



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Sixth Sunday of the Ordinary Season -  
16<sup>th</sup> February 2025

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## CATHEDRA SANCTI PETRI APOSTOLI The Chair of Saint Peter

Saturday is the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, one of the oldest commemorations in the Church's calendar.

When a Bishop takes possession of his Diocese for the first time, he is led to his cathedra - from the Greek, meaning 'chair'. From this chair, where he alone may sit, the mother church of a diocese takes its name - the 'cathedral'. In the English language this 'chair' is usually referred to as 'see', hence the expression 'the Holy See'. Some European languages still use the word 'chair' in their name for the Holy See: 'la Santa Sede' (Italian and Spanish), le Sainte Siège (French) and in German 'Heillger Stuhl'.



So what was the 'Chair' of Saint Peter? Chosen by Christ, Peter was the "rock" on which he would build the Church. Peter began this ministry in Jerusalem, therefore the Church's first 'seat' was the Upper Room, that is to say, the place of the Last Supper. After the Ascension of Jesus into heaven Peter, along with Our Lady and the other apostles, gathered in the Upper Room to await the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. It is likely that a special place was reserved for Peter in that room for him to preside over those assembled there.

Subsequently, the See of Peter was Antioch in Syria, the third largest city of the Empire, after Rome and Alexandria in Egypt. Peter was the first Bishop of Antioch, and it was there, the *Acts of the Apostles* tells us that "the disciples were first called Christians".

From Antioch the Holy Spirit led Peter to Rome where he was martyred for the Faith. The See of Rome thus came to be recognised as the See of the successors of Peter, the Popes. The Pope's *cathedra*, or bishop's chair, is not at Saint Peter's in the Vatican, as you would perhaps think. Rather it is in the Cathedral of Rome - the Basilica of Saint John Lateran. Peter, as the Bishop of Rome, and his successors the Popes, came to be known as *primus inter pares*, that is to say, *first among equals*, in regard to the other bishops around the world.

In the apse of Saint Peter's Basilica, behind the Papal Altar, is the *Altar of the Chair*, where Mass is celebrated daily. This area of the Basilica takes its name from the sculpture by Gian Lorenzo Bernini (+1660), known as 'The Chair of Saint Peter': a bronze throne supported by the statues of four Doctors of the Church: two from the West: Saint Augustine and Saint Ambrose, and two from the East: Saint John Chrysostom and Saint Athanasius. Effectively, Bernini's bronze monument acts as a massive reliquary for an historic wooden chair, dating from the 9<sup>th</sup> century, but with parts of the chair, dating back much further.

For the first time in more than a century, this wooden throne, symbolising the Pope's magisterial authority, was removed from the bronze reliquary in Saint Peter's Basilica and displayed for public veneration in December last year.

The last major public viewing of the throne occurred in 1867, when Pope Pius IX exposed the Chair of Peter for the veneration of the faithful for twelve days on the 1,800th anniversary of the martyrdoms of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. It was the first time that the centuries-old wooden throne had been seen since 1666 when it was first encased Bernini's sculpture.

The recent restoration of Bernini's Sculpture in the Basilica, was funded by the Knights of Columbus in the USA, in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year, which began on Christmas Eve, but also the upcoming 400th anniversary of the consecration of Saint Peter's Basilica in 2026. **Father McGachey**

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## **THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S**

THE CHURCH OPENING HOURS - 9am - 4pm

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 at 9.35am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesdays after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - Tuesday after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - Thursdays after 10am Mass

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## **CALENDAR**

Friday is the memorial of Saint Peter Damian (+1072). Born at Ravenna near Venice in the Northeast of Italy, he was brought up in poverty. Peter became a hermit monk after a career as a professor. Energetic, and strict, he was an outspoken reformer of Church life and discipline. Appointed cardinal-bishop of Ostia (near Rome), he became a diplomat and ecclesiastical statesman, a scholarly reformer devoted to Christ. Saturday is the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter - see front cover.

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## **FAMILY MASS AT SAINT BRIDE'S - LAST SUNDAY**

Sincere thanks to all those who helped make last Sunday's 9.30am Mass such a success. Particular thanks go to the young people who read and did the Offertory Procession, and to Saint Kenneth's Primary for their assistance in preparing them. To those who organised proceedings in the Hall, the food and drink, as well as the entertainment for the young people. Thank you.

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## **STALL**

The February edition of 'My Day by Day' is on sale at the Stall, priced £!. There is a new selection of merchandise at the Stall. Please have a look!

## FATHER MCGACHEY

Is on holiday until the 25<sup>th</sup> February.

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### PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN OCTOBER

This year is a Jubilee Holy Year in Rome: it began on Christmas Day last year and ends on the Feast of the Epiphany next year. Jubilee years are celebrated every twenty-five years. While in Rome it is customary to visit the four Papal Basilicas and pass through their Holy Doors in each with a view to receiving the Jubilee Indulgence.

We would like to take a group from Saint Bride's Parish, from 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> October, 4 nights, five days. So far around twenty parishioners have signed-up.

Flights with Jet2 from Glasgow. Staying at the Casa Santa Lucia in Rome. bed and breakfast. Depending on the numbers who decide to go, approximate cost in £1000 per person. Executive coaches here and in Rome, with full spiritual programme, attendance at the Papal Audience and visits to the Four Principal Papal Basilicas, Mass in the Vatican and much more. If you are interested, please put your name on the sheet in the Sacristy and take a booking form to be returned to Anne Marie Cairns at Alba Tours, details are on the booking form.

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### 200 CLUB

This week's winner is Frances McLaughlin. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

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### ASH WEDNESDAY - 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025



*Remember man  
that you are  
dust and into  
dust you shall  
return.*

Ash Wednesday the beginning of the Season Lent, falls this year on the 5<sup>th</sup> March. Ashes will be Blessed and Distributed at the following times: 7am, 10am, 2pm (in Saint Kenneth's Primary School) and 7pm.

Stations of the Cross will take place at 9.30am on Ash Wednesday.

It is likely that the Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School will have several Masses in the afternoon. Father Martin will distribute Ashes too in Hairmyres Hospital. More details, including the full Lenten programme, to follow.

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### DIARY DATES

- **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** - At the 9.30am Mass, the Rite of Commitment for the Sacrament of Confirmation for Primary Seven at Saint Kenneth's Primary School.
- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** - First Confessions for the children of Primary 3 at Saint Kenneth's Primary School, beginning at 5.30pm.
- **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March** - Commitment Mass for the Children of Saint Hilary's Primary School who are making their First Confession and First Communion, at 9.30am Mass.

## 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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**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, Mary Connor (Canada), Margaret Rose McMahan, 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, Leo McCrear, Margaret Hannigan, Steven Russell, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Teresa Tierney, Gayle Cochran, Merisa Todd, Liz Feeley, James McLean

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Joe McGhee, Mary McFarlane, Donna Carlin, Elizabeth Paterson

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Cathie McGregor, Shiela Torrance, Jim Paterson, Mary Friar, Mary Roberts, Jim Thomson, John McAdams, Maureen Cowan, Georgina Ridge.

**FUNERALS**

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February - £2,770. 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 or by scanning the adjacent QR code. It will take you to a secure web page. If you pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid your offering - the parish will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.

