



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the First Sunday of Lent

- 26th February 2023

WE ADORE THEE, O CHRIST AND WE PRAISE THEE...

The fourteen Stations of the Cross are amongst the most popular of all Catholic devotions and are to be found displayed in almost every Church. What is their origin?



With the conversion of the Emperor Constantine to Christianity in 312AD, Christians, who until then had been persecuted, enjoyed many new freedoms: not only could they celebrate the liturgy in public, but they were also able to move from place to place without fear of arrest.

As the number of converts grew, so too did the desire to see the places associated with Our Lord's life, death and resurrection. By the end of the IV century, despite primitive means of transportation, and often dangerous conditions, considerable numbers of people were going on pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Amongst the first to travel there was the Spanish woman Egeria. Her *Itinerarium*, an ancient travelogue, which survives to this day, recounts her visits to the various holy sites, especially those associated with Our Lord's Passion. When Jerusalem was captured by the Turks in the XII century, pilgrimage to the Holy Land became

impossible. Never to be outdone, the Franciscans during the XIII century promoted a new devotion known as the *Via Crucis* (the Way of the Cross) which would bring Jerusalem to the people, and so allow them to make a spiritual pilgrimage, through prayers and imagery, to the scene of Christ's death. The devotion has remained popular to this day. Every Friday afternoon, the Franciscans, who are known as the Custodians of the Holy Land, lead a solemn Stations of the Cross along the *Via Dolorosa* (the Sorrowful Way) in the narrow, cobbled streets of the Old City of Jerusalem.

It is interesting to note that while most of the Stations are based on Gospels, one is based simply on popular piety. The Scriptures make no mention of Veronica from the sixth station, but tradition says she was one of the holy women referred to by the Gospels, who accompanied Christ. It is said that she wiped his face with her veil, on which an imprint of his face was left. Her name, translated from Latin, is made up of two words: 'vera', meaning 'clear or true, and 'icona', (or 'eikon' in Greek), meaning 'image' - together they form the name 'Veronica', meaning 'True Image.' She is depicted most famously at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, in the ten-metre-

high statue that faces the Papal altar. Three similarly sized statues stand in Saint Peter's, two of which are associated with the Passion of Jesus: one of Saint Longinus, the soldier who pierced Our Lord's side, from which "blood and water" flowed; the other of Saint Helena, mother of the third-century Emperor Constantine. After she converted to Christianity, she built churches in Rome and in the Holy Land, and is said to have discovered some of the wood of the True Cross in excavations which she had ordered to be carried out in Jerusalem. The fourth statue is of Saint Andrew, Patron of Scotland.

That other popular figure, Simon, is mentioned by the evangelists: he was visiting from Cyrene (in modern-day Libya). He and his sons, Alexander and Rufus, became well-known members of the Christian community of Jerusalem. Fr. McGachey

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

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy will continue during the Season of Lent. Over the four Sundays of March (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th), the Children's Liturgy group will also be carrying out Sacramental Preparation for the P4 children of Saint Hilary's and Saint Kenneth's schools, who will celebrate their First Communion in May. This 4-week programme will take place in the Church Hall at 9.30am each Sunday.

NEXT SUNDAY - A RETIRING COLLECTION FOR SICK AND RETIRED CLERGY

CLUB 200

This week's winner is **Mark Guidi**. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CAN YOU HELP?

One of our young parishioners, Gregor Williamson, is travelling to Lourdes at Easter as a helper with HCPT Group 23. Gregor will be selling raffle tickets (£1.00 per strip) to enable a child to take part in the pilgrimage. The tickets will be on sale after weekend Masses on the 25th/26th February.

FROM THE BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Our next meeting will take place in the Parish Library on Monday 27th February at 7pm.

SCIAF 'WEE BOXES'

We have not received any materials from SCIAF this year - I am not sure why. Hopefully they will arrive in time for next Sunday.

EAST KILBRIDE CHURCHES - BIBLE STUDY FOR LENT

On the Fridays of Lent in the Old Parish Church at 12noon. Lunch served at 1pm. Based on the novel/musical *Les Misérables*. All welcome. [This notice arrived too late to be included in last week's Bulletin.]

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

There are no other services today because the Church heaters are to be serviced,
and scaffold has to be erected for this work to be done

TUESDAY

9am the Church opens and closes after the Evening Service
9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9.40am the Holy Rosary

10am Holy Mass followed by the Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
7pm Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

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
9.30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
10am Holy Mass
6pm Vigil and Reception for James McVittie
7pm Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion

FRIDAY

6.45am the Church opens and closes after 11am Mass
7am Holy Mass

No 10am Mass today

A Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 11am for James McVittie
There are a number of bishops and priests travelling to attend the funeral
- hence the change of time

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

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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 Keane.

RECENTLY DEAD - James McVittie, Thomas Howden, Felix Porter, Catherine Harris.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Anne O'Hanlon, Cathie Hughes, Terry Dolan, Robin Lyon, Vittoria Simmi, Sheila Torrance, Terry McGachey, John McAdam.

FUNERALS

James McVittie - Reception Thursday 2nd March 6pm. Requiem Mass Friday 3rd March 11am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 19th February, was £2526.23. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £205,000. 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.