

# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Second Sunday of Lent

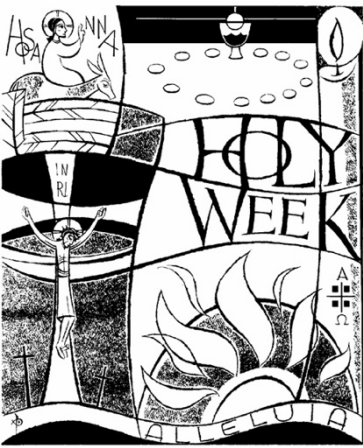
12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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## SAINT CYRIL OF JERUSALEM AND THE GREAT WEEK

Sandwiched between the feasts of Saint Patrick and Saint Joseph, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, is the memorial of a saint who deserves to be better known, and to whom we owe a great deal: Saint Cyril of Jerusalem.

Little is known of his early life, save that he was born in Jerusalem around 315, and that his parents, who were Christian and wealthy, provided him with a good education. Ordained by Bishop Maximus, he was given the responsibility of preparing catechumens for Baptism: eighteen of his pre-baptismal discourses (*catecheses*), and five post-baptismal discourses (*mystagogia*), survive; they provide us with a snapshot of the theology and ritual of the time.



When Cyril was growing up, Jerusalem was not considered an important diocese. This changed when the emperor Constantine legalised Christianity in 313, and particularly when his mother, Helen, visited the Holy Land and began building the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre over the place where Jesus had been crucified and buried. In 350 Cyril was appointed bishop of Jerusalem and led efforts to make it a place of pilgrimage, keen to underline the fact that most momentous events of our salvation happened there.

As we approach Easter, it is good to remember that it was likely Cyril who devised the liturgical framework that we still use during Holy Week, or the "Great Week" as he called it, for visiting pilgrims. We have a good window on these thanks to the *Itinerarium* or travelogue of Egeria, a Spanish woman, who made the pilgrimage in the early 380s. She describes, not only how the days of the Great Week were lived out, but the beauty of the Basilica where these liturgies took place. It is well worth reading if you get a chance!

The Great Week, she says, began with a triumphal procession, with branches of palm and olive carried by the faithful from Bethany to the Basilica, amid chants and hymns. The three days that followed were a time for contemplation of the events chronicled in the Gospels leading up to Jesus' arrest - we still listen to the same Gospels today.

On Holy Thursday, after a solemn Eucharist commemorating the Last Supper, the faithful would go to the Mount of Olives to spend the night in prayer - remembering Christ's agony in the garden. After an early start on Good Friday, and the Evangelists' accounts of the Passion having been read, the True Cross, discovered by Helen, was displayed, and the faithful, barefooted, come forward to venerate it. On Holy Saturday night, the Basilica, festooned with oil lamps, and arrayed in its finest furnishings, hosted the Easter Vigil, with its various parts: of Light, of the Word, of Baptism and the Eucharist.

The pilgrims, on returning home, brought Cyril's liturgies back with them, and those services, rich in ritual and symbolism, served as models for our Holy Week worship today. With the Great Week just a few weeks away, as we accompany the Lord through the events of our salvation, let's take time to give thanks for Cyril, and the rich seam of worship that he has left us! **Father McGachey**

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND BENEDICTION - TONIGHT AT 6pm

Next Sunday is Mothering Sunday - there will be no evening Devotions.

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### FRIDAY IS THE FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK

Saint Patrick is a saint that many of us hold dear because of our Irish roots. We will have a special sung Festal Mass on Friday morning at 10am with organ and incense.

Afterwards, we invite you to the Hall for filled breakfast rolls and tea/coffee and biscuits. There is no charge. Please make a special effort to join us.

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### LAST SUNDAY'S RETIRING COLLECTION

This Diocesan collection for Sick and Retired priests, realised £1016.22. Sincere thanks.

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### NEXT SUNDAY - SPECIAL COLLECTION

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



I made a telephone approach to SCIAF headquarters in Glasgow requesting the 'Wee Boxes' and other Lenten materials. They promised that I would receive them in time for last Sunday. They still have not arrived! If you have any loose change you would have given to the SCIAF 'Wee Box', bring it with you next week and leave it in the sacristy, please.

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### CLUB 200

This week's winner is Edward Boyce. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

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### FROM THE FAMILY OF JAMES MCVITTIE - THANK YOU

Anne, Claire, Stephen, Paul and all James's family would like to thank Father McGachey and the parishioners of Saint Bride's for their prayers and spiritual comfort over the last four weeks. They have been greatly moved by the many Mass cards, sympathy cards, letters and acts of kindness. Holy Mass will be offered for the intentions of all.

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### CALLING THE FOLLOWING PARISHIONERS...

Would the following parishioners have a word with me after Mass please: Katherine Burke, Catherine Skillin, Philip Collins, Julie Collins, Kerry Yates and Theresa Will. Thank you.

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### FROM THE MOTHERWELL DIOCESAN CHOIR

The Motherwell Diocesan Choir are performing John Stainer's *The Crucifixion*, and supporting programme, in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. Admission is free and there will be retiring collection.

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# ITE AD JOSEPH...GO TO JOSEPH

In a world where our families live under much material and spiritual pressure, where workers' rights are often devalued and good jobs difficult to find, now more than ever we must 'Go to Joseph'.

## *Saint Joseph in the Bible*

Joseph, meaning 'God will act', appears about a dozen times in the Gospels, mainly in the first two chapters of Saint Matthew's Gospel, in connection with the early life of Jesus. Since in God's plan of salvation Joseph was to legally insert Jesus into the line of King David from whom, according to the prophets, the Messiah would be born, he was probably born at Bethlehem - the City of David. He was destined to become the spouse of Mary. About him Sacred Scripture has little more to say than that he was a "just man" - an expression which indicates how faithfully he fulfilled his roles of protecting and guarding God's greatest treasures upon earth, Jesus and Mary. Although descendent of King and a part of a royal dynasty, Saint Joseph was a man who worked by the sweat of his brow - he was a carpenter, a manual labourer. Of Saint Joseph's death the Bible tells us nothing.



## *The Saints and Saint Joseph*

In the sixteenth century, devotion to Saint Joseph was flourishing in Spain. Saint Teresa of Avila (+1582) became his great devotee - she believed his intercession had healed her of paralysis. Saint Teresa praised him as a helper in every need. By the 1550s she began reforming the Carmelite Order, to which she belonged - placing this difficult project, under Joseph's protection. Twelve of the seventeen new monasteries she founded were dedicated to the Saint, and all of them were adorned with his statue. One of her friends, the Carmelite Priest, Jerónimo Gracián, coined the phrase "*Ite ad Joseph*" ("Go to Joseph") from the story of the Old Testament patriarch Joseph in the Book of Genesis. This quote was often inscribed on his altars and images. The foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Saint Jeanne Jugan (+1879) made Saint Joseph the *de facto* patron of all its homes for the elderly. In Montreal, Canada, Saint André Bessette (+1937), a brother in the Congregation of the Holy Cross, had a tremendous devotion to Saint Joseph, and always advised people with troubles to pray to him. He built a huge basilica that still draws hundreds of thousands of pilgrims each year.

## *The Popes and Saint Joseph*

A number of Popes of modern times have had strong devotion to Saint Joseph. In 1870 Blessed Pope Pius IX declared him patron of the Universal Church. In 1930 Pope Pius XI named Saint Joseph a special patron of Russia to counteract Soviet persecution. In 1955 Pius XII introduced the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker on 1<sup>st</sup> May. Pope Saint John XXIII declared him patron of the Second Vatican Council and inserted his name in the First Eucharistic Prayer. Pope Francis celebrated the inaugural Mass of his Pontificate on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph ten years ago this week and has since has had his name inserted in each of the other three Eucharistic Prayers. *Father McGachey*

# THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

## SUNDAY

Holy Mass 4.30pm (Saturday Vigil) followed by Confessions,  
9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am

6pm Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament with organ

## MONDAY

6.45am the Church opens and closes at 4pm

7am Holy Mass

9.40am Stations of the Cross

10am Holy Mass

## TUESDAY

6.45am the Church opens

7am Holy Mass

There will be no 10am Mass or Evening Service today. Three of the Church heaters have to be repaired. I would like this work to be completed in one day.

Apologies for the change.

## WEDNESDAY

6.45am the Church opens and closes at 4pm

7am Holy Mass

9.40am Stations of the Cross

10am Holy Mass

Pro-life Rosary Wednesday after 10am Mass

## THURSDAY

9am the Church opens and closes after the Evening Service

10am Requiem Mass for Victor Gordo

No Coffee Morning today

6.30pm Confessions

7pm Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

## FRIDAY - FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK

6.45am the Church opens and closes after 10am Mass

7am Holy Mass for the Feast of Saint Patrick

9.30am Stations of the Cross

10am Solemn Mass for the Feast of Saint Patrick with organ and incense  
Followed by a breakfast in the Parish Hall with rolls and sausage and tea and coffee.

All welcome

## SATURDAY

9am the Church opens and closes after the Vigil Mass

9.40am Stations of the Cross

10am Holy Mass followed by Confessions

4.30pm Vigil Mass of Sunday followed by Confessions

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*  
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**HALL BOOKINGS** Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org  
**BULLETIN NOTICES** Contact Fr. McGachey or bulletin@sbek.org

### PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - Samantha Beach, Lorraine O'Donnell-Browen, Richard O'Donnell, Ray O'Donnell, Joanne Barrett (England), Brian McKenna, Eileen Biggins, Satya B Metha, Patricia McCormack, Helen Walton, Fiona Docherty, Margaret Deehan, 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, Ann Dillon (Dublin), Sarah Collins, John Thomson, Nora Houston, Liz Nicol, Patrick Gahagan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Maureen Macrae, Kate Milligan, Drew and Monica McShane, Clare (Slorach) Keane.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Victor Gordo, Teresa D'aquano, William Crawford, John McKirdy, Isabel Tracey.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Anne Flaherty, Thomas Flaherty, Alexandra McGovern, Libbano Simi, Desmond Dickson, Dennis Waddell, Mary McNamara.

### FUNERALS

Victor Gordo - Reception and Requiem Mass Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 10am.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 5<sup>th</sup> March, was £2606. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £203,000. 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.

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

If you wish to donate by Bank Transfer to Saint Vincent De Paul Society, the details are:  
SSVP, Sort Code 82 - 62 - 24, Account No. 20538417.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801**