



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday
of the Ordinary Season - 25th September 2022

WHAT BERNADETTE SAW AT LOURDES...

Yesterday (Saturday), the Relics of Saint Bernadette Soubirous arrived at Carfin Grotto. They have come to Scotland as a part of a Tour of the United Kingdom and will be here until the end of the week. Each day there is a programme of liturgies and devotions to help us remember this young French Saint and to ask for her powerful intercession. She will be honoured especially at the National Pilgrimage Mass, with the Archbishops and Bishops of Scotland, this afternoon at 3pm. The day will conclude with a Rosary Procession at 6pm. I hope, if you can, that you will travel to the Grotto over the coming days.

What actually happened at Lourdes in 1858? The following is an account of some of the events in Bernadette's own words:



I had gone down one day with two other girls to the bank of the river Gave when suddenly I heard a kind of rustling sound. I turned my head toward the field by the side of the river but the trees seemed quite still and the noise was evidently not from them. Then I looked up and caught sight of the cave, where I saw a lady wearing a lovely white dress with a bright belt. On top of each of her feet was a pale-yellow rose, the same colour as her rosary beads.

At this I rubbed my eyes, thinking I was seeing things, and I put my hands into the fold of my dress where my rosary was. I wanted to make the sign of the Cross but for the life of me I couldn't manage it and my hand just fell down. Then the lady made the sign of the cross herself and at the second attempt I managed to do the same, though my hands were trembling. Then I began to say the rosary,

while the lady let her beads slip through her fingers, without moving her lips. When I stopped saying the 'Hail, Mary', she immediately vanished.

I asked my two companions if they had noticed anything, but they said no. Of course, they wanted to know what I was doing and I told them that I had seen a lady wearing a white dress, though I didn't know who she was. I told them not to say anything about it, and they said I was silly to have anything to do with it. I said they were wrong and I came back next Sunday, feeling myself drawn to the place....

The third time I went the lady spoke to me and asked me to come every day for fifteen days. I said I would and then she said that she wanted me to tell the priests to build a chapel there. She also told me to drink from the stream. I went to the Gave, the only stream I could see. Then she made me realise she was not speaking of the Gave and she indicated a little trickle of water close by. When I got to it, I could only find a few drops, mostly mud. I cupped my hands to catch some liquid without success and then I started to scrape the ground. I managed to find a few drops of water but only at the fourth attempt was there a sufficient amount for any kind of drink. The lady vanished and I went back home.

I went back each day for two weeks and each time, except one Monday and one Friday, the lady appeared and told me to look for a stream and wash in it and to see that the priests build a chapel there. I must also pray, she said, for the conversion of sinners. I asked her many times what she meant by that, but she only smiled. Finally, with stretched arms and eyes looking up to heaven, she told me she was the 'Immaculate Conception'. During the two weeks she told me three secrets. but I was not to speak about them to anyone and so far I have not.

From a Letter of Saint Bernadette Soubirous

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection at all Masses this weekend to help pay for the education of our seminarians - those who will serve as priests in the future in our parishes. This costs around £22,000 each year per seminarian. At present, we have five seminarians for Motherwell Diocese: four in Rome and one in Birmingham. Please be generously as you always are!

THIS COMING WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

Sunday Holy Masses - Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 9.30am and 11.30am.

Weekday Holy Masses - Monday to Saturday 10.00am.

There will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.30am until 10am.

Confessions will take place on Saturday mornings from 9.30am to 9.50am and before the Vigil Mass from 5.30pm to 5.50pm.

The Thursday Coffee Morning after the 10am Mass. All welcome.

The **Holy Hour** will take place on Thursday at 7pm. Confessions from 7pm until 7.30pm. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7.45pm.

OCTOBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY



During the Month of October, I would propose to lead to the Holy Rosary each morning from the pulpit, Monday to Friday, at 9.40am. Please join us in honouring the Mother of God.

On the Sundays of October at 6pm I would like to have traditional October Devotions in honour of Our Lady, with a prayerful recitation of the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, along with the traditional elements: organ accompaniment and the use of incense.

Perhaps it is many years since you attended these Devotions, maybe you have never attended them. Please come and take part! Remember - Our Lady will not be outdone in repaying any efforts and sacrifices we make in her honour.

THANK YOU...AND AN IDEA...

Thank you to the couple who gave me £150 to spend on adorning the Church last weekend. God reward your generosity! Over the past week, I have been thinking how best to spend

the donation. I have had the following idea - I would like to buy some new candlesticks for the altar - the ones we have owe the parish nothing, the candles do not fit well inside the candlestick and they are not very visible from the back of the Church. Over the past decade an increasing number of parishes have been using six candles on the altar - a custom that has a solid Biblical and historical-liturgical foundation. If anyone would like to buy one in memory of an individual or family, alive or dead, we could have their names engraved around the base. Please speak to me if you are interested. Thank you.

CALENDAR



On **Monday** we honour **Saints Cosmas and Damian**, martyrs (+303). Tradition holds that they were twins and physicians who gave freely and generously of their healing skills in the name of the Lord.

Saint Vincent de Paul (+1660) is remembered on **Tuesday**. As a young priest he was captured by Muslim pirates and taken to Africa. He founded the *Congregation of the Priests of the Mission* (Vincentians) and the *Sisters of Charity* to care for the needy.

Saint Lawrence Ruiz and his companions are recalled on **Wednesday**. Ruiz, a Filipino layman, with several other lay people, priests and religious, were part of a small missionary group that headed to Japan, where Catholics were being persecuted. They were arrested and taken to Nagasaki where they were tortured for several days and put to death.

On **Thursday** we honour the **Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**. Michael (Who is like God?) the protector from the snares of the devil. Gabriel (Strength of God) who announced the conceptions of the Baptist and of Jesus, to Zechariah and Mary. Raphael (Medicine of God) who took care of Tobias in the Old Testament.

Saint Jerome (+420) is remembered on **Friday**. He was entrusted with the task of revising the Latin translation of the Bible. This work, which took him thirty years to complete, is known as the *Vulgate* and it is still used today. He died in Bethlehem.

Saturday is the memorial of the 'Little Flower', **Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**, the French Carmelite nun, who died when she was twenty-five. Her 'little way' of doing ordinary things extraordinarily well is at the heart of her spirituality.

CLUB 200

Firstly, thank you for your support of the Parish through the 200 Club. It is much appreciated! For those who pay the Club 200 subscriptions by cheque or cash, the subscriptions are due on 1st October 2022. For those who pay annually, the amount is £60 for twelve months and £30 for those who pay for a six-month period. 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 RC Church, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN or handed in to the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please do not send cash through the post. Envelopes with cash can be handed into the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please mark Club 200 and your name on the envelope. Thank you.

This week's winner is **Annemarie Logan**. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

THE OCTOBER EDITION OF 'MY DAY BY DAY'

is available at the Stall, priced £1.00 each.

A NEW SELECTION OF CATHOLIC TRUTH PUBLICATIONS

A new selection of modestly priced Catholic Truth Society publications has been added to the stand at the back of the Church. The topics of these pamphlets include: the lives of the Saints, moral issues, history and Catholic Teaching. Please place all monies in the green wall box marked 'Papers'. The prices are displayed on the back cover.

BULLETIN NOTICES

Notices for inclusion in the Bulletin, including intimations, should arrive by 5pm on a Thursday afternoon. Notices can be sent to bulletin@sbek.org or frmcmcachey@rcdom.org.uk. **Please remember that I do not access to the Parish email account.** I like to print the Bulletin on a Thursday evening, in case there are any problems with the photocopier - the engineer can be called on a Friday! Anything that arrives after a Thursday evening will be included in the following week's edition. Thank you.

ALTAR SERVERS



It was great to have the young servers at the Vigil Mass and the 9.30am Masses last Sunday. There don't seem to be any servers at the 11.30am Mass - which is a real pity! We really need servers to make this Mass more solemn.

In other Parishes where I have been we had adult servers. If any adult man, young or old, is interested in forming a small serving team, of two or three servers, to carry the cross and candles (and even the thurible!), then please speak to me after Mass, or give me a call or send me an email. We can lay our hands on soutanes and surplices to make them feel more comfortable! Please consider getting involved.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We hope to have this reinstated within in the next few weeks at the 9.30am Mass. Parents, please encourage your children to take part.

HOSANNA HOUSE CHILDREN'S PILGRIMAGE TRUST (HCPT)

Hosanna House Children's Pilgrimage Trust (HCPT) is looking for volunteer helpers aged 18+ to look after disabled people for a week in Lourdes in July 2023. If this is of interest to you and you would like more information, please contact Robert on 01355 702187 or Frances on 07368274063.

SAINT BRIDE'S THIRD WORLD GROUP

A Quiz Night is being held in the Church Hall on Saturday 1st October at 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start. Entry is £6. Please call either Katrina on 07788236064 or Pip on 07751481043 to reserve a table. It would be preferable to have six people per table, but this is not essential. There will be a bar, tea, coffee, and biscuits. Any donations of raffle prizes would be much appreciated. All proceeds will go to Sister Eleanor in Nairobi via the Third World Group.

OUR GUARDIAN ANGELS

Thursday of this week if the Feast of the Archangels: Michael, meaning 'Who is like God?' - the archangel who fought against Satan while defending the people of God. Gabriel, meaning 'Strength of God' - who announced to Zechariah the birth of John the Baptist, and to Mary, the birth of Our Lord. Raphael, meaning 'Medicine of God' - the archangel who took care of Tobias on his journey. Next Sunday, we keep the Feast of our Guardian Angels. But who or what are angels?

When we profess our faith on Sundays, we sometimes use the words: "We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, **of all that is seen and unseen.**" In other words, we believe that God created what is visible, like the world we live out our lives in, but also the invisible, such as the spirits that we call angels. As spiritual creatures angels have intelligence and will: they are immortal creatures, surpassing in perfection all visible creatures, as the splendour of their glory bears witness. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* nn. 329-330.



We sometimes refer to the "choirs of angels"; sometimes at the end of the Preface - the prayer before the *Sanctus* at Mass - we say "With Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions...". What does this mean?

The number of angels is vast, but we have no way of knowing how many angels there are. The angels are not all created equal, and based on their degree of knowledge, love of God, and type of service, the angels are categorised into three hierarchies, each containing three different orders, making nine different choirs: the First Hierarchy, known as the Councillors of God, these angels have no direct contact

with mankind, that is to say, they are the angels of God's Presence: Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones. The Second Hierarchy, known as the Governors, they regulate the forces of nature: Dominions, Virtues and Powers. The Third Hierarchy: known as the Messengers of God, these angels minister directly to man: Principalities, Archangels and Angels.

In unseen ways the angels help us on our journey towards heaven by assisting us in our work, helping us in temptation and protecting us from physical harm.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states that the existence of angels is a truth of faith (CCC number 328). From our birth until our death, we are surrounded by the protection and intercession of angels, particularly our Guardian Angel: "Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life." (n. 336)

Many of the great saints of the past two thousand years have had much to say about our Guardian Angels, including Saint Bernard, the monk and great theologian of the Middle Ages: "Be alert in your every action as one should be who is accompanied by angels in all your ways... Remember, there are realities whose existence has not been proven by mere sight. These spirits are sent by the Father to be our protectors and our guides. With such bodyguards, what are we to fear?"

Do you remember learning the prayer to the Guardian Angels? -

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day
be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

Father McGachey

CONTACT US

CLERGY	Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, <i>Parish Priest</i>
EMAIL	frmcmcachey@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 bulletin@sbek.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM and THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Baptisms are celebrated most Sundays of the year at 1pm. At least six months' notice must be given of intention to marry.

Please speak to Father McGachey after Mass or telephone or email him to make an appointment for a face-to-face meeting.

REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

SICK - Samantha Beach, Lorraine O'Donnell-Brown, Richard O'Donnell, Ray O'Donnell, Joanne Barrett (England), Brian McKenna, Eileen Biggins, Satya B Metha, Patricia McCormack, Helen Walton, Fiona Docherty, Frances Josephine Reilly, Margaret Deehan, John Kennedy, Patricia Williamson, John Lang, Francis and John Reilly, Terry Cassidy, May McLaughlin, Theresa Fleetwood, Bailey Barnes, Liam Greig, Nicholas Oakes, Gillian Congdon, Liz Knight, Rita Baxter, Jean O'Neill.

RECENTLY DEAD - Ann Gray, Norbert Tomkins, Stuart Williamson, Frances Burke.

ANNIVERSARIES - Patrick Park, John Garrity, John Reilly, John McDonald, Dominic Saroli, Agnieszka Sobieszuk, Rita McKenna.

FUNERALS

Ann Gray: Reception of Remains 26th September 6pm. Requiem Mass 27th September 10am.

Norbert Tomkins: Reception of Remains and Requiem Mass, Thursday 29th September 10am.

Stuart Williamson: Reception of Remains 3rd October 6pm. Requiem Mass 4th October 10am.

Frances Burke: Reception of Remains 4th October 6pm. Requiem Mass 5th October 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 18th September 2022, was £2117.29. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £228,452.82.

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: Stbrides, Sort Code 82-62-24, Account Number 40500017.