

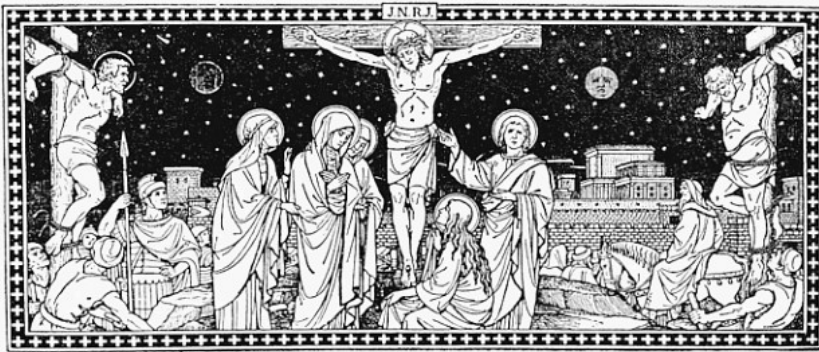
SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross - 14th September 2025

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

We leave the side the Ordinary Sundays of the Church's year to keep the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

When the Emperor Constantine favoured Christianity in 312AD, Christians were able to travel freely to the Holy Land for the first time to see the places associated with Our Lord. Constantine, and his mother Saint Helen, were among the first to visit Jerusalem. He ordered archaeological digging to uncover the holy sites which had been profaned the Roman armies when Jerusalem was sacked in 70AD, to obliterate any trace of Christianity. These places were easily identifiable, because Temples to the Roman Gods had been built on top of them.



Among the sites discovered was Mount Calvary and the place of the Resurrection. Part of the wood of the Cross, which had been buried by the disciples after the Crucifixion, was also apparently uncovered. Constantine had ambitious plans drawn up for a magnificent Basilica to be erected, that would cover the entire area under one

roof. Its proportions were huge and its adornments like nothing that he had seen in the ancient world. Egeria, the fourth century Spanish pilgrim nun, who saw the Basilica first hand, records in her *Itinerarium* (Travelogue) the splendour of this building – the finest and most highly decorated Church of its day.

The Basilica was dedicated on the 14th September 336AD, amid elaborate ceremonial. At the heart of the Basilica was the *Martyrion* – the place where the *Lignum Crucis*, the wood of the True Cross, was on permanent display for veneration. Part of the wood was taken to Rome, and from this, the relics of the True Cross were dispersed around the world. So, the feast of the Exaltation of the True Cross, is kept on the date the Basilica was dedicated in 336AD. The original Basilica was destroyed in the twelfth century, and has been rebuilt several times since. The present Basilica dates from the eighteenth century and is still visited today by pilgrims from all over the world.

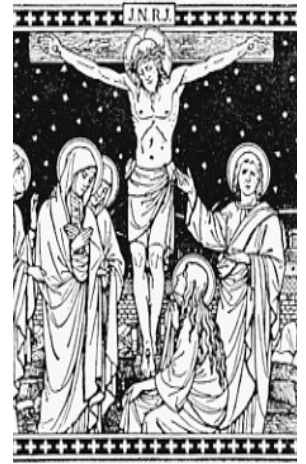
The name of the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh is called *Holyrood* – which actually means 'Holy Cross'. Saint Margaret of Scotland (+1293) - granddaughter of the King of England, and who was born in Hungary - fled to Scotland in 1066, during the Norman Conquest. She married the King of Scotland, Malcolm Canmore III. She is said to have brought with her the 'Holy Rood', a fragment of the True Cross. Her son, King David I, built Holyrood Abbey in Edinburgh after her death to house the precious relic. It was taken from Scotland, along with the Stone of Scone, amongst other priceless objects, by Edward I in 1298, but returned during the reign of Edward II (he of "proud Edward's Army" fame in the unofficial anthem, *Flower of Scotland*) in 1328. The Relic of the True Cross was presumably destroyed during the Reformation in the sixteenth century.

Father McGachey

TODAY IS THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Today, 14th September, we leave to the side the 24th Sunday of the Ordinary Season, to celebrate the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross** – a feast day whose roots can be traced back to Jerusalem in the fourth century. We are privileged to have at Saint Bride's a Relic of the True Cross, gifted to us by a family in the parish. After the Vigil Mass and the two Sunday morning Masses, I will offer individual blessings with the Relic and an opportunity to venerate it for those who wish.

Saint Kenneth's Primary School will lead the Scripture Readings and the Offertory Procession at the 9.30am Mass.



RETIRING COLLECTION TODAY

For the education and training of our future priests. It costs around £20,000 to educate each one of our seminarians – the priests who will serve you in the future. Please be generous as you always are.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEERS

Our programme or preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation for Primary seven students, continues today at 9.15am in the Parish Hall. It will continue next Sunday, 21st September, and the 5th October. All sessions start at 9.15am. Our normal Liturgy will also continue, with a 9:30am start.

CALENDAR

Monday is the memorial of **Our Lady of Sorrows**, a devotion which has its roots in Sacred Scripture and in Christian piety, which always associates Our Lady with her suffering Son. On **Tuesday** we remember **Saints Cornelius and Cyprian**. Cornelius, a Roman, was the twenty-first Pope. He had to oppose Novatian, the first anti-pope, who believed that apostates who repented could not be forgiven. Helped by Saint Cyprian, Cornelius confirmed his papal authority. He was beheaded in exile at Civitavecchia, the port of Rome, in 253. **Wednesday** is the memorial of **Saint Robert Bellarmine (+1621)**. Born in Montepulciano, son of noble parents, he entered the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). He occupied the chair of controversial theology in Rome, defending the Church prevailing heresies of the day. He was the counsellor of Popes and spiritual director of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, among others. **Saturday** is the Memorial of **Saints Andrew Kim Taegŏn, Paul Chŏng Hasang, and one hundred and three Companions**. Christian faith was brought to Korea through the zeal of lay people. They suffered terrible persecutions and martyrdom during the nineteenth century. Andrew was the first native Korean priest, and Paul a lay man. The group was canonised by John Paul II in 1984.

STALL - THE LATEST 'MY DAY BY DAY' IS ON SALE, PRICE £1.00

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Claire McNeill. Collect your cheque from the sacristy.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

THE CHURCH OPENING HOURS – 9am – 6pm

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

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

MONDAY-FRIDAY – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am

MONDAY-SATURDAY – Holy Rosary with the Litany of Our Lady of Sorrows at 9.30am

MONDAY-SATURDAY – Holy Mass 10am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY – Wednesdays after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA – Thursdays after 10am Mass

THE DIOCESAN JUBILEE DEANERY MASS

The Diocesan Jubilee Pilgrimage around the six Deaneries of our Diocese will conclude on Monday 15th September with a Mass celebrated in Saint Bride's, Cambuslang, for the East Kilbride and Rutherglen Deanery, at 7pm. All are most welcome to attend. The Diocesan Jubilee Cross will accompany Bishop Toal and be welcomed before the Mass.

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

The Annual Diocesan Vocations Mass will take place on the feast of Saint Ninian, Tuesday 16th September at 7pm, the 15th Anniversary of Pope Benedict's visit to Scotland. All are most welcome to attend.

FOODBANK UPDATE

To remind you that the next collection is on 27th/28th September. The essential items requested are: shampoo, toothpaste, gents shower gel, soap and baby soap, and biscuits.

MASS IN SAINT KENNETH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

I will be saying Mass in Saint Kenneth's Primary School on Friday afternoon at 2pm.

APOLOGIES

My apologies for missing Mass twice last week because I was unwell. Father Martin is in Salamanca until Monday. He leaves on Wednesday to visit family in Ireland.

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

CLERGY	Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, <i>Parish Priest</i> Rev. Colm E. Martin <i>Assistant Priest, High School and Hospital Chaplain</i>
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WEBSITE	www.sbek.org TWITTER @StBrideEK FACEBOOK @StBrideEK
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

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Monica McShane, Mary Easton, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Frank Kirk, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart, Margaret Hannigan, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Gayle Cochrean, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, Theresa Tierney, Gary Jones, Paul Ellis, Colette Roxburgh, John Paul Quinn, John Saroli, Lizann O'Hare, Susan and Robin Topping.

RECENTLY DEAD - Jamie Hanvey, Morag Glen (Blantyre), Geraldine Finnon, Kathleen McElroy, John Spencer, Catherine Bryan.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - John Kirkwood, Margaret Downie, Tony Rooney, Monica Stewart, Eric Paige, Norman McCall, Luisa Faccenda, Elio Faccenda, Alberto Faccenda, Peter McAinsh, James McCabe, Alexander McNamara, Gail McFadyen, Bill Crossan.

DEATHS

Catherine Bryan - Reception, Monday 22nd September, 6pm. Requiem Mass, Tuesday 23rd September, 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 7th September - £3000.
and Standing Orders in favour of one-off donation to the Parish or of the Parish. Offerings can be of which are as follows: St Brides by scanning the adjacent QR web page. If you pay Income Tax, parish will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.



This included the Basket Collection the Parish. You may wish to make a take out a Standing Order in favour made by Bank Transfer, the details Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 or code. It will take you to a secure you can Giftaid your offering - the