



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Solemnity the Baptism of Our Lord - 12th January - End of the Christmas Season

WHO WAS SAINT HILARY?

Tomorrow, Monday, is the feast day of Saint Hilary of Poitiers. We have a school in the area named after Hilary, for which we are partly responsible at Saint Bride's. I wonder, how many people know anything about him. Here is a potted history of his life.



Born in 310AD at Poitiers, France, of wealthy pagan parents, Hilary had a good education in rhetoric and philosophy - the traditional disciplines of the day. It was his reading of the Scriptures, especially the Gospel according to John, that brought him to Christianity at the age of thirty-five. Three years later, while still a layman, he was acclaimed bishop of Poitiers in 353AD

Hilary became one of those great Christian heroes who poured out his life in the defence of Christ's divinity. Scarcely had the days of the persecution ended in the Roman Empire, with the Emperor Constantine embracing of Christianity in 313AD, than there came to light - this time from *within* the Church - a dangerous enemy of another sort called Arianism. The heresy, as it came to be, took its name from Arius, a priest of Alexandria in Egypt, who believed that Jesus was a created being, distinct from God, and not truly divine. He rejected the traditional concept of the Blessed Trinity, which holds that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three persons of the same divine Godhead, equal in majesty and splendour, but distinct.

Arianism endangered the whole Church, and its spread was all the more rapid because Roman Emperors, who called themselves Christian, proved to be its strongest supporters. As a result, countless martyrs shed their blood in defending the truth of Christ's divinity; and orthodox bishops, who voiced opposition to Arianism, were forced into exile.

The Emperor Constantius II was one of the biggest supporters of Arianism. Hilary's strong opposition to the heresy was brought to the attention of Constantius, who had him exiled to Phrygia, in Central Turkey, for four years. Here Hilary began writing his twelve-volume work, *De Trinitate* (On the Trinity) - he explained the Nicene Creed (the longer of the two Creeds we sometimes say), point by point, to underline Christ's true nature, as Son of God and Son of Man, human and divine. Eventually he caused so much of a nuisance in Turkey because of his defence of the true faith, that he was sent back to Poitiers.

Welcomed there with enthusiasm, Hilary helped Saint Martin of Tours in combating Arianism in Gaul. Although deeply committed to the leadership of Poitiers, Hilary took steps late in his life to support orthodox teaching in other regions. Significantly, he denounced Auxentius, the Arian bishop of Milan. Once deposed, his successor was none other than the famous Saint Ambrose of Milan, who, in turn, was instrumental in the conversion of Saint Augustine.

Although Hilary was gentle and courteous in character, his theological writings show a sharpness of tone against his opponents. Hilary composed some of the earliest Latin

Christian poems and hymns. Worn out by his trials and tribulations, he died in 367AD. His feast on 13th January marks the start of the so-called *Hilary Term* (Spring semester) in our universities and in the Law courts too.

A favourite motto of Saint Hilary was *Ministros veritatis decet vera proferre* (Servants of the truth ought speak the truth) - something we could all learn from, and more importantly, live by. Father McGachey

TODAY IS THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. This feast brings to an end the Season of Christmas 2025. The Ordinary Season, which begins tomorrow, lasts until the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Season of Lent.

The Church recalls Our Lord's second Manifestation or *Epiphany* which occurred when he was baptised in the River Jordan: Jesus descended into the river to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to bless the children of God.

In an increasing number of places around the world, the crib is left until the 2nd February, the Feast of Our Lord's Presentation in the Temple, by Mary and Joseph, the fortieth day after Christmas. We will do the same in Saint Bride's again this year.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy will recommence today, 12th January, at 9.30am Mass.

BLESSING OF HOMES IN THE NEW YEAR

It is longstanding custom of the Church to bless homes in the month of January. Father Martin has offered to do that this year. Remember, our homes can be blessed more than once. Any parishioners who wish to have their house blessed, should speak to Father Martin after Mass, or contact him by email at frmartin@rcdom.org.uk

CAN YOU HELP?

The Christmas Trees etc. in the sanctuary and around the other parts of the Church, have to be taken down on Monday. Can you spare half an hour to help us with this job, please?

FAMILY MASS AT SAINT BRIDE'S

We hope to start, on Sunday 9th of February at the 9.30am Mass, a Family Mass: with the readings and the Offertory procession being done by pupils from the local schools. After the Mass, there will be tea and coffee and rolls and sausage offered in the hall, just make a donation. We hope that you will support this venture. If you are interested in helping, please speak to either of the priests.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINES OF FRANCE

We are putting together an itinerary for two separate pilgrimages in the second half of the year: one to Rome and the other to the Shrines of France (Lourdes, Nevers, Paray le Monial, Ars etc). Once we have the final costs and details, we will let you know.

DIARY DATES

FRIDAY 31st JANUARY - MASS FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT BRIDE at 11am (no 10am Mass today) - with the pupils of S1 and S6 of Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's, and their invited guests, celebrated by Bishop Joseph Toal and the former chaplains and local clergy. After Mass, the school invites the parishioners and their invited guests to our Parish Hall for tea and coffee and rolls and sausage. I hope you will attend this Mass and show your support.

SUNDAY 2nd FEBRUARY - The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple (Candlemas Day). As well as the Blessing of Candles for use in the Church, candles for home use, will be blessed at all Masses this weekend. Modestly priced candles will be on sale after each Mass today. **The Saint Blaise Blessing of Throats will be offered after all Masses today.**

SUNDAY 9th FEBRUARY - The 9.30am Mass is the first monthly Family Mass at Saint Bride's. This Mass will also be a Commitment Mass for First Reconciliation and First Communion.

TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY - FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES - Holy Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick at 10am. Followed by a light breakfast in the Parish Centre.

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY - Commitment Mass for the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 9.30am Mass

WEDNESDAY 5th MARCH - Ash Wednesday - Holy Masses with the Blessing and Distribution of Ashes at 7am, 10am and 7pm.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - JULY 2025

Motherwell Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will depart from Prestwick Airport on 14th July for one week. We will be travelling on a charter flight with Joe Walsh Tours. All the pilgrims will be staying in the adjoining hotels Alba and Mediterranee on the River Gave.

Bishop Toal invites pilgrims, new and old, to join him in prayer for the Holy Year as we reflect on the role of Mary as disciple, woman and mother. Mary who gave hope to our world through her 'Yes' to the angel.

If you would like to register an interest, please submit your name/s to frmaguiness@rcdom.org.uk indicating if you require assistance. The Diocesan Pilgrimage also appeals for doctors and nurses, for carers and helpers to assist with our pilgrims. If you are able to join us and help us please contact frmaguiness@rcdom.org.uk. Booking will be available soon online at www.joewalshstours.co.uk/pilgrimages/pilgrimage-destinations/lourdes and over the telephone 0808 1890468.

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Joan Henshilwood. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CRIB OFFERINGS

Will go as usual to St. Margaret's Adoption and Child Care Society.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCES, ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES -James Tollan, Margaret Tollan, Alexander Warren, Doreen Warren, John McEnaney, Stuart Williamson, James McNulty, Lorenzo Di Vito, Antonio Di Vito, George Phimister, Queenie Phimister, Cornelius Meligan and Family, Roderick MacSween (Benbecula), Charles McGlynn, Phil and Bert McAulay, James McAulay, Martin Stirling, Eleanor Stirling, Christie Reilly, Madge Reilly, Patricia Williamson, Edward Williamson, Anna Murray, Buntly Cooney, James Conway, Annie Conway, Vincent Conway, William Screen, John Cooney, Carol Screen, John Kelly, Barbara Kelly, Gerald Kelly, Josephine Kelly, Claire Carroll, Charlie Carroll, Dymphna Horan, Tony Rooney, O'Brien Family, Nora McKinnin, O'Hara Family, Gallagher Family, Flaherty Family, McCole Family, Mary and John Proctor, Agnes and Bert Johnstone, Philip, Pauline, John Andrew Wilson, Paul Dyet, Helen McCann, Catherine Slaven John Crews, Catherine Crews, John and Kate Hollywood, James and Helen Crews, Hugh Slaven, Paul Downie, Frank and Margaret Downie, Michael and Irene Ward, Barry Morrison, Margaret Watson, Margaret Weaver, Tony Rooney, Jack and Babs Kelly, Gerry Kelly, Bobby Hughes, John Hughes, Catherine Hughes, Pat Hughes, Margaret Hannah, Janet and Hugh Shaw, Cathie McKerracher, Eddie Meighan, Andrew Strain, Charlie and Nellie Strain, Con and Mary Campbell, James Campbell, John Campbell, Bernie and Cecilia Kelly, Pat McGinley, Owenie McFadden sen., Owenie McFadden jnr., Strain Family Campbell Family, Boyle Family, Elizabeth Spicer, John Douglas, David and Essie O'Hare, Martin Stirling, Eleanor Stirling, Elizabeth (Betty) Smith, Catherine Hughes, John and Mary Davidson, Rose and George Thomson, Clare and Jim Fox, Hannah and Mary McDonald, John, Jeannie, John, Billy, Alec, Tony, Don and Kenneth McDonald, Bonner Family, Family and Friends of Helen Biggins, John M. Muldoon, Margaret M. Muldoon, Elizabeth B. Richmond, Alan Richmond, Sister Sheila Clancy, Canon Michael Ryan, Edward O'Pray, Cilla (O'Pray) Garden, Mark O'Prey, Peter Garden, Michael Todd, Robert Kaemper, Lindsay Wood, Mary and Pat Watson, Marie and Barney McGee, Pat and Greta Watson, Lilian and Leslie Douglas, Saul and Rose Green, John McKay and Family, Mary and James Toal and Family, Frank and Margaret Downie, Paul Downie, Michael and Irene Ward, Barry Morrison, Margaret Watson, Margaret Weaver, Elizabeth McAinsh, Peter McAinsh, Margaret Hendry, James Hendry, Philip McAinsh, Maria Kodianska, Lynn Toner, Frank Armstrong, Helen and Peter Orsie, James and Sandra Boyd, Pat and Philip McCluskey, Isobel Murray, James McVittie, Helen and Robert Hendry, Don and Maureen Boyle, Brian Boyle, Mairi McIntyre, Sean Fahey, Colm Fahey, Ellen Moran, Francis Moran, Terry Cassidy, Margaret and Robert Purdie, Cornelius and Patrick Sweeney, Tommy Cartwright, Jessie Ferguson, Joseph Ferguson, Rose Ferguson, John Love, Maisie Love, Tom Martin, Margaret Martin, Damian Martin, Patrick Healy, Grace Healy, Joseph Griffiths, Jean Griffiths, Kevin Cleary, Francis Gabriel McNeill, Elizabeth Patricia McNeill, Ian Patrick McNeill, Frankie McNeill, Mrs May Smith, Harvie Family, Callaghan Family, Lyon Family, McCourt Family, Daniel Doyle, Anna Doyle, Billy Doyle, Mary Kane, Joseph Heaney, McGeoch Family, Miller Family, Docherty Family, Tonner Family, Michael Spicer, Anne Spicer, Barry Spicer, Mario Tamburrini, Catherine Tamburrini, Richard Tamburrini, Robert Tamburrini, John Mitchell, Duncan Mitchell, Nancy McNamara, Gale McFadden, Margaret McCarney, Edmund Decon, Alan Hendry, Teresa Boyle, Mary and John McCaffery, Joseph and Theresa McCaffery, Kathleen and John Buchanan, Mary Purcell, James and Margaret McCaffery, Patricia McCaffery, John McCaffery jnr. Bridget McHugh, John McHugh, Arthur McHugh, Kathleen and Ronald Kilmurray, Margaret Shields, John and Margaret McAuley, Hugh and Thomas Docherty, Hugh McKinney, Daniel McLeish, Jean McMurray, Jim Graham, Isabella Robert Kinghorn, Betty and Cormack Cunningham, William, Margaret, William jnr. Graham, Deceased Clergy of Saint Bride's, Cathie Blake, Rena Blake, Joseph Blake, Mr and Mrs David Blake, Bridget McGrath, John McGrath, Frances McGrath, Paul Ridge, Georgina Ridge, Paul Ridge, Billy McDougall, George MacLellan, Elizabeth and James Ewing, Sister Frances Andrew, Sister Eleanor, Cathie Harris, Mary Agnes McCrane, Rita Martin, Sister Gertrude, Rev. Barron CSSF., Jack and Chrissie McLaughlin, John and Elizabeth McLaughlin, John and Kate Gordon, Margaret and Harry English, Theresa and Willie Lamont, James Flannigan, Tessie and Frank White, Betty White Sutherland, Gerard Flannigan, Carol Vogan, Catherine McCulloch, David and Aileen Moran, Theresa Miulligan, Josie McDonald, William Ingram, Family and Friends of McLaughlin Family, Bill Watton, Jean Watton, Mary Boycek. John Doyle, Marie Doyle. Theresa Doyle, James Doyle, George Daycek, Blanche Daycek, John M. Muldoon, Jo Maule, John Maule, Eileen McGuigan, James McGuigan, Eleanor Stirling, Alyson Foley, John Corrigan, Vincent Corrigan, Margaret Sinclair McCrear, Catherine Slaven, Catherine Crews, The Family and Friends of Father C. Martin, The Family and Friends of Father F. McGachey, Peter Connelly, The Harvie Family, John, Margaret and Gerald Ferrie, Alex and Jane Smillie, Nicola Harvie, Jane Underwood, Ryan Sneddon, Mark Divers, Liam Currie, Trevor Horton, Patrick Naughton, James Naughton Sen. And Jnr., Winifred Naughton, Alex Graham, John McKeown, Thomas McKeown, Anna Cullen, Bernie Cullen, Mary Aiton, Theresa McIntyre, Paul McAllister, Mary Fearon, Mary and William Doherty, Barrett Family, Doherty Family, John Reilly, Burns Family, McGowan Family, Savage Family, Patrick Heffernan, Angela Heffernan, Heffernan Family, Ellen Quinn, William Quinn, Quinn Family, McAlpine Family, Margaret Johnston (née Connelly), Peggy Campbell, Joseph Wilson, Catherine Denholm, Thomas Deholm, James Denholm, Edward and Hannah O'Neill, Elizabeth O'Neill, O'Neill Family, Frank and Margaret Roy, James, Esther and Mary Roy, Des and Margaret Annesley, Agnes Tyrrell, John Callaghan, John and Bridget McNally, Michael, Bobby Hughes, Joan, Catherine Hughes, Pat Hughes, Margaret Hannah, Janet and Hugh Shaw, Cathie McKerracher, Eddie Meighan, Tom Lochrin, Lochrin Family, Knight Family, Melvin Family, Jane Anne Lochrin, Rose McCabe, Margaret Maher, Patrick Maher and John Maher, Maureen Tiernan, Mary Agnes McCabe, Cathie Glendinning, Elizabeth McAinsh, Mary Agnes McCabe, Cathie Glendinning, Elizabeth McAinsh, Thomas Hunter, Mary Cheney, Cathie Blake, John Russell, James Brennan, Lynn Toner, Frankie and Annmarie Logan, Andrew Lormier, Pasquale Usai, Sam Clark, Paul Mulvey. Ken Fogerty, Tommy Kilroy, James Hunter,

RECENTLY DEAD - Charlie McConville. David Shearer, Maureen Tiernan, Tom Walton, David Curry, Zachary Locran Bradford, David Shearer, Anne, Rev. Bill Tollan MHM, Dan Baird.

FUNERALS

Maureen Tiernan - Reception, Thursday 16th January 6pm. Requiem Mass, Friday 17th January, 10am.

David Curry - Funeral Service, South Lanarkshire Crematorium, Monday 20th January at 9am.

Tom Walton - Funeral Service, Thursday 23rd January in the Co-op Funeral Parlour East Kilbride at 1pm.