



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Fourth Sunday of Easter - Good Shepherd Sunday - 21st April 2024

THE WINGED LION OF VENICE AND SAINT MARK

If you have ever visited Venice in north-eastern Italy, you will have seen the Winged Lion is everywhere: it is emblazoned on the front of Saint Mark's Basilica, on top of the famous column in Saint Mark's Square, and on the flag of the city itself, amongst many other places.



This Winged Lion is derived from Saint Mark's description of John the Baptist as: "The voice of the one who cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord": artists have often compared Mark's description to 'a roaring lion'. The lion's 'wings' come from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel (Ezk 1), where he has a vision of four winged creatures: an eagle, ox, lion and a man, which are often applied to the four Evangelists: eagle - John, ox - Luke, lion - Mark and the man - Matthew.

According to a Venetian legend, that while travelling in Europe, Mark, having arrived at Venice, was met by an angel who said to him: "Pax tibi Marce, evangelista meus. Hic requiescet corpus tuum." (Peace be with you, Mark, my evangelist. Here your body will rest). This legend was used as the justification for bringing, by stealth, Mark's remains to Venice from Alexandria in Egypt. He became patron saint of Venice and his life and death are depicted in a series of mosaics in Saint Mark's Basilica where he is interred.

Mark's feast day falls on Thursday of this week. But who was Saint Mark? John Mark, later known simply as Mark, was Jewish by birth, the son of Mary who owned the Upper Room where Our Lord celebrated the Last Supper. Gethsemane, a small Garden estate, outside the old city walls of Jerusalem, belonged to Mark's family too. The scholars traditionally identify him with the young man mentioned in the Gospel of Mark, who was sleeping in Gethsemane when Jesus was arrested: "he had nothing on but a linen cloth; they caught hold of him, but he left the cloth in their hands and ran away naked." (Mark 14).

He is also mentioned several times in the Acts of the Apostles: in chapter 12, when Saint Peter escaped from prison, we are told that "He went straight to the house of Mary the mother of John Mark in Jerusalem, where a number of people had assembled and were praying". Later, that he accompanied Paul and Barnabas (Mark's cousin), as they travelled from Syria to Cyprus and Turkey. However, Mark was perhaps too immature or too delicate for the hardships that this type of work brought with it and left them at Perga in Turkey to return home (Acts 13).

In 50AD, as Paul and Barnabas were preparing for their second missionary journey, Barnabas wanted to bring Mark with them again, but Paul objected. So, Mark and Barnabas left Paul and journeyed to Cyprus (Acts 15). Time would heal Mark's strained relationship with Paul, and during his period of house arrest in Rome (61-63AD), Mark helped Paul (Colossians 4 and Philemon 2), and the Apostle learned to appreciate him again. Later, when Paul was arrested for a second time, he requested Mark's help, which he generously gave (2 Timothy 4).

Mark would write his Gospel about 50AD. It is the shortest of the four gospels. Written for Roman Gentile converts - he is careful to explain Jewish customs and words. Mark acted as the interpreter for Saint Peter, who affectionally refers to him as his "son" (1 Pet 5). His Gospel is sometimes called the 'Gospel of Peter': effectively, it is Peter's reminiscences of the life and teachings of Our Lord. This explains why incidents which involve Peter are described in greater detail. According to tradition, Peter sent Mark as Bishop to Alexandria which, after Rome, was the second city of the Empire. Here he died a martyr's death.

Mark's Gospel can be read from beginning and to end in a couple of hours. Why not read a few chapters each day this week? Mindful of the words of Saint Jerome, written in the 5th century: "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ". Use the opportunity to get to know Our Lord better through the writings of Saint Mark. **Father McGachey**

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide, is sometimes called 'Good Shepherd Sunday', because today's Gospel, from Saint John's account of Our Lord's life, always highlights the image of the Shepherd. The Good Shepherd is closely associated with the Priesthood, since the priest is in a special way like the shepherd of the flock entrusted to his care. For this reason, today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood, and in many dioceses around the world, there are ordinations.

We rejoice because Motherwell Diocese had an Ordination last week in Rome of Deacon Chris Furmage (Saint Augustine's, Coatbridge). In addition to Deacon Chris, we have a number of seminarians in formation: Kieran Burt (Saint Joseph's, Blantyre), Chris Igwe (Our Lady of Lourdes, East Kilbride), Aidan Kelly (Saint Ninian's, Hamilton) and Matthew O'Neill (Saint Mary's, Coatbridge). They study in Rome and in Birmingham. With Roman Catholics around the world today, please pray earnestly to the Good Shepherd for an increase in vocations to Priesthood, particularly in our own Diocese, and pray for those who will serve him in the future.

RETIRING COLLECTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF OUR SEMINARIANS

Today there will be a retiring collection for the education of our seminarians, that is to say, those who, God willing, will serve as priests in our parishes in the future.

VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OR PERMANENT DIACONATE

Any man who is considering a calling/vocation to the Priesthood or the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Motherwell should make himself known in the first instance to his Parish Priest. His contact details will then be forwarded to the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Charles O'Farrell, for those considering Priesthood, or to Deacon Bill McMillan, for those considering the Diaconate. If anyone wishes to receive information or encouragement about discerning their vocation, contact can be made with Fr O'Farrell at frofarrell@rcdom.org.uk, or Deacon McMillan at deaconmcmillan@rcdom.org.uk.

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Francis McLaughlin. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

GIFTAID

Sincere thanks to the seventeen parishioners who have joined the scheme this year. Could Elizabeth Laurie, Siobhan McGhee, Anne McVittie and Michael Kenny please speak to me after Mass today. Sincere thanks to all our parishioners for your continued financial support.

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 and 11.30am

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

MONDAY-FRIDAY - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - The Holy Rosary 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

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - Thursdays after 10am Mass

When there is Requiem Mass, there is no Exposition or Rosary

CHURCH ROOF UPDATE

After being let down by several contractors, I have been promised that the leak at the back of the Church will be repaired this week. I am sorry this has taken so long! It has been a long and frustrating process. The good news is that the roof is under guarantee from when the work was done several years ago - so it will cost us nothing! However, the heating bills for the Church and Hall during March arrived this week - they were almost £2,900! This is because of the extra Lenten Masses at 7am and the additional Rosaries and other Devotions.

DIARY DATES

- **THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** - for the children of Primary 7 at Saint Kenneth's Primary School, with Bishop Joseph Toal, on Wednesday 24th April at 7pm.
 - **THE MONTH OF MAY** - May Devotions in honour of Our Lady on the Mondays of May at 7pm.
 - **DURING THE MONTH OF MAY** - we will recite the Litany of Loreto (the Litany of Our Lady) after the Rosary each day.
 - **FEAST OF SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER** - Wednesday 1st May: 9.45am Devotions to Saint Joseph, followed by Holy Mass with organ and incense at 10am.
-

THIRD WORLD GROUP

STUDIO 32 are holding a Charity Concert in the Pastoral Centre on Friday 26th April for the Third World Group, with all proceeds going to Mary's Meals. The Hall will be open from 7pm, and the concert begins at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £8 and are available from Committee members or by calling 01355 222430. The bar will be open.

GLASGOW KILT WALK

Margaret Mary Cowan and Yvonne Kirkwood are taking part in the Glasgow KiltWalk on Sunday 28th April walking 23 miles for their chosen charities. Kilbryde Hospice and Cancer Research. If anyone would like to donate online please use the following links. Thank you in advance. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/margaret-cowan-1699691464271newPage=true>

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yvonnekirkwood-6570df1f3e35402a0ffdca5a?utm_medium=proxy_fundraising&utm_content=yvonnekirkwood-6570df1f3e35402a0ffdca5a&utm_source=whatsapp&utm_campaign=pfpp-whatsapp

CLERGY Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*
EMAIL frmcgachey@rcdom.org.uk
ADDRESS Saint Bride's Parish, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN
TELEPHONE 01355 220005
WEBSITE www.sbek.org **TWITTER** @StBrideEK **FACEBOOK** @StBrideEK
HALL BOOKINGS Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org
BULLETIN NOTICES Contact Fr. McGachey or bulletin@sbek.org
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER 07873 263801

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Drew and Monica McShane, Catherine Morris, Amanda Sherwood, Mary Easton, Pat McElroy, 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), Father Bill Tollan, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan.

RECENTLY DEAD - Alice Fraser, Andy Brogan, Eileen Biggins, Mary Gillespie, Lee Boyle, Catherine Grant, Maria Gallagher, John Kavanagh, Madge Begley, Philip Wilson, Patricia (Pat) Whelan, Gerard Considine.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Helen and Peter Orsie, Thomas Connelly, Gerry Kennedy, Margaret Anne Kennedy, Catherine Hughes, Paul Smith, Ada Reilly, Martin Wilson, Damien Flaherty, Gerard O'Neill, Patricia Burns, Margaret Galloway.

FUNERALS

Andrew Brogan - Funeral Service in Heritage Funeral Care on Monday 22nd April at 7pm.

Alice Fraser - Requiem Mass on Thursday 25th April at 10am.

Eileen Biggins - Vigil and Reception on Monday 29th April at 6pm. Requiem Mass on Tuesday 30th April at 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 13th April - £2710. 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.

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. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need of help, please contact John Mullen on 07712 903732.