



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Fifth Sunday of Lent - The Beginning
of Passiontide - 22nd March 2026

AM I GOING TO MAKE A GOOD CONFESSION IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER THIS YEAR?

Ask yourself this question - when was the last time you were at Confession? Recently, or is it many years since you were last there? Don't put it off any longer! Come to Confession this Lent. Perhaps you have done nothing else to prepare spiritually for Easter. Make sure you come to Confession, and make your peace with God and those around you.

No-one likes going to Confession. No-one likes admitting that they were wrong and have made a mess of things. The Sacrament of Confession allows us to make a fresh start.

This coming Saturday, 28th March, there will be Confessions all day at Saint Bride's. Visiting priests will be here to help with the Confessions. They will be assisted by the Parish Clergy.

9.30am-9.50am - Parish Clergy
10.30am-11.30am - Visiting Clergy
11.30am-12.30pm - Visiting Clergy
12.30pm-1.30pm - Visiting Clergy
1.30pm-2.30pm - Visiting Clergy
2.30pm-3.30pm - Visiting Clergy
3.30pm-4.20pm - Parish Clergy



WHY GO TO CONFESSION?

Most of us learned how to go to Confession when we were in Primary Three at school, a few months before making our First Holy Communion. We were taught how to confess like children. Unfortunately, for most of us, this way of going to Confession has never changed!

Do you feel that you are confessing the same sins time and time again? Often this can lead to discouragement and frustration. Some Catholics come to the Sacrament of Confession with real fear or dread. Even for those who go regularly to Confession, it is difficult, and sometimes embarrassing, to admit that they have sinned and to name their sins. God never tires of forgiving us - sometimes we grow tired of asking him.

EXAMINE YOUR CONSCIENCE

We should be careful never to approach the Sacrament of Confession without preparation. On Saturday we will provide a printed *Examination of Conscience*, as an aid to help us make a good Confession. The secret to a good Confession is to examine your conscience like an adult rather than a child.

I HAVE FORGOTTEN HOW TO MAKE A CONFESSION. WHAT DO I DO?

When we go to Confession, the following things happen:

- Make the sign of the Cross.
- Say 'Bless me Father, for I have sinned.'
- Tell the priest how long it is since your last Confession. If you do not remember, say so.
- Confess your sins - honestly and humbly - mention what you have done; leave out the good you have done...Confession is about saying sorry for the wrongs we have done.
- The priest will give you some advice about how to make a new start.
- He will ask you to make an Act of Contrition - there is one displayed in each confessional, so if you do not remember one, do not worry!
- The priest will give you your penance, which is said when you leave the Confessional
- Make the sign of the Cross and leave. Remember the priest cannot disclose anything he has heard you say to anyone.

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the end of 10am Mass until 4pm. Please go to Confession and receive the mercy of God!



THIS SUNDAY IS SCIAF SUNDAY

Today, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, is Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) Sunday. There will be a retiring collection to support the work they do on our behalf. Please give generously as you always do.

A SPECIAL HOLY HOUR FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST - ON MONDAY AT 7pm

Given the worsening situation in the Middle East, the Diocesan Justice and Peace Group have asked us to host a Holy Hour to pray for peace, on Monday 23rd March, beginning at 7pm.

The prayer time will incorporate some of the elements from our Monday night Devotions to Our Lady - the Torchlight Procession and recitation of the Rosary with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Please join us in praying for this important intention.



GIFTAID ENVELOPES - PLEASE COLLECT FROM THE SACRISTY

The new Giftaid envelopes are available from the Sacristy. Please go into collect them.

If you pay Income Tax and would like to sign-up for the Giftaid scheme to help the Parish, please collect a form from the Sacristy. Last year our Giftaid claim from the Government was £25,000. Please consider joining. Thank you.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

DOMINICA DE LAZARO - SUNDAY OF LAZARUS

This weekend's Gospel, the account of the raising of Lazarus from the dead, takes us to Bethany, a hill-top village, overlooking Jerusalem. The word Bethany in Hebrew means 'the house of Figs' - Fig (and Palm trees) grow abundantly in Bethany.

Bethany is in Judea, in southern Israel, and is about two miles from Jerusalem, on the road to Jericho. It is bordered by the Mount of Olives and Bethphage - both these places will feature in next Sunday's Gospel, read before the Paths are blessed.



Bethany is probably best known for being the place where the friends of Jesus - Martha, Mary and Lazarus - lived. Their friendship is one of the most fascinating in the Bible - clearly their relationship was special because it is mentioned by all four Evangelists.

They were disciples of Jesus, certainly - but even more than that, they were friends. Jesus had visited their home more than once, sharing meals and their company. Clearly it was an honour for them to have Jesus as a

guest in their home. The Gospels tell us how each one showed their love for Christ in different ways:

Martha was an active person. On one occasion, Saint Mark's Gospel tells us, that she prepared a meal for Jesus and the apostles; she is left to do all the preparations, while her sister Mary sits at the feet of Jesus, listening to him speak. She asks Our Lord to tell Mary, (perhaps tongue in cheek) to help her. Jesus recognises that Martha is "worried about many things" but "few matter" he says, while noting that Mary "has chosen the better part." When Christ arrives after the death of Lazarus, Martha makes a simple but strong confession of faith in Jesus: "Yes, Lord. I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the One who was to come into this world." (John 11, 25-27).

Mary was a contemplative person, who as well as listening to the Lord's words, washed his feet with her tears and anointed them with precious oil called "pure nard" (pistachio oil), using her hair to dry them (Matthew 26, 6-13). She honoured Christ by her deeply symbolic and reflective gestures of love.

Lazarus was a man of quiet faith. Not one word of his is recorded in the Gospels, but after lying in the tomb for four days, Christ calls him forth. Immediately afterwards, we are told that the chief priests plotted to kill him because "many of the Jews were turning away from them and believing in Jesus."

Around the year 385, Egeria, the Spanish nun and pilgrim to the Holy Land, writes in her *Itinerarium* or Travelogue about a procession that took place on the Saturday before Palm Sunday at the tomb where Lazarus had been raised from the dead.

In the West, this Sunday was called *Dominica de Lazaro*. Legends about Lazarus abound: some say that he left a written account of what he saw in the world to come before he was called back to earthly life. Some say he followed Saint Peter to Syria; others say that he went to Cyprus with his sisters, where he served as bishop. **Father McGachey**



SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION - WEDNESDAY

This feast commemorates the moment in time when the Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Our Lady in Nazareth, inviting her to be the Mother of God's Son. Mary said 'Yes', and our faith teaches us, that by the power of Holy Spirit, she conceived Our Lord in her womb. The feast falls exactly nine months before Christmas. It is a feast of Our Lord and of Our Lady too. The Annunciation is a special day of prayer for the protection and promotion of human life, from womb to tomb.

In place of the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, we will recite the Joyful mysteries of the Rosary at Our Lady's altar. We will have the organ and incense at 10am Mass.



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

THE SEASON OF LENT AT SAINT BRIDE'S

MONDAY TO FRIDAY - Holy Mass at 7am

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - Stations of the Cross 9.30am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS - Mass at 12.30pm in the Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's HS

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - Mass at 1.20pm in Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's HS
Everyone is welcome to attend these Masses in the High School

MONDAYS OF LENT - Devotions in honour of Our Lady: with Torchlight Procession, prayerful recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAYS OF LENT - Evening Prayer at Our Lady's Altar at 7pm

CLUB 200

Firstly, thank you for your continued support of the Parish through the Club 200. It is much appreciated! For those who pay the 200 Club subscriptions each 6 months by cheque or cash, the subscriptions of £30 fall due on the 1st April 2026. Those wishing to pay by cheque should make their cheques payable to 'St Bride's Club 200'. Cheques can be mailed to Saint Bride's or handed in to the Chapel House or Sacristy. Envelopes with cash can be handed into the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please mark Club 200 and your name on the envelope. Thank you. If you are interested in joining Club 200, please speak to Father McGachey.

STALL

A selection of Easter Cards and Easter Mass Bouquet Cards are available from the Stall at the back of the Church. There is also a new selection of statues, including the Sleeping Saint Joseph and Our Lady, Untier of Knots, Fridge Magnets, large and small candles etc. Please have a look! If there is anything you would like and do not see, please speak to Marie or Frances. Copies of 'My day by day' for the Easter Season are on sale priced £1.00 each. There are a few more copies of Dr Anne McDowall's book on Saint Kateri Tekakawitha. Also, on sale are copies of a new publication called *The Great Adventure - a Journey*

through the Bible, a Bible timeline chart, with dates, people and events from Bible History. Place all monies in the wall-box marked 'Stall'. Please have a look!

NEW PUBLICATIONS

A brand-new selection of *Catholic Truth Society* pamphlets has arrived. They are on sale on the wall-mounted stand under the choir loft. The price of each publication is displayed on the back cover.

HOLY WEEK AND TRIDUUM NOTICES

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy continues over the Sundays in Lent. In addition, on Good Friday we will be holding a Children's Passion in the Parish Hall, starting at 3pm (at the same time as the Church Service). The Children's Passion will include initial prayers and hymns. The children will then enact episodes from the Passion - we have costumes for the various parts and related craft activities. There will be an Adoration of the Cross, and the children will have a opportunity to receive a blessing or communion (depending on age) at the same time as communion will be distributed in the church. The children will remain in the Hall until their parents pick them up at the end of the church service.

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE...? THE BIG CLEAN FOR EASTER

Could you spare a couple of hours on the Wednesday of Holy Week (next Wednesday) to help us clean the Church for the Easter Triduum. If you can, we would love to see you! It may be an idea to bring your own bucket since there does not seem to be enough to go round. Cloths and suitable detergents will be provided. Tea and Coffee and something to eat will be provided in the Library.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND THE TRIDUUM

Copies of the new translation of the Passion for Palm Sunday and Good Friday, will be available from the Sacristy.

NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY

Palms will be blessed and carried in Procession at each of the Masses next weekend.

Please be aware that the intersection area of the Church aisle will be used for the beginning of Mass next weekend.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Holy Week Schedule - copies of this are attached to your bulletin.

EASTER REMEMBRANCES

If you would like your dead relatives and friends to be remembered at the three Easter Masses at Saint Bride's, then please hand them in by Holy Thursday evening (next Thursday). We will offer these Masses for them, and their names will feature in the special Easter Sunday Bulletin.

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

ST 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 McMahan, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Gayle Cochrean, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, Theresa Tierney, Colette Roxburgh, John Paul Quinn, Thomas Finnigan (Prestwick), George Kelman, Ann Marie Kane, Rosemary Maley, Peter Friel, Molly and Robert Ward, Noreen Lockhart, Neil McCready, Michael Conroy, Paul Tollan, Fiona Jane Anderson, Lindsay Sweeney, Robert Ward, Margaret Boyle, Kenneth McEwan, Simon Loftus, Rosie Maher Law, Susan and Ryan Topping, Stuart Gibbons.

RECENTLY DEAD - Pauline McPheely, William Stewart, Christina Reilly, Alphonsus Anthony Sludden, Jim Deery, Gail Caldwell, Jess Corrigan, Andrew Kelly.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Bob Hendry, Anne Usai, Michael M. Muldoon, Joan Hughes, Catherine Hughes, Mary and John Davidson, Pat Dunnion, John Hughes.

FUNERALS

Pauline McPheely - Reception Sunday 22nd March 6pm. Requiem Mass, Monday 23rd March 10am.
Christina Reilly - Reception Monday 23rd March 5.30pm. Requiem Mass, Tuesday 24th March 10am.

William Stewart - Requiem Mass, Thursday 26th March, 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 15th March - £3,065 donation to the Parish or take Parish. Offerings can be made which are as follows: St 97 or by scanning the to a secure web page. If you your offering - the parish will the basis of the donation you



You may wish to make a one-off out a Standing Order in favour of the by Bank Transfer, the details of Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-adjacent QR code. It will take you pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid receive a further 25 percent on give.