

# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

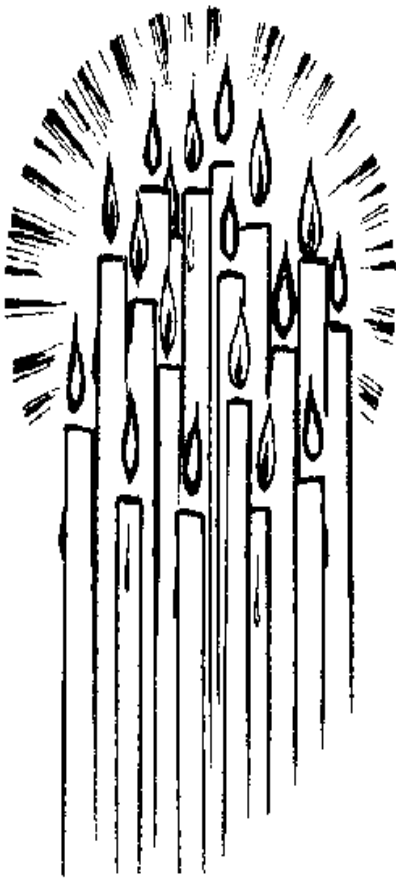
Bulletin for the Fourth Sunday  
of the Ordinary Season - 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023

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## A LIGHT TO ENLIGHTEN THE GENTILES...

Every evening, in the Church's last prayer of the day, called *Compline* or Night Prayer, a short canticle is recited, which is taken from Saint Luke's Gospel. The words of the canticle are those spoken by Simeon, an elderly and devout man, who met Mary and Joseph when they came to present the infant Jesus in the Temple, forty days after his birth. Simeon acclaimed the infant Christ as the "a Light to enlighten the Gentiles".

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February every year - the fortieth day after Christmas - the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple is celebrated. This feast is sometimes known as Candlemas, since on it, from the Tenth century, candles for use in the Church, as well as the homes of the faithful, are traditionally blessed. Why?



Apart from their practical use, essential in the days before electricity, candles have always had a strong symbolic value: they are used in the liturgy to represent Christ, "the Light of the world", "the Light no darkness can overpower" (John 1,5).

In addition, candles, and light they give, are a sign of festivity and celebration, and a mark too of reverence for God's presence. Since they honour God, the Church states that they should always have a percentage of beeswax.

The most prominent and important candle in any Church is the Paschal Candle. Blessed at the Easter Vigil, it is placed at the side of pulpit during the Easter Season; it stands by the baptismal font throughout the rest of the year.

Another prominent candle present in all Catholic Churches is the red coloured Sanctuary Lamp. It burns day and night, to indicate the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle.

The six candles are placed on the altar for the celebration of Holy Mass and Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Blessed candles are used at the celebration of the other sacraments except Penance. They are used too in processions: at the beginning and end of Mass, before the Gospel, and at the veneration of the Cross on Good Friday.

It is customary for every Catholic home to have at least two blessed candles. They are to be used when the Blessed Sacrament is brought to someone sick or housebound; for the administration of the Sacrament of the Sick; or to burn in the presence of a corpse - as a mark of vigil and respect. Blessed candles are to be used too at any time of prayer in the home.

We will bless candles for use in the Church on Wednesday and candles for use in our homes next weekend at all Masses.

Fr. McGachey

# PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

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

CONFESSIONS - After the Vigil Mass

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday, Tuesday and Friday 9.30am

HOLY ROSARY - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.40am

HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - On Tuesday this week after Mass

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## WEDNESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY FEAST OF SAINT BRIDE - OUR PARISH PATRONESS

To mark the feast day of the Fifth century Irish Saint, Bride, who is Patroness of our Parish, we will celebrate a Festal Mass, with organ and incense, at 10am.

Please join us in the Hall afterwards for rolls and sausage, cakes and tea and coffee.

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## THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE



For centuries, it has been the day for blessing the candles used in the Church; it is sometimes called Candlemas Day. The beautiful ceremony will take place at the beginning of the 10am Mass today and will be followed by a short candlelight procession around the Church and sung Mass, with organ and incense. I have invited John Pitcathley, the Cathedral organist, to play at Mass today. Please join us if you can for this special Feast.

We will bless candles for use in our homes the following weekend, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> February, at each of the Sunday Masses. These candles, modestly priced, may be purchased, if so desired.

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## FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY - FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE

Saint Blaise was a bishop and martyr who, for many centuries, has been the patron Saint of those with ailments of the throat.

We know that Blaise lived in Armenia and was arrested for his Christian faith. While in prison, a woman came with her young son who had a fish bone fixed in his throat. At Blaise's command, the child was able to cough up the bone. He was martyred in 316AD. By the year 800 the custom of blessing throats, using the blessed candles from the previous day's feast (see above), spread across Europe. The traditional Blessing of Throats will be given on his feast day at the 10am Mass. Since most parishioners will not be able to attend Mass on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the blessing will also be given at the end of each of the Sunday Masses on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of February.





## SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

We remember how Our Blessed Lady appeared to a poor teenager, Bernadette Soubirous, in the town of Lourdes in 1858. She asked Bernadette to come eighteen times and entrusted her with messages calling people to prayer and penance. Today Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing, both in body and soul. It is also the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. At 10am Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick, will be offered to anyone who would wish to receive it.

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### STALL

The February edition of the *My Day by Day* is available at the Stall. Price £1.00 each.

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### CALENDAR

**Saint John Bosco** is remembered on **Tuesday**. He was the founder of the Salesian Society, named in honour of Saint Francis de Sales, and of the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians. His lifework was the welfare of young boys and girls, hence his title, 'Apostle of Youth.' John had no formal theory of education - his methods focused on persuasion and a love for young people. **Mary of the Gael, or Saint Bridget or Bride**, is recalled on **Wednesday**. Born near Dundalk in Ireland, as a young woman she took the veil and eventually founded a monastery at Kildare (the house of oak) for women - the first in Ireland. The hallmarks of her life were mercy and a love for the poor. **Thursday** is the feast of the **Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)** - see above. **Friday** is the memorial of **Saint Blaise** - see above.



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### FROM SAINT ANDREW'S AND SAINT BRIDE'S HIGH SCHOOL

A Family Faith learning workshop at Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will take place on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023. It is aimed at S1-S3 pupils and parents, from 6-7pm in our school Oratory. The focus of the workshop is Faith and Mental Health, and Father Frank Dougan has kindly offered to speak at the workshop on Salvation and God's Love for us, followed by Christian prayer and meditation. The link to book a space on the workshop is <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mental-health-prayer-and-meditation-tickets-514796970597>

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### CLUB 200

This week's winner is John McGarry. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

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### KILBRYDE HOSPICE UPCOMING EVENTS

**Valentines Afternoon Tea** on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February between 1.00 pm and 3.00 pm in Kilbryde Hospice Kafe. Cost: £6.50pp includes sandwiches, cakes, unlimited tea and coffee, and a wonderful afternoon of entertainment!

**Bingo Night** on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February in Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall, East Kilbride. Doors open 7:30pm. Cost £5.00 pp. BYOB!

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*  
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**HALL BOOKINGS** Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan [hall@sbek.org](mailto:hall@sbek.org)  
**BULLETIN NOTICES** Contact Fr. McGachey or [bulletin@sbek.org](mailto:bulletin@sbek.org)  
**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER** 07873 263801

### 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, Catriona Slorach, Liz Nicol, Patrick Gahagan, Malcolm Buchanan (New Zealand), Maureen Macrae, Kate Milligan.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Michael Tracey, Gerald Buchanan, Jeanette Kelly, Bernard Lappin, Margaret McGinness, Rena Sloan,

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Anne Caird, Mary Ann Lorimer, Andrew Lorimer, Dennis O'Neill.

#### **FUNERALS**

Michael Tracey - Reception Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 6pm. Requiem Mass Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 10am.

Gerald Buchanan - Reception Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 6pm. Requiem Mass Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 10am.

Jeanette Kelly - Requiem Mass Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 1.30pm.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS

For the week ending, 22<sup>nd</sup> January, was £2427.61. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. The current loan stands at £209,000. 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.