

Club 200: This week's £60 winner is *George Walker*. Please collect your cheque from Fr Rafal. The current loan stands at £237,452.82.

Collection: Offerings can be made by bank transfer, the details of which are as follows: St Brides, Sort Code: 82-62-24, Account Number: 40500017. There are baskets for the Sunday collection near the exit door. During the period 27 June and 10 July all cash collections and donations amounted to £1,954.65, of which £798.00 was gift aided.

The second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will take place on Sunday 24 July 2022. The letter can be seen on our parish website.

SSVP: Donations can be made to St Bride's SSVP by bank transfer. Details: Bank: Clydesdale Bank; Account Name: SSVP MW 05015; Account Number: 20538417; Sort Code: 82 62 24.

Bulletin Notices: Anyone wishing a notice put into the bulletin, should send it to bulletin@sbek.org, or contact Fr Rafal.

Historically, the church organ was located at the back of the church. We are planning to move the organ from the Sanctuary to the back of the church (after consulting a group of parishioners.)

Please pray for our sick and housebound and for those who care for them:

The Diocesan Office has advised parishes that with the introduction of new Data Protection laws on 25 May 2018 it is no longer permissible to publish the names of the sick on the online version of parish bulletins. It is still permissible to do so on the print version.

There will be a **Eucharistic Service** in our church this Monday 25 July and this Wednesday 27 July at 10.00 am.

Recently Dead: James Docherty, Mary Madden (Blantyre), John Costello, Winnie Burns (Ireland).

Anniversaries: James Smith, Kathleen McKay, Harry Sheridan, Allan McDonald, Rose and Francis Welsh.

*May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

St Bride's RC Church East Kilbride

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Administrator: Father Rafal Sobieszuk

Hall Bookings – Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org

24 July 2022

17th Sunday of the Year - C



Masses

Monday to Saturday 10.00 am

Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 9.30 am & 11.30 am

Holy Hour

Thursday evening 7.00 to 8.00 pm

Confessions – After the vigil Mass,
during the Holy Hour, on request

Feast Days: Tuesday 26 July: *St Joachim and St Anne*; Friday 29 July: *St Martha, St Mary and Lazarus*.

Fr Rafal has asked the Bishop to allow him a sabbatical break in his priestly ministry, to which the Bishop has agreed. Therefore, as of the 1 September 2022 there will be a new priest appointed to the Parish.

The Silver Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood of Fr Romanus Enyinnia, Administrator of St Vincent de Paul's, East Kilbride, will be celebrated this year. The Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate Fr Romanus' 25th Anniversary will be the Vigil Mass on Saturday 6 August at 6.00 pm. Fr Romanus is from the Diocese of Ahiara in Nigeria, and has been ministering here in Scotland for the last six years. Our prayers are with him as he thanks God for his years as a priest.

Fr Charles Coyle invites anyone in the Diocese who has an interest in Inter-religious Dialogue to a meeting in St Anthony's Church Hall on Saturday 20 of August at 11.00 am. This will be an opening meeting for a possible Diocesan group, who would organise and lead dialogue with any other faith groups who are currently based within the boundary of our Diocese. If you are interested in participating, please contact Fr Coyle on frcoyles@rcdom.org.uk.

St Bride's Third World Group: The most recent statement of accounts for 2019/20 is on the noticeboard. **Dates For Your Diary:** Sunday 4 September - Sponsored Cycle Run at Millport, and Saturday 1 October - Quiz Night

We appeal for more parish families to have a great day out at Millport. The special bus there and back includes the ferry fare. Maximum price for any family £30. Bike hire is not included, but great value, and can accommodate children from 1 year and upward. Anyone wishing to go should put their name on the list at the back of the Church, or call Moira on 01355 236946 to register their names. This will help determine the size of bus we need to hire.

Ukrainian Appeal: Finally, a mother and a daughter who are Ukrainian war refugees currently living in Warsaw have decided to move to Scotland responding to our invitation. They have successfully submitted their applications and in several weeks' time they should be living in our parish. Welcome!

Synod and Ukrainian Appeal: In addition to the humanitarian aid donated to Ukrainian war refugees, the Appeal had benefits closer to home within the parish itself, and through modelling Christian values, which were visible to the community both locally and internationally. Although the benefits may not be immediately evident, they are nonetheless significant, as identified by parishioners in the recent Synod Report.

Inclusivity: The pool of volunteers was not restricted to regular Church attendees, but also included new parishioners, and others who would not typically engage in Church life. This gave a voice and a place within the Church to people who may have been unintentionally excluded. As an additional benefit, the Appeal created the perfect opportunity for participation in an informal, open and welcoming setting. It may be worth noting that the majority of the volunteers were female, as another topic within the report had been around lack of opportunity for females within the Church. It was recognised that though some volunteers were already familiar with one other, others were not, and this established a new sense of community following the social isolation of the pandemic.

Collaboration: In terms of involving the wider catholic community, in the initial stages St Leonard's Church was heavily involved and worked closely with St Bride's. This assisted in bringing the parishioners of both parishes closer together. Other parishes in the Motherwell Diocese and across Scotland also greatly assisted.

Other supporters included different faith groups and those with no spiritual beliefs, but strong humanitarian values. Items were collated and donated by NHS Scotland, schools, care homes, hospital patients, and companies such as Coca Cola, who assisted by supplying pallets of water, and allowing the packed boxes to be stored on their premises in readiness for loading onto the trucks.

Visibility: Updates on the Appeal reached far and wide as these were reported through local, national and international news media, and online through Church social media platforms. This engaged a different community outwith the parish and Diocese, and increased the visibility of the Scottish Catholic Church humanitarian outreach work.

Accessibility: Accessibility to Clergy and creating better understanding between parishioners and Clergy, was also highlighted by the Synod. Fr Rafal not only led the Appeal, but also worked tirelessly with volunteers in a very literal sense, carrying out the practical tasks associated with the project. This common mission created a productive team environment, and gave parishioners the opportunity to interact with Clergy outside the formal setting of the Church.

Future Opportunities: While reflecting on the project, it was suggested that it could be expanded to support those living in our immediate community who are in need of help through, for example, displacement, homelessness, vulnerability, or simply those impacted by the cost of living crisis.

Summary: There were considerable gains to be had for volunteers, the Church and Diocese, in line with areas identified for development through the Synod process. What started as a local Appeal, has impacted on so many more than those it initially intended.