills of physicians, we can imitate Cosmas and Damian in their generosity: as followers of Jesus, we ought to be generous with our time and energy, our talents and skills, and our money and resources generally. And finally, we should remember in our prayers today doctors, surgeons, GPs, pharmacists, nurses and carers, that is to say, all who work in the healing professions, that God will guide their hearts and hands, and so continue the healing work of Cosmas and Damian. **Father McGachey**



MASS FOR THE SICK - THIS THURSDAY

Our next Mass for the Sick will be on Thursday 24th September 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.

MONDAY EVENING DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY

Monday 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.



THE CHURCH IS OPEN EACH DAY FROM 9am UNTIL 7pm

WEDNESDAYS - EVENING PRAYER WITH THE SAINTS

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

BECOMING A ROMAN CATHOLIC THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

We hope to begin the classes on Tuesday 29th September at 7pm in the Chapel House. So far, eight people have contacted me to express a definite intention to take part. There were others who came forward before the summer. If you are still interested, please get in touch by email to confirm your participation. frmcgachey@rcdom.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

We would like to re-establish the Divine Mercy Prayer Group on Mondays after 10am Mass in the Library. All welcome to join us.

200 CLUB - This week's winner is Lorna Jensen. Please collect your cheque.

FORTY HOURS ADORATION - A CHANGE OF DATE

After the success of last year's *Forty Hours Adoration* in the School Oratory, Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will have another from Monday 16th November until Friday 20th November 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. **Saint Bride's Parish allotted day is Wednesday the 18th November. We would like parishioners to volunteer to help keep watch before the Blessed Sacrament, between 8am and 5pm, and especially to attend to 12.30pm Mass.**

VISIT OF THE ROMAN PRO-PREFECT FOR EVANGELISATION

His Excellency Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelisation at Vatican will be visiting the Diocese of Motherwell on Thursday 24th September. His Excellency will be speaking at a conference for the Clergy during the day at the Saint Bride's Centre and will celebrate Holy Mass in the Cathedral at 7pm. A warm invitation is extended to you to attend the Holy Mass.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - CEILIDH IN AID OF THE RENOVATION OF THE CHURCH HALL

A Ceilidh is being held on Friday 30th October in the Parish Hall. Tickets will be on sale after all weekend Masses from Saturday 3rd October. All welcome. Further details will be forthcoming. Any donations of raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left in the Parish Library. Please support your Parish.

RECONCILIATION AND HEALING SERVICE - On Tuesday 6th October at 7pm in the Church, with speaker Joe Livingston. Theme We must surrender to see miracles happen. There will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession. Prayer Ministry and Music Prayer and Worship. All welcome.

FABRIC, FINANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

The Parish paid another instalment of the Diocesan Levy on Tuesday, £6,303. This has been a very busy week with so many fabric issues needing attention – at the expense unfortunately of my visits to the sick and the primary schools. My apologies!

Various improvements continue to be made to the garden in front of the Library and Chapel House. The white sections of the exterior walls of the Parish Hall have been undercoated with the same grey paint as was used on the wall at the top of the ramp during the summer. Weather permitting, the final coat will be applied this week. The Church/Chapel House boiler was serviced. The fire extinguishers had their annual inspection on Thursday. We are awaiting a date in October for the servicing of the Church wall heaters. The gutters of the Hall, which are badly silted, have to be cleaned this week. Two small leaks in the Chapel House roof have to be repaired this week too. The arrival of the new chairs for the Hall is now scheduled for the 2nd October.

Finally, on a very sad note, the Donations Box at the back of the Church was vandalised and the money stolen on Wednesday. We do not want to lock the Church after Mass because a good number of people pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament during the day, but we will keep this under review.

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 Chaplain</i>
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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, Elizabeth Broadly

RECENTLY DEAD - Myles McHugh, Paula Strachan, Patricia Kane, Roma McSporran, Ted Owens, Kathleen Gallagher, Andy Heron.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Tommy Cartwright, Frances Burke, Michael Burke, Pat Murray, Rose, George and May O'Connor.

FUNERALS

Andy Heron - Reception Tuesday 22nd September 6pm. Requiem Mass Wednesday 23rd September 10am.

Paula Strachan - Thursday 24th September at 1pm in South Lanarkshire Crematorium.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 13th September - £3,005. and 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.



This included the Basket Collection 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