



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Third Sunday of Lent

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

## THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



It is interesting to note that while most of the Stations of the Cross are based on the Gospels, one is based simply on popular piety. The Scriptures make no mention of Veronica from the Sixth Station. Tradition says she was one of the holy women referred to by the Gospels, who accompanied Christ. It is said that she wiped his face with her veil, on which an imprint of his face was left. Her name, translated from Latin, is made up of two words: 'vera', meaning 'clear or true, and 'icona', (or 'eikon' in Greek), meaning 'image' - together they form the name 'Veronica', meaning 'True Image.'

She is depicted most famously at Saint Peter's Basilica in Rome, in the ten-metre-high statue that faces the Papal altar. Three similarly sized statues stand in Saint Peter's, two of which are associated with the Passion of Jesus: one of Saint Longinus, the soldier who pierced

Our Lord's side, from which "blood and water" flowed; the other of Saint Helena, mother of the third-century Emperor Constantine. After she converted to Christianity, she built churches in Rome and in the Holy Land and is said to have discovered some of the wood of the True Cross in excavations which she had ordered to be carried out in Jerusalem. The fourth statue is of Saint Andrew, Patron of Scotland.

That other popular figure, Simon, is mentioned by the evangelists: he was visiting from Cyrene (in modern-day Libya). He and his sons, Alexander and Rufus, became well-known members of the Christian community of Jerusalem.

Every morning, Monday to Saturday during Lent, we recite the Stations of the Cross at 9.35am. What is the origin of this popular devotion?



With the conversion of the Emperor Constantine to Christianity in 312AD, Christians, who until then had been persecuted, enjoyed many new freedoms: not only could they celebrate the liturgy in public, but they were also able to move from place to place without fear of arrest.

As the number of converts grew, so too did the desire to see the places associated with Our Lord's life, death and resurrection. By the end of the IV century, despite primitive means of transportation, and often dangerous conditions, considerable numbers of people were going on pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Amongst the first to travel there was the Spanish woman Egeria. Her *Itinerarium*, an ancient travelogue, which survives to this day, recounts her visits to the various holy sites, especially those associated with Our Lord's Passion. When Jerusalem was captured by the Turks in the XII century, pilgrimage to the Holy Land became impossible. Never to be outdone, the Franciscans during the XIII century promoted a new devotion known as the *Via Crucis* (the Way of the Cross) which would bring Jerusalem to the people, and so allow

them to make a spiritual pilgrimage, through prayers and imagery, to the scene of Christ's death. The devotion has remained popular to this day. Every Friday afternoon, the Franciscans, who are known as the Custodians of the Holy Land, lead a solemn Stations of the Cross along the *Via Dolorosa* (the Sorrowful Way) in the narrow, cobbled streets of the Old City of Jerusalem. Father McGachey

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## **READERS - PLEASE NOTE THE SUNDAY READINGS ARE TAKEN FROM YEAR A AS OF TODAY**

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### **THE THIRD WEEK OF LENT AT SAINT BRIDE'S**

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

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

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS - HOLY MASS at 7am (church opens at 6.30am)

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Stations of the Cross 9.35am EXCEPT TUESDAY THIS WEEK

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesdays after Mass

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - Thursdays after 10am Mass

Please note that when there is a Requiem Mass, there will be no Stations or Novena

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### **CHILDREN'S LITURGY**

This Sunday at the 9.30am Mass, we are commencing our four-week programme of preparation for Confirmation. This is for Primary 7 students at St Kenneth's. Confirmation will take place in late April. The programme will continue over the four Sundays of March. We will also have our regular Children's Liturgy for other Primary School children at the same time.

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### **SAINT KENNETH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The children of Primary Three will make their First Confession on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, between 5.30pm and 7.30pm. Please remember them and their parents in your prayers. I will be offering Mass at 2pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, in Saint Kenneth's School.

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### **NEXT SUNDAY - SPECIAL COLLECTION**

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) Sunday. There will be a traditional second collection to support the work they do on our behalf. Please give generously as you always do.

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### **FOOD BANK COLLECTION**

A big thank you once again for the generous donations for the *Loaves and Fishes* Foodbank. This month we collected £759 in cash, £400 in Farmfoods vouchers, and around 820 items of toiletries, tinned food, and nappies. A letter of thanks from *Loaves and Fishes* can be seen on the noticeboard.

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## 200 CLUB

200 Club winner is Anne Connelly. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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### WE CONTINUE OUR NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNTIER OF KNOTS ON TUESDAY EVENING

with Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7pm in the Parish Church. It will continue on the following seven Tuesdays. Please join us!

There was a wonderful attendance of around two hundred people last week.

Petition Forms will be available again on Tuesday evening and can be placed in the box at Our Lady's Altar.

If you would like to order a small statue of Our Lady Untier of Knots, (we will be ordering them on Monday) then please speak to Frances and Marie, or write your name and phone number on the sheet on top of the display cabinet at the Stall.

If you could not manage last week, there are copies of the first week's prayers at the notice board at the back of the church.

**"In this unfailing novena Our Lady comes to untie the knots of our life."**

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## CALENDAR

**Thursday** is the Memorial of **Saints Perpetua and Felicity** (+ 203). The account of their martyrdom forms one of the finest pages of the history of the first centuries of the Church. They were exposed to the fury of wild beasts in the amphitheatre at Carthage, North Africa in 203AD, and finally killed by the sword. Their names are still mentioned together in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) of the Mass. On **Friday** we honour **Saint John of God** (+1550). Of Portuguese descent, he was first a shepherd, then a book dealer and finally a soldier. At the age of forty, he was converted, and devoted himself to the care of the mentally ill, showing himself in this thankless task to be a saint of true heroism. He founded the Order of the Brothers Hospitallers, which bears his name. He died at Granada in Spain. **Saint Frances of Rome** (+1440) is recalled on **Friday**. She was among the noble women of Rome, who showed what a Christian wife could be: after the death of her husband, she retired from the world and lived in a monastery of oblates that she had founded under the Rule of Saint Benedict.

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### CHARITY NIGHT IN AID OF THE STREET CHILDREN IN NAIROBI

Entertainment by the *Highwaisters*, in Saint Bride's Church Hall, on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March** 7.30pm-11pm. Bar, raffle, light supper by Rico. Tickets £10. Tickets can be purchased from Pip Slorach or any Committee member.

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**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), Steven Holiway, 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, Madge Reilly, Jan Milligan, Betty Cunningham

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Patricia Williamson, Kevin McGoldrick, Elizabeth McCrindle, Jim Mullholland, Georgina Ridge.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Cathie Hughes, Dan Neelan, Jane Waterhouse, Paul Smith, Paul Dyet, Terry Dolan.

#### **FUNERALS**

Patricia Williamson - Reception and Vigil Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Requiem Mass Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 10am.

### WEEKLY OFFERINGS - SINCERE THANKS

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February - £2823. 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.