



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-Second Sunday of the
Ordinary Season 30th August 2026

SERVUS SERVORUM DEI **SERVANT OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD**

Pope Saint Gregory the Great (+604), whose feast falls this week, is probably the most influential Pope of the first millennium of the Church's history. Only two other Popes, both saints, are called *the Great* – Saint Leo I (+461) and the much less well-known Saint Nicholas I (+867). Gregory saw himself as the Bridge (*Pontifex* in Latin, hence the word Pontiff) between God and humanity. But he was also the one who applied to himself as Pope the title borrowed from Saint Augustine, *Servus Servorum Dei*, 'the Servant of the Servants of God'. He was both a contemplative monk and a man of action. Along with Saint Ambrose, Saint Augustine and Saint Jerome, he is one of the four 'Fathers of the Western Church'.



Gregory was born into an aristocratic patrician family in Rome in 540. The son of a Roman Senator, and after receiving a fine education, he followed in his father's footsteps into the Senate and then served as Prefect of the City by the time he was thirty. Five years later, when his father died in 573, he would sell the vast properties he had inherited, and found seven monasteries, mostly in Sicily. His family home in Rome was built on the *Coelian Hill*, one famed 'seven hills of Rome': he turned it into the *Monasterio di Sant'Andrea* (Saint Andrew's Monastery) and spent four years there of penance and prayer, before becoming a Priest.

Pope Pelagius II (+590) plucked Gregory from monastic obscurity and sent him as Papal Legate, called in those days *Apocrisarius*, to the Imperial Court Constantinople (modern day Istanbul). Here he loathed the excesses and loose morals of the Imperial Court, and longed to return to the cloistered life. Six years later he returned to the Eternal City where he was elected as Abbot of his beloved *Sant'Andrea*. He was a man of practical holiness too, seen especially when three years after his return, heavy rains caused the River Tiber to burst its banks, destroying the City's grain stores and causing an outbreak of the Plague - Gregory was at the forefront of organising relief efforts.

Respected by the clergy of Rome, at the age of fifty, in 590, he was chosen as Pope. A skilled diplomat, he made peace with the Lombards from the north of Italy, and with the Visigoths from Spain. At the same time he watched over the holiness of the clergy and the maintenance of Church discipline, as well as the temporal interests of the people of Rome and the spiritual interests of all Christendom. He removed unworthy priests from office and emptied the Papal Treasury to ransom prisoners and had a soecial care for persecuted Jews. These deeds and many others made him, in the words of beautiful Antiphon for his Feast in the Breviary: '...the Father of the City, the joy of the World.'

In 597, a famous incident occurred: while walking through the Roman Forum, a small group

of caged blonde-haired slaves caught his eye. He asked where they were from and was told they hailed from *Anglia* (England). He had them freed and said: *non Angli, sed Angeli* – ‘they are not Angles but Angels’. These men accompanied a group of forty monks under the leadership of Saint Augustine, who was a fellow monk at *Sant’Andrea*, and who would later be known as ‘Augustine of Canterbury’, to evangelise the English, landing at Thanet in Kent.

Keenly interested in the Church’s Liturgy, Gregory composed many of the Opening Prayers (Collects), Prayers over the Offerings and Post-Communion Prayers which we still use at Mass today and gathered them into one book, called the *Gregorian Sacramentary* or Missal. His name was used to describe the Church’s Chant, *Gregorian Chant*, although he himself did not compose any liturgical music.

Saint Gregory the Great died on 12th March 604 and his body lies underneath one of the side altars in Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome. A truly ‘Great’ man in the long history of the Papacy. **Father McGachey**

THE CHILDREN’S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy resumes today, Sunday 30th August, at the 9.30am in the Parish Hall. This is designed for all levels of Primary School students. Several years ago, we had regular attendance from children in P6 and P7, along with those in P1-5. Our approach will adjust to look after all of our attendees. We have an ambition to increase the number of older students attending. Parents, please encourage your children to come along and enjoy the message of God in the company of their friends from school.

MONDAY EVENINGS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

These popular devotions continue on Monday this week 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.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A ROMAN CATHOLIC?

Several of you have expressed an interest in becoming Roman Catholic. Our new RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Course 2026-2027, will begin at the end of September. We invite anyone who has been thinking of becoming a Catholic to get in touch with us formally by email: frmcgachey@rcdom.org.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

MASS FOR THE SICK WITH THE HOLY ANOINTING WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK ON THE THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

FATHER MARTIN

Father Martin returns from his holidays this weekend. Bishop Toal announced last week that he will become School Chaplain to Saint John Ogilvie’s High School, Blantyre, along with

the Chaplaincy at Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School, East Kilbride, after the October Holiday. He will replace Father Martin Delaney at Saint John Ogilvie's High School. Father Christopher Furmage will take over from Father Martin as Chaplain at University Hospital Hairmyres, East Kilbride, from 1st October. Father Martin will be on Pilgrimage to Rome the local High School from the 7th to 12th September.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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. Please support your Parish.

CARPARK AT THE HALL

Our carpark has now been repaired and re-opened. We have been working hard on how we can reach an agreement for other parties to use the Hall and its facilities, and have found a way forward that will see the Parish costs of maintaining and any future repairs to the carpark considerably reduced.

MOTHERWELL DIOCESAN YOUTH CHOIR

Children in P5-P7 from across the Diocese of Motherwell are invited to join our new Diocesan Children's Choir, an opportunity to sing together and share our faith through music. There is no audition and no cost to take part. Whether your child already loves singing or would simply like to give it a try, they will be very welcome. Starts: Wednesday 2nd September, 6pm-7pm. Venue: Cathedral Primary School, Motherwell.

NATIONAL RETIRING COLLECTION - NEXT SUNDAY

To help pay for the education of our seminarians who are preparing for the Priesthood. We hope to write more about them and the seminary situation in next week's Bulletin.

SAINT KATERI TEKAKAWITHA - NEW PUBLICATION (St Paul's Press)

The first female Native American Saint, who endured illness, loss and persecution because of her Catholic faith. Her life is a powerful witness of trust in God. The author, Dr Ann McDowell, who is a parishioner, is generously donating all proceeds from the sale of the book to Saint Bride's. Copies are available at the Stall for the reduced price of £5.

THE STALL

Copies of my 'My day by day' for September are on sale at the back of the Church - priced £1.00 each.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN

The National Pilgrimage to Carfin will take place on Sunday 6th September marking the 800th Anniversary of the Death of Saint Francis of Assisi. The Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated at 3pm. The main Celebrant and Preacher will be Right Rev. William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow. All welcome.

200 CLUB WINNERS - This week's winner is John McGarry. Please collect your cheque.

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>
EMAIL	frmcgachey@rcdom.org.uk frmartin@rcdom.org.uk
ADDRESS	Saint Bride's Parish, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN
TELEPHONE	01355 220005
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, Neil McCready, Michael Conroy, Fiona Jane Anderson, Lindsay Sweeney, Robert Ward, Margaret Boyle, Kenneth McEwan, Rosie Maher Law, Stuart Gibbons, Sadie Elliot, Billy Wilson, Ian McFadyen, Nessie McFadyen, Marie Quigley, Christopher Bailey, Margaret Saroli, Louise Brannan, Raymund Brannan, Louise MacFarlane, Brendan Darcy.

RECENTLY DEAD - Stephen Clark, James Joseph McGhee, Diane Deeney, Jeremiah Ralston, Neil McCann, Attracta Seymour.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Ted O'Donnell, Charlie and Nora O'Donnell, Jim and Annie Flannagan, Angela Malone, Shanna Ryan, Paul Dyet, Sarah Ann Mitchell.

FUNERALS

Stephen Clark - Reception - Monday 31st August at 5.30pm. Requiem Mass Tuesday 1st September at 10am

James McGhee - Reception - Wednesday 9th September at 5.30pm. Requiem Mass Thursday 10th September at 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 23rd August - £3,070. 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**