



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

## Bulletin for the Thirty-Second Sunday of the Ordinary

### Season - 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024

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## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Today is Remembrance Sunday - we remember all those who died in the wars and conflicts of the Twentieth Century. I have been reading again week about the heroic work of Roman Catholic chaplains during the Great War, and the comfort they brought to so many men.

When conscription was introduced in 1916, the clergy remained exempt. They must have been aware, however, that across the Channel, many French priests had already been conscripted - some worked as chaplains but the majority were expected to go off to fight at the front, where they were forbidden from carrying out their priestly duties. It is estimated that around four and half thousand French priests and religious were killed in active service between 1914 and 1918.



About one hundred and seventy British chaplains, of all denominations, were killed in action during World War I, and a high proportion of these were Catholic. The first chaplain to be killed was in fact a priest of the Diocese of Middlesbrough, Father William Finn. He had been ordered to stay on the landing craft but seeing the casualties he said: "the priest's place is beside the dying

soldier; I must go." He was caught in the fire and killed.

One of the most famous chaplains was Father Francis Gleeson. He was an Irish priest who served as a British Army chaplain during Ireland's involvement in the First World War. Gleeson was ordained in 1910, and worked at a home for the blind, before volunteering for service at the outbreak of war: he was attached to the Royal Munster Fusiliers, and he served with them at the First Battle of Ypres.

Whilst moving forward to the trenches on 8th May 1915, in preparation for the Battle of Aubers Ridge, the Commanding Officer ordered the battalion to stop by a shrine of Our Lady. Father Gleeson addressed the men and gave them general absolution from his horse. The men then sang the hymns *Hail, Queen of Heaven* and *Hail, Glorious Saint Patrick*.

The battalion then moved off to the trenches from which they launched their attack early the next day. They were cut down by machine gun fire before they had advanced more than a few yards - there were around three hundred casualties. Gleeson attended to the dying, comforting them with the Last Rites, despite German shells falling all around him. Father Gleeson's absolution was the subject of a painting (see above) by Fortunino Matania called *The Absolution of the Munsters* that was done at the request of the widow of the Commanding Officer.

The War, it seems, did much to dispel the prejudices that were around in those days: were deeply impressed by the piety of chaplains and appreciated the work done by them, and eagerly accepted gifts of medals and rosaries. **Father McGachey**

## ANNUAL CEMETERY SERVICE AT PHILIPSHILL - TODAY

Takes place TODAY at 3pm in Philipshill Cemetery, East Kilbride. Father Campbell, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, will lead the recitation of the Rosary and Prayers for the Dead.

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### MONDAYS OF NOVEMBER - PRAYERS FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD



On the Monday evenings of November 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm, we will have a special service of Prayer for our beloved Dead, beginning at Our Lady's altar, followed by a torchlight procession, the recitation of the Rosary and Prayers for the Deceased, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Please use this opportunity to pray for your dead loved ones and help them get to heaven.

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### NOVEMBER LISTS

Please complete a November List, writing the names of those you would like to be prayed for during the month. At Saint Bride's, they will be remembered at the Rosary and Prayers for the Dead recited before Mass, Monday-Saturday; at Holy Mass each day, and the special services on the Monday evenings of November - see above.

The November Lists will be placed in the *Book of Remembrance*, which will form part of special November Shrine in front of the Baptismal Font in the Church. Please have a look at the Book!

It is customary to include an offering with your November List for the support of the Parish. Thank you for being generous.

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### DEANERY MISSION APPEAL BY THE XAVERIAN FATHERS

Every year the Bishops of Scotland allow a Missionary Order, based in Scotland, to make an appeal in one Deanery in their Diocese. This year, our Deanery has the honour of hosting the Missionaries of Saint Francis Xavier (the Xavierians), who are based in Coatbridge. The Appeal will take place in two weeks' time, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November at all Masses. There will be a Second Collection to support their work - please be generous as you always are.

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### ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE MASS

The Annual Mass for the family and friends of those whose funerals took place in Saint Bride's over the past twelve months, will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 7pm. During the Mass, there will be an opportunity, for everyone present, to light a candle and place it before the altar, in memory of the dead. At the Mass, all those who have died over the past 60 years at Saint Bride's will be remembered too, in this our Jubilee Year, priests and people alike. Everyone is most welcome to take part.

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## **THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S**

**THE CHURCH IS OPEN from 9am-5pm daily, or until after the evening service**

**HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am with Children's Liturgy and 11.30am**

**CONFESSIONS - Saturday 9.30am-9.50am, after 10am Mass; 4pm-4.20pm and Mass**

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday-Friday at 9.15am**

**HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Saturday at 9.30am**

**PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass**

**HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am**

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - on Tuesdays after 10am Mass**

**NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - on Thursdays after 10am Mass**

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## **CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK**

Catholic Education Week begins next Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> November. School pupils from Saint Kenneth's Primary School and Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will be involved in our Sunday Masses next weekend. A Retiring Collection to support the work of the Scottish Education Service, will be taken-up on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

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## **THE STALL**

Copies of 'My day by day' for **November** are on sale at the Stall - £1.00. New Christmas merchandise is on display, including: Cribs, Christmas ornaments and Christmas Cards, Christmas Books from Catholic Truth Society (CTS)... At the CTS wall-stand, there is a full range of modestly priced publications on church history, the Saints, devotions, prayer books and the Church's Year... Please have a look! All monies for the publications should be placed in the gold wall box marked 'Stall'.

The second batch of new Sunday Missals, with the revised translation of the readings, have not arrived yet/ I am promised they will be here in time for **NEXT WEEKEND**.

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## **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND COFFEE MORNING**

We are looking for donations of bottles for the Bottle Stall at the Christmas Coffee Morning which will take place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses. More details to follow.

There will be a meeting on this Tuesday evening in the Library at 6.30pm for all those involved.

Any monies made will be used to benefit our parish, allowing us to carry out essential work that has to be done.

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## **FOOD BANK UPDATE**

Once again, we received terrific response for our Food Bank Appeal. This month we collected £1053, £400 in vouchers and 670 items. Lesley from loaves/fishes will be at Thursday coffee morning this week. Thank you to all our supporters.

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## **200 CLUB**

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

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## PARISH FABRIC AND FINANCE

Last week, we paid the annual insurance bill for the parish properties - £8,300. This week, we paid the November instalment of the monthly Diocesan Levy - £7,300. On Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of November the rewiring of the Chapel House will begin, for us to comply with the health and safety laws of the land. I hope that this work will not be too disruptive, given the fact that there are two priests living in Chapel House! The cost of this will be approximately £18,000! These three sums of money are truly dizzying, and they come with a certain degree of strain and stress for me as Parish Priest. We can only face these massive expenses with your help and support. Thank you for your continued generosity to our Parish. God reward you! Father McGachey.

I will be absent from the parish this week, on a short break, Monday to Friday. The parish will be in Father Martin's capable hands. Please give him every support. Father McGachey.

CLERGY	Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, <i>Parish Priest</i> Rev. Colum E. Martin <i>Assistant Priest, Chaplain</i> to St Andrew's and St Bride's
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### REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Monica McShane, Mary Easton, Jean O'Neil, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Father Pierre Potie (France), Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart, Grace McHugh, Leo McCrear, Kenneth Cunningham, Margaret Hannigan, John Rimmer, Steven Russell, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Mary Crilly, Jackie McLaughlan, James Carwright, Joe Duffy, Helen Nairn, Margaret Collins, Grace McHugh, James Campbell, Ellen Duffy, Agnes Dunlop, Joan Mulholland, Thomas McLaughlan, Sandra Jamieson.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - John Simon Carr, Roderick McSween (Benbecula), John McGinley, Betty Barbour, Frankie Logan, Cathie Hughes, Mary Smith, Lawrence Deeney.

### FUNERALS

Mary Crilly - Reception on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm. Requiem Mass Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - £2810. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. 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: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97.