

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete

Sunday - 15th December 2024

HOW TO MAKE A GOOD CONFESSION THIS ADVENT

Most of us learned how to go to Confession when we were in Primary Three at school, a few months before making our First Holy Communion. We were taught how to confess like children. Unfortunately, for most of us, this way of going to Confession have never changed!



Perhaps you have been away from Confession for a long time - maybe for a very long time. Or you may be a Catholic who goes to Confession frequently, but you find that you seem to be confessing the same sins time and time again. Often this can lead to discouragement and frustration. Pope Francis reminds us that God "does not tire of forgiving. We are the ones who tire in asking for forgiveness."

Some Catholics come to the Sacrament of Confession with fear or dread. Even for those who go regularly to Confession, it is difficult, and sometimes embarrassing, to admit that we have sinned and to name our sins.

The Church teaches us that we are obliged to confess all our Mortal sins. Mortal sin is grave sin, which breaks one of the Ten Commandments, and is committed with full knowledge and deliberate consent. Mortal sin *breaks* our relationship with God. Venial sin *weakens* our relationship with God.

Sometimes there can be a temptation to leave out a sin in Confession because we are particularly ashamed of it or it is painful to name. If we do this, we hold onto it and we do not let the Lord forgive and heal us. Jesus wants us to walk away from Confession freed from our sins.

We should be careful never to approach the Sacrament of Confession without preparation. On Saturday we will provide a printed Examination of Conscience, an aid to help us make a good Confession. The secret to making a good Confession is to examine your conscience like an adult rather than a child.

Remember the priest cannot disclose what you have said in the Confessional to anyone.

When we go to Confession, the following things happen:

- Make the sign of the Cross.
- Say 'Bless me Father, for I have sinned.'
- Tell the priest how long it is since your last Confession. If you do not remember, say so.
- Confess your sins - honestly and humbly - mention what you have done; leave out the good you have done...Confession is about saying sorry for the wrongs we have done.

- The priest will give you some advice about how to make a new start.
 - He will ask you to make an Act of Contrition - there is one displayed in each confessional, so if you do not remember one, do not worry!
 - The priest will give you your penance, which is said when you leave the Confessional
 - Make the sign of the Cross and leave. Remember to leave the door open for the next Penitent.
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CONFESSION TIMES NEXT SATURDAY

On Saturday the 21st of December, Saint Bride's will have an Advent Quiet Day - the Church, specially decorated for the Season, will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, from the end of 10am Mass until the Vigil Mass.

- There will be Confessions from 9.30am until 9.50am.
- Then Confessions all day from the end of 10am Mass until 4.20pm.
- There will be a number of visiting priests:

9.30am-9.50am - Father McGachey
10.30-11.30am - Father Martin
11.30-12.30pm - Visiting priest
12.30pm-1.30pm - Visiting priest
1.30pm-2.30pm - Visiting priest
2.30pm-3.30pm - Father McGachey
3.30pm-4.20pm - Father Martin

At 1pm there will be the Rosary and 2pm *Prayer During the Day* from the *Divine Office* to help us focus on preparing for Christmas.

ADVENT AT SAINT BRIDE'S

On the Mondays and Fridays of Advent, we will have a *Rorate Coeli* Mass, by candlelight, at 7am. Traditionally celebrated just before dawn during Advent as a devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Church is only lit by candles, representing Mary's role in bringing the Light of the World into the darkness of the world. Father Campbell, Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, has asked us to advertise the fact that there will a *Rorate Coeli* Mass on the Tuesdays of Advent at 7.30am at his Church.

DEVOTIONS TO OUR BLESSED LADY IN ADVENT

At 7pm, on Monday evening, we will have Devotions in honour of Our Lady for the Season of Advent, beginning with a *Lucernarium* (a Thanksgiving for Light) at Our Lady's altar, a torchlight procession, the recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. These will be the final devotions for the Advent Season this year. Thank you for your attendances - they have been truly wonderful.

FROM THE MCAINSH FAMILY

Heartfelt thanks from the McAinsh family to all who helped celebrate Louise's birthday in such fine style. A Mass will be offered for your intentions.

CHURCH CLEANING FOR CHRISTMAS

We would like to have a big Church clean on the Monday 23rd of December, beginning at 11.30am (we have a funeral that morning - so it cannot start earlier) for two hours. We would like to wash down the benches and kneelers, as well as the other woodwork, along with the altars and candlesticks, and bring the Crib figures from the basement and have them washed. We would like to position the Crib and Christmas Trees on Monday morning too, since there will be no 10am Mass on Christmas Eve. Men and women, young and old, are needed to help that day, and would be made most welcome. Please bring your own buckets, we will provide cloths and suitable detergents. Thank you for your assistance.

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCES

In some parishes it has been the tradition for the parish clergy to offer the Masses they say on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for the dead relatives and friends of the parishioners who hand in their names. Both priests will do this at the five Christmas Masses here at Saint Bride's this year. Their names will also be included in a special Christmas Day edition of the Bulletin. These are called 'Christmas Remembrances'. If you like to have your loved ones remembered in this way, then please hand in their names to the Sacristy or the Chapel House, by the evening of Monday 23rd of December at 6pm.



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES AT SAINT BRIDE'S

- 24th December, Vigil Mass of Christmas, 4pm
with organist and cantor
 - 24th December, Vigil Mass of Christmas, 8pm
with organist and choir
 - 24th December, Midnight Mass by Candlelight,
Midnight 12am - with organist and cantor
 - 25th December, Dawn Mass of Christmas, 9.30am
with organist and cantor
 - 25th December, Day Mass of Christmas, 11.30am with
organist and cantor
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THE STALL

New Christmas merchandise is on display, including Cribbs, Christmas ornaments and Christmas Cards, Christmas Books etc.

The Western Calendar 2025 is on sale at the Stall, priced £3.70.

There are ten new Missals to be collected from the Sacristy. Price £19.95 each. Please only pay for one if you have ordered one.

VOCATIONS EVENING

A meeting will take place on Tuesday the 17th of December at 7pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell, for those who feel called to the Priesthood. This informal evening will begin with a short time of prayer and provide an opportunity for anyone considering a

vocation to the Priesthood to ask questions, come together and learn a bit more about Priesthood and the discernment process. If you are interested in a vocation to the Priesthood but can't make it to the meeting, please email Father Sean Wyllie, Diocesan Vocations Promoter: frwyllie@rcdom.org.uk

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Pauline McPheely. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CANON RYAN'S CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Our annual appeal for Christmas gifts and toys for less fortunate children in the East End of Glasgow ends today. The items can be left beside the gate to the Choir Loft. Please do not wrap any gifts. Thank you for your generosity and support.

SERVING AT WEEKDAY MASS

Recently there have been several days when we have not had a server, for variety of reasons, at weekday Mass. It makes life so much easier for the priest when we have a server: to have someone to hold the Missal, to bring the sacred vessels back and forward etc. If there is any gentleman, who attends morning Mass, and who would be prepared to stand in if and when required, or perhaps form part of rota of weekday servers, please speak to one of the priests after Mass today. There would be an expectation that the server the wear cassock and surplice at Mass. Training will be given. Thank you for your help.

GAUDETE IN DOMINO SEMPER **Rejoice in the Lord always**

In the days when Mass was celebrated in Latin, certain Sundays throughout the liturgical year took their names from the first word of the Introit or Entrance Antiphon. In our own time this Antiphon, although still found in the Missal, has largely been replaced by a processional hymn, at least on Sundays and major feasts.

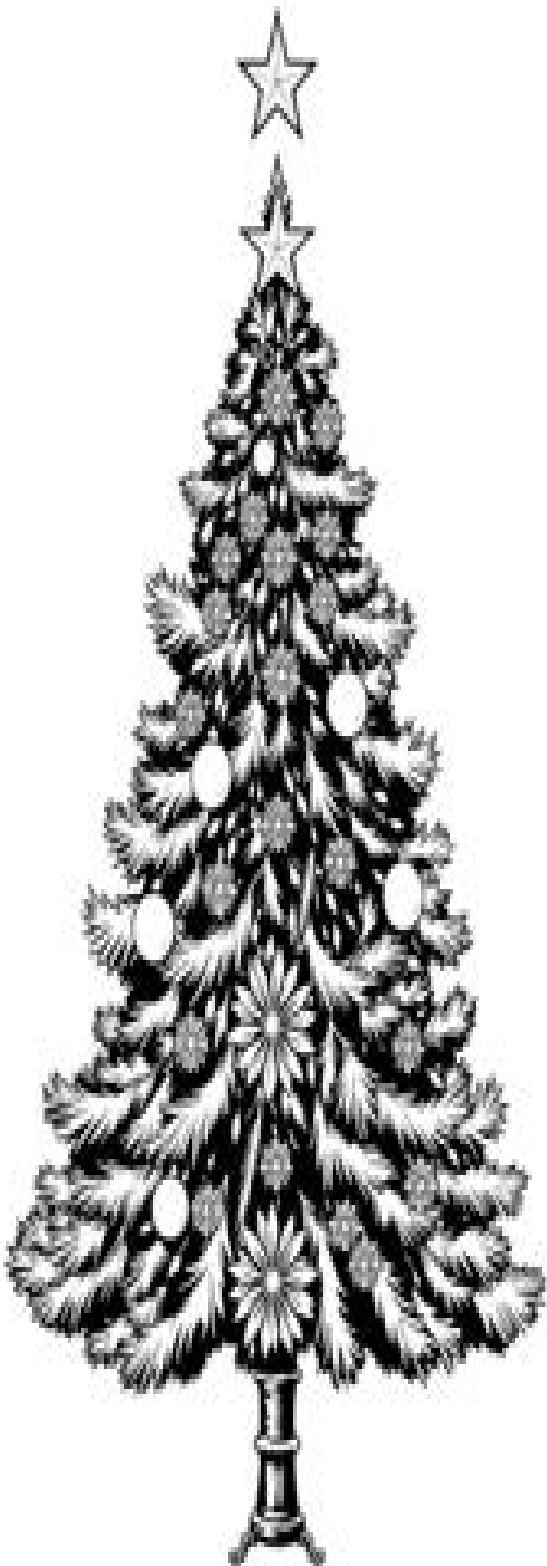
Two well-known examples of this would be: the Sunday after Easter was known as 'Quasimodo Sunday' from the First Letter of Saint Peter chapter 2,2 "Quasi modo geniti infantes..." ("Like newborn babes..."). The Fourth Sunday of Lent was known as 'Laetare Sunday' because the Introit began "Laetare Ierusalem..." ("Rejoice, Jerusalem...").

This Third Sunday of Advent is often still known as 'Gaudete Sunday' taken from St. Paul's Letter to the Philippians chapter 4,4: "Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, gaudete" (Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice).

The reason for our rejoicing is that we have now passed the mid-point in Advent, and we are asked not so much to focus on the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time, but rather to turn our minds to celebrate the feast of his First Coming at Bethlehem - Christmas.

You will notice that the mood lightens somewhat in the readings and prayers of today's Mass. This lightening of the mood of Advent is also reflected in the use of rose coloured vestments today - normally royal purple is used during Advent. For this same reason, the third candle of the Advent wreath on this Gaudete Sunday is traditionally rose- coloured. In the purple floral arrangement before the altar some roses have been added as another sign of rejoicing and the proximity of Christmas. **Father McGachey**

**NEXT SUNDAY
THE CHRISTMAS COFFEE
MORNING
AFTER THE 9.30am AND
11.30am MASSES**



Please join us in the Parish Hall after the two morning Masses next Sunday for Second Annual Christmas Coffee Morning. If you go to the Vigil Mass, please consider coming back in the morning for the Coffee Morning.

Enjoy some festive eats with hot tea or coffee or soft drink and a hot sausage roll and cake for £3.00.

There will be a quality Bottle Stall: tickets priced 50p each or £2.00 for a strip of five.

Children's activities are free of charge and include: face painting, temporary tattoos, snakes and ladders, amongst many other activities, including: making reindeer lollipops, pin Rudolph's nose on his face...

The tickets for this year's Christmas Raffle are on sale before and after Mass this weekend and next, price £1 each.

Prizes this year include: a *Fortnum and Mason's* Luxury Christmas Hamper, a Celtic football top and a Celtic football - signed by the current team members, a Voucher for the *Bond Restaurant* in the Village, a bottle of

Johnnie Walker Blue Label whisky amongst many other items.

Please support your parish: the monies raised will help us face the Winter months with slightly more confidence.

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

CLERGY Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*
Rev. Colm E. Martin *Assistant Priest, High School Chaplain*

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HALL BOOKINGS Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org

BULLETIN NOTICES Contact Fr. McGachey or Fr. Martin or bulletin@sbek.org

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07712 903732

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, Margaret Hannigan, Steven Russell, Patricia Carey. Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Rev. Fr. Bill Tollan MHM.

RECENTLY DEAD - Jean O'Neill, Pasquale Usai, Gayel Cochran, Danny Archibald, Wilma Donnelly, Willie Fox, Allan Elliot, Margaret McFadden, Anne Marie Flynn.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - John O'Neil, Anne Mooney, Matthew Lormier, John Thompson, Maria Conway, Gerard (Gerry) Conway, Cornelius Patrick Sweeney, Clive Dowie, John Timmons, Frances and Willie Maxwell, Charlie McCartney, Suzanne Mair, Nancy Corrigan, Peter and Jo Reilly, Dominic Butler, Frank Armstrong, Catherine Boyd, Anne Gallagher Goodwin, Janet Stone, Patricia Burns, Bonnie McMenamin, John Toner, Catherine Hughes.

FUNERALS

Pasquale Usai - Requiem Mass Friday 20th December 12.30pm.

Jean O'Neill - Requiem Mass, Monday 23rd December 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 8th December - £2845. 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.