



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

Papal World Communications Sunday - 12th May 2024

SAINT ISIDORE - THE PATRON SAINT OF FARMERS

On the 12th March 1662, Pope Gregory XV celebrated one of the most important Canonisations in the history of the Church, raising to the altars four well-known figures: Saint Teresa of Avila (Carmelite nun and co-reformer of her Order), Saint Ignatius of Loyola (Founder of the Society of Jesus, commonly known as the Jesuits), Saint Francis Xavier (Soldier turned professor and co-founder of the Jesuits) and Saint Philip Neri (Saint of Florence and founder of the Congregation of the Oratory).

Along with these respected giants in the Church's life, a man called Isidore, from Madrid, was made a Saint too. Possibly, you have heard his name before - in our own Diocese we had a small parish dedicated to him, in Biggar, near Lanark. But who was Saint Isidore and why is he a saint?



Born in 1130, in Madrid, Isidore was named by his devout parents after another famous Saint, Isidore of Seville - the sixth century bishop and theologian. When he was barely old enough to hold a hoe in his hands, Isidore entered the service of Juan de Vargas, as a farm labourer. De Vargas was wealthy landowner who had a vast estate at Torrelaguna, outside Madrid.

Isidore had three great loves in his life: God, family, and the soil. He and his wife Maria Toribia, who resembled him in character, and who is popularly known in Spain as Maria de la Cabeza (Mary of the Head). Together they had a son, who died tragically at a young age. The couple proved to their neighbours that poverty, hard work, and sorrow cannot destroy happiness if we accept them with faith and in union with Christ. Maria is popularly held to be a Saint by Spaniards, although not officially canonised.

Isidore had deep religious instincts: he rose early in the morning to go to Church and spent many a holiday visiting the Churches and Shrines of Madrid and the surrounding areas. His devotion, one might say, became a problem, for his fellow workers - he was often late for work. His employer, De Vargas, reprimanded him for this fault, but he later had a vision of a second team of white oxen led by angels ploughing alongside Isidore, doing double the work. As he ploughed, he said his prayers and talked with God. Isidore and Maria had a practical concern for those even less fortunate than themselves, often feeding the poor from their own modest table.

He died in 1130 and his incorrupt body lies in the Church of Sant Andres in Madrid - a beautiful Church in La Latina district of the city and well-worth visiting. Even after his death, stories of miracles continued. He is said to have guided King Alphonso of Castile to make a surprise attack to defeat the Moors. In 1615, King Philip III of Spain was cured of severe fever through bringing the body of Isidore into the king's bedroom.

His tomb is much venerated today, by the lowliest and the greatest of Spanish society and his favours are plentiful. Not surprisingly, he is the patron of the Spanish capital and of farmers and rural life generally. In art, Saint Isidore's emblem is a sickle. **Father McGachey**

RETIRING COLLECTION - TODAY

Today is Papal World Communications Sunday. There will be a retiring collection to help the Bishops of Scotland run their National Communications and Press Office.

MAY DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

There was a great attendance at our first May Devotions last Monday evening - between eighty and ninety parishioners. This Monday is the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. We will have once again traditional May Devotions: a prayerful recitation of the Rosary, the Litany of Loreto with its beautiful titles of Our Lady, Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, and the traditional hymns in honour of Our Lady. Please make a special effort to attend and honour Mary, the Mother of God.



On Monday mornings during May, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9.15am to 10am. The Rosary will not be recited.

NEXT SUNDAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY



Next Sunday is the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday, and the Solemnity of Pentecost, when we recall the coming of the Holy Spirit on Our Lady and the Apostles, recorded by Saint Luke in the Acts of the Apostles. The Pentecost event is closely linked with the Sacrament of Confirmation, for this reason we will renew our Confirmation promises at Mass.

At the end of all Masses next weekend, we will offer an anointing with the Oil of Gladness. This anointing is mentioned in the Prophet Isaiah when he says, "To grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning." In the Old Testament this anointing was considered as a powerful means of transmitting the gift of God's Spirit.

The Oil of Gladness brings spiritual, mental, emotional and physical healing. All of us can benefit. I hope that many of you will come to receive this blessing.

CALENDAR

Monday is the feast of Our Lady of Fatima. In 1917, Our Lady appeared to three poor shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, giving them a message of prayer, penance and conversion. **Saint Matthias** is remembered on **Tuesday**. The *Acts of the Apostles* tells us that he was the one chosen by the Holy Spirit and the Apostles to replace Judas Iscariot. **Saint Isidore** (+1130) is remembered on **Wednesday** - see the front cover. **St. John I**, Pope and Martyr (+526) is honoured on **Friday**. A native of Tuscany, he served for many years as the Archdeacon of Rome, before being elected Pope at an advanced age. After his election, his life and ministry were thrown into turmoil, thanks to the interference of the Emperor Theodoric. When Saint John refused to comply with the Emperor's wishes, he was thrown in jail where he starved to death.

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Laura Muirhead. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

THE CHURCH IS OPEN DAILY, EXCEPT FRIDAYS - from 9am to 6pm

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

CONFESSIONS - 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

MONDAY-FRIDAY - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am

TUESDAY-SATURDAY - The Holy Rosary with the Litany of Loreto 9.35am
WEDNESDAY - The Litany of Saint Joseph at the conclusion of the Rosary
MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am
NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesdays after Mass
PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesdays after 10am Mass
When there is Requiem Mass, there will be no Exposition or Rosary

SAVE THE DATE...

Saint Bride's Church celebrates this year the sixtieth anniversary of its opening. To mark the occasion, Bishop Toal has confirmed that he will join us for a Mass of Thanksgiving on Monday 16th September at 7pm. We will invite the clergy who served in the parish in the past, and the Motherwell Diocesan Choir have confirmed that they will provide the music at the liturgy on that evening. I hope you will let your family members, as well as former parishioners, know about this celebration, and that you will save the details in your own diaries so that you can be present too. More details to follow.

THE NEW LECTIONARY

We received last week more information from CTS publishers about the new Lectionary that I wrote about in last week's bulletin. I have displayed these details on the notice board for your information - please have a look.

FIRST COMMUNIONS AT SAINT BRIDE'S

Congratulations to the children of Saint Kenneth's Primary School who made their First Communion yesterday. Next Saturday the second group will make their First Communion.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2024

14th to 21st October 2024. Should anyone be interested in joining us, staying at Hosanna House, Bartres, then please call Fr. Kenny Campbell on 01355 224511, or John Burns on 01355 229723, or Robert Kinghorn on 01355 702187. The cost, including flights, full board accommodation at Hosanna House, and coach transfers from and to Biarritz Airport, is £845 per adult, + £49 for travel insurance up to 79 years old, or £98 for travel insurance between 80 to 90 years old, + approximately £30 per adult for coach costs to and from Edinburgh.

DIARY DATES

- **THE MONTH OF JUNE - MONTH OF DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** - We will recite the Litany of the Sacred Heart after the Rosary each morning.
 - **SUNDAY 3RD JUNE - FEAST OF *CORPUS CHRISTI* (THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST)** - Vespers or Evening Prayer for the Feast with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.
 - **FRIDAY 7TH JUNE - SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS** - 10am Mass with organ and incense. At the end of Mass, we will say the prayer of Consecration to the Sacred Heart.
 - **THURSDAY 13TH JUNE - MASS FOR THE SICK** at 10am. After Mass, we invite you to join us for a light breakfast in the Parish Centre.
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FOOD BANK UPDATE

The next collection will be the weekend of 25th and 26th May. The list of necessary items will be distributed the weekend of 18th/19th May. Thank you all from the Food Bank team, and also from those who benefit.

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ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Drew and Monica McShane, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, Jean O'Neil, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahan, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Father Pierre Potie (France), Father Bill Tollan, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen,

RECENTLY DEAD - Catherine Weir, Catherine Kelly, Sadie Morton, Jean Begg, Arthur McHugh, Rita McKay, John Carrigan, Paul Smith, Aidan McHendry.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Christopher Walker, Philip McAinsh, Bonnie McMenamin, Annie McShane, Andrew O'Neil, Frank Mulligan, Steven Boyle, John McFadyen, Joe McFadyen jnr., Joe McFadyen sen., Margaret Donnelly, Agnes Murtagh.

FUNERALS

Catherine Kelly - Requiem Mass Tuesday 14th May 10am.

Catherine Weir - Reception Thursday 16th May 6pm. Requiem Mass Friday 17th May 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 5th May - £2525. 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.

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.