



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Twenty-First Sunday
of the Ordinary Season - 27th August 2023

THE PASSING OF SAINT MONICA

from Saint Augustine's *Confessions* (his autobiography).

Today (Sunday) is the Feast of Saint Monica, and her son, Saint Augustine, is remembered on Monday. Saint Monica's advice to her sons, Augustine and Navigius, reminds us of our duty to pray for our beloved dead, especially at the altar of the Lord.

As the day approached on which my mother Monica was to depart this life - a day which you, Lord, knew, though we did not - she and I happened to be standing at a window that overlooked the garden in the courtyard of the house where we were staying at Ostia on the Tiber. We had gone there after the long and wearisome journey from Milan, to get away from the noisy crowd, and to rest and prepare for our sea voyage back to Africa. I believe, Lord, that you caused all this to happen in your mysterious way.

We were talking alone, 'forgetting the past and pushing on to what is ahead.' We were asking one another, in the presence of Truth - for you are the Truth - what it would be like to share the eternal life of the saints in heaven; about those things that Saint Paul says 'no eye has seen, and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man.'



It was scarcely five days later, that she fell sick with a fever. Then one day, during her illness, she became unconscious and for a while she was unaware of her surroundings. My brother Navigius and I hurried to her, and when she came to her senses, she looked at us and said, "Where was I?"

We were overwhelmed with grief, but she held her gaze upon us and spoke further "Here you shall bury your mother." I remained silent as I held back my tears. However, my brother haltingly expressed his hope that she might not die in a strange country, but in her own land, since her end would be happier there. When she heard this, her face was filled with anxiety, and she reproached my brother with a glance because he had entertained such earthly thoughts.

Then she said to us both "Bury my body wherever you will; let no care of it cause you any concern. One thing only I ask of you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be." Once our mother had expressed this desire, as best she could, she fell silent and her pain increased. And so, on the ninth day of her sickness, in the fifty-sixth year of her life, and the thirty-third of mine, that religious and devout soul was set loose from the body. *Confessions IX, 9-12*

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am and 11.30am

CONFESSIONS - Saturday after 10am Mass, 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday, Wednesday to Friday at 9.15am

HOLY ROSARY - Monday, Wednesday - Saturday at 9.40am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - on Tuesday after Mass

THE CHURCH IS OPEN - 9am-7pm, except a Friday.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

After our summer break, Children's Liturgy will return on Sunday 3rd September at 9:30am in the Parish Centre. We have a full programme planned between now and June 2024 including our regular Liturgy, sacramental preparation for children making their First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation and Advent and Lenten projects. Please bring your Primary School Children along! If you would like to join the Leaders' Group, please let Fr McGachey know or speak to one of the Leaders. This does not commit you to participating every week, because we all have varying commitments, holidays and periods of sickness to contend with. Maybe you have a child who already attends our Liturgy Group. Helping out is rewarding. Please consider the opportunity. Thank you.

THIS THURSDAY - THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

Takes place in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Good Aid, Motherwell, on Thursday 31st August at 7pm to pray for the important intention of more vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life. Please make a special effort to attend if you can. All welcome.

NEXT SUNDAY - THE NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN

Praying in solidarity with Ukraine

Please join the Archbishops and Bishops of Scotland in praying for this intention. Holy Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB, Bishop of Aberdeen. The homily will be given by Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Ukrainian Bishop of the Holy Family in London.

THE STALL

There is a variety of religious objects: crucifixes, rosaries, holy water fonts etc. on sale at the stall in the Church. There are new designs too of many religious cards. If you do not see what you want, or would like to order something in particular, please ask Frances or Marie. Copies of 'My day by day' for September are on sale at the Stall - priced £1.00.

GIFTAID

If you use the envelopes numbered 33, 34 or 46, could you please speak to me after Mass.

FOOD BANK

All items can be left in the Hall, before and after Masses this weekend. In future, the collection will occur on the last Saturday and Sunday of each month. Thank you.

I celebrated Mass in Saint Kenneth's School last Friday afternoon. I will celebrate Mass in Ryan Meadows Nursing Home on the 4th September.

CLUB 200

This week's winner is Jacqueline Brown. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

HOLY MASS WITH THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Will take place at 10am on Thursday 21st September, Feast of Saint Matthew. Please join us afterwards for a light breakfast in the Parish Hall.

FLOWERS FOR OUR LADY'S ALTAR - THANK YOU

Thank you to the families who have agreed to donate the flowers for Our Lady's altar, in memory of a departed loved one, over the next few weeks. If you are interested in doing the same, then please speak to me. Thank you to those who have given donations for flowers in the boxes at both entrances to the Church. They are much appreciated.

FABRIC MATTERS

Sincere thanks to those parishioners who waited behind to help on Tuesday morning after Mass with clearing and cleaning the choir loft and the garage. I am very grateful for this assistance. I have had the memorial boards with the photos of those whose Requiems have taken place at Saint Bride's over the past year, mounted on the wall. I was asked to do this by some of the parents of young children, because one of the boards almost fell on top of a toddler a few weeks ago. The flower room, opposite the toilets, and the storeroom at the back sacristy, have been painted and cleaned. I have had two aluminium signs made indicating 'Saint Bride's Church House'. These will be fixed outside the walls of the small carpark. It is a constant problem with delivery drivers and others who cannot identify the property. My thanks to the family who generously paid for this work.

CHURCH HALL ACTIVITIES

Our Church Hall offers a variety of activities open to everyone to join in

On **Thursday mornings** there is a **Coffee Morning**, with tea/coffee and biscuit after 10am Mass. There is no charge for this.

On **Monday evenings** there is a **Jive Dance Class** open to adults from 7.30pm until 9.30pm. Instruction is given to beginners under the watchful eye of experienced dancers and there is an opportunity to get involved in the group's socials and charity events.

On **Tuesday, Wednesdays and Saturdays**, a **children's and young adults Dance Class** takes place. The classes start after schools' finish and run all day on Saturday until 4.30pm.

On **Tuesday evenings**, we accommodate a small group of **Brownies** whose activities are well attended by young children from East Kilbride.

From a social perspective, our hall is available for hire for private functions, and these can range from **Baptism celebrations**, to **Children's Birthday Parties**, to **Licensed Functions**.

The Hall contributes to our Parish funds in a reasonable way and will continue to do so with your support.

If you would like more information about any of the above activities, please contact Danny Martin on 07484 652760. For Hall bookings, please contact Anne Marie McMillan via hall@sbek.org.

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Frankie Logan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Neal McDermott, Patricia Williamson, Sheila Martin, Jean O'Neil, Arthur Conner, Steven Holiway, Derek Fry, Margaret Rose McMahon.

RECENTLY DEAD - Dan Gray, Mark Gormley, Jim Kilcullen, Paul Stevenson, Ada Martin.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Tommy Burns, Michael Doherty, Pat O'Rourke, Daniel Sloan, Maria Kochanska.

FUNERALS

Dan Gray - Reception, Monday 28th August 6pm; Requiem, Tuesday 29th August 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

For the week ending 20th August 2023 - £2447. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £178,000. 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: SSVF, Sort Code 82 - 62 - 24, Account No. 20538417. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need of help, please contact John Mullen on 07712 903732.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your Parish Priest to show that you accept and live Catholic Faith. For those living in Saint Bride's, this means from Father McGachey. This applies to those about to enrol in the teacher training Course, those about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts (promoted or otherwise) within the Catholic Sector. If you have any questions, please speak to Father McGachey.