



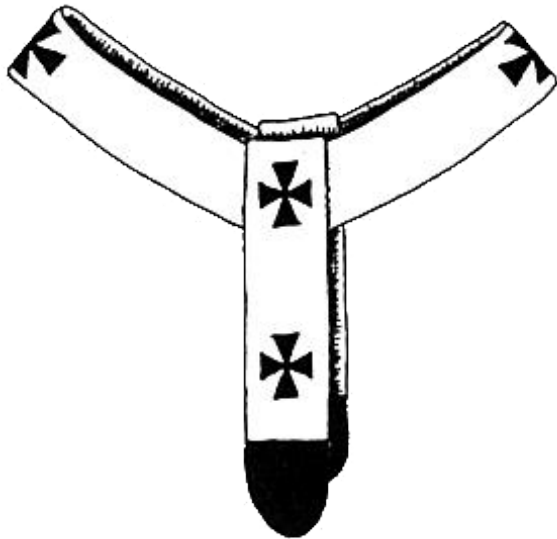
SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Second Sunday of the Ordinary
Season - 19th January 2025

SANT'AGNESE, THE BLESSING OF LAMBS AND THE PALLIUM

Tuesday of this week is the memorial of Saint Agnes, a third century martyr who died in Rome during a wave of persecutions unleashed by the Emperor Diocletian. Agnes, whose name means 'lamb' in Latin, was only 12 years old when she was killed.

One of the customs which takes place each year on her memorial, is the blessing of two lambs by the Pope. The lambs are brought the day before the blessing to the Trappist Monastery at *Tre Fontane* (near the place where Saint Paul was martyred in 67AD, the Basilica of Saint Paul-Outside-the-Walls) where they are washed in preparation for their presentation to the Pontiff.



On the morning of the feast, the Lambs are taken to the Basilica of Saint Agnes Outside-the-Walls (*Sant'Agnese fuori le mura*), one of two Roman churches which claim to have the relics of the Saint - the other is Saint Agnes-in-Agony (*Sant'Agnese in agonia*) in the famous *Piazza Navona*.

The lambs are placed in baskets, decorated with flowers: one lamb wears a crown of white flowers, in memory of Saint Agnes' purity, and the other a red floral wreath, to recall her faithful witness of martyrdom.

After Mass, they are taken to the Chapel of Pope Urban VIII in the Apostolic Palace where they are presented to the Pope. After the blessing, the lambs are taken to the Convent of Saint Cecilia near the Vatican, where Benedictine sisters will care for them, until they are shorn on Holy Thursday. Then the sisters will weave the Pallium (pictured) from their soft, pure wool.

The Pallium or (Pallia plural) is a white wool vestment, emblazoned with six black silk crosses and these are given to Metropolitan Archbishops. What is a Metropolitan Archbishop? In the Roman Catholic Church, Ecclesiastical Provinces, composed of several neighbouring dioceses, are each headed by a Metropolitan Archbishop. The other bishops are known as Suffragan Bishops. In Scotland, there are two Metropolitan Archbishops for the two Ecclesiastical Provinces in the country: the Glasgow Province - with Motherwell and Paisley being Suffragan dioceses; and Saint Andrews and Edinburgh: Aberdeen, Galloway and Argyll and Isles being its Suffragan Sees. There are around five hundred Metropolitan Archbishops worldwide.

The Pallium is worn on the shoulders over their chasuble, the main vestment worn at Mass, according to the liturgical colour. The wearing of the pallium dates back to the Fifth century, and is a symbol of the unity between the local Church and Rome.

The Pallia are placed at Saint Peter's tomb on the eve of the Solemnity of Saint Peter and Paul, which is kept on the 29th of June. The Apostle's Tomb is in the crypt of Saint Peter's Basilica, underneath the Papal altar which covered by a metal canopy (called a *baldachino*

or *baldachin* in English) and supported by four massive bronze pillars - the Knights of Columbus from USA recently paid for the *baldachino* to be restored to its former glory!

Traditionally, the Pallia were bestowed on the Metropolitans, named during the previous twelve months, during a solemn Mass. But Pope Francis modified this in 2015: the Pallia are still blessed at Saint Peter's, however, the Metropolitans receive them in a separate ceremony in their home Archdioceses from the Apostolic Nuncio, who is the personal representative, or Ambassador of the Pope in a particular country. A Metropolitan may wear his pallium as a mark of his jurisdiction, not only in his own Archdiocese but anywhere in his ecclesiastical province whenever he celebrates Mass. **Father McGachey**

THIS WEEK 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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Monday-Friday at 9.15am

HOLY ROSARY - Monday-Friday at 9.30am

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesday after 10am Mass

HOLY MASS - Monday to Friday 10am

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

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA FOR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN - Thursday after Mass

THE CHURCH IS OPEN - Monday-Sunday 9am-4pm

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our programme of Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation for Primary 3 Children continues in the Parish Hall on Sunday, with an early start time of 9.15am. Our normal Children's Liturgy will start at 9.30am in the back room of the Parish Hall.

HOLY WATER FONTS AND THE 'L'ANGELUS' PICTURE BY J.F. MILLET

I was speaking in my homilies over the Christmas Season about Holy Water Fonts in our homes, as well as the painting 'The Angelus' by Millet. Several of you have expressed a wish to order these items from the Stall. We would like to place a single order to save on postage. If you would like to order a Font - then there are three to choose from, displayed at the Stall. Please choose one, and complete the order sheet. Please do not take it with you today, since these are examples only, for others to see. The Angelus painting is also displayed. Again, if you want to order this, then please fill-in the sheet. Closing date for orders is next Sunday. There is a plentiful supply of Holy Water, including small bottles, left over from New Year's Day, which are at the Stall. Please help yourself to these. **Father McGachey**



FRIDAY 31st JANUARY - WE ARE KEEPING THE FEAST OF SAINT BRIDE

Holy Mass 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, as well as the local clergy. After Mass, the school invites the parishioners and the school's 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 - FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE

This Feast falls on the fortieth day after Christmas and commemorates how the infant Jesus was presented by Mary and Joseph in the Temple in Jerusalem, and met by the elderly Simeon and Anna. For centuries, it has been the day for blessing the candles used in the Church; it is sometimes called 'Candlemas Day'.



The beautiful ceremony will take place at the beginning of all the Masses today. Please join us. We will bless candles for use in our homes today too. These candles, modestly priced, may be purchased, if so desired.

FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE - THE BLESSING OF THROATS

Saint Blaise lived in Armenia and was arrested for his Christian faith. While in prison, a woman came with her young son who had a fish bone fixed in his throat. With Blaise's help, the child was able to cough up the bone. He was martyred in 316AD. By the year 800 the custom of blessing throats, using the blessed candles from the previous day's feast (see above), spread across Europe. The traditional Blessing of Throats will be given after Mass on Sunday 2nd the Feast of the Presentation in the Temple - since most people cannot attend Mass on Monday - as well as on the Feast day itself, 3rd February, after 10am Mass.

BLESSING OF HOMES IN THE NEW YEAR

It is a 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 home blessed, should speak to Father Martin after Mass, or contact him by email at frmartin@rcdom.org.uk

DIARY DATES

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

TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY - FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES - Holy Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick at 10am.

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.

200 CLUB

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

VOCATIONS EVENING

The next Vocations evening for those considering a vocation to the Priesthood will take place in the Cathedral House, Coursington Road, Motherwell, on Tuesday 28th January at 7pm. Any man who is considering a vocation to the Priesthood is invited to come along for a period of prayer and discussion. Please contact Fr Sean Wyllie, Vocations Promotor, at frwyllie@rcdom.org.uk for more information.

FIRST CONFESSIONS

First Confessions will take place for Saint Kenneth's Primary on the evening of the 5th of March. First Confessions for Saint Hilary Primary, will take place on 25th March. Please remember that only the Baptised can receive the Sacraments, that is to say, make their First Confession, First Communion or Confirmation. We are now reaching the cut-off stage for Baptism before First Confession - we have so many baptisms at Saint Bride's, that our free Saturdays and Sundays before the 5th March are few and far between. If this affects you or your child, please speak to either Fr. Martin or Fr. McGachey as soon as possible.

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.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME IN OCTOBER 2025

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. It has been quite difficult to secure flights and accommodation because of the increased number of visitors to Rome for the Jubilee - around 20 million people from across the globe.

We would like to take a group from Saint Bride's Parish, from 6th-10th October, 4 nights, five days. 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, and much more. If you are interested, please put your name on the sheet in the Sacristy. More details to follow.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE PRIZES

There are two prizes that have still to be collected from the Christmas Coffee Morning Raffle. The winners are: Jean McGuckin and Helen McHugh. Please make yourself known.

LOAVES AND FISHES FOODBANK

Essentials leaflets will be distributed on the weekend of the 24th/25th January. Collection will be on 1st/2nd February. Thank you for your support. There is a letter from the Foodbank displayed on noticeboard.

CALENDAR

Monday is the memorial of **Saint Fabian and Saint Sebastian**. Fabian (+250) was Pope from 236 to 250. During his papacy he consolidated the Church, but was one of the first victims of the persecution of the Emperor Decius, who considered him as a personal enemy. Sebastian (+288), a native of Milan, was an officer in the Emperor Diocletian's guard. He became a Christian and suffered martyrdom upon Imperial orders around 288. He is the patron of athletes.



Tuesday is memorial of **Saint Agnes** (+304). Like Saint Cecilia, is Agnes numbered among the well-known martyrs of Rome. When the Diocletian persecution was at its height, Agnes, a girl of twelve, freely chose to die for Christ. The name of 'Agnes' means 'lamb' and hence the lamb is the symbol

of innocence in Christian iconography. **Wednesday** is the memorial of **Saint Vincent of Zaragoza** (+304), one of the greatest deacons of the Church. He was born in Huesca, Spain, suffered martyrdom in Valencia in the persecution of Diocletian.

Friday is the memorial of **Saint Francis de Sales** (+1622), Bishop of Geneva and Doctor of the Church. Francis' ardent love of God, wisdom and sure teaching made him influential in bringing about conversions: he won back to the Catholic faith more than 70,000 who had converted to Protestantism. He famously said "a spoonful of honey does more good than a barrelful of vinegar".

The Feast of the **Conversion of Saint Paul** falls on **Saturday**. Paul, named Saul at his circumcision, a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, was born at Tarsus, in modern-day Turkey, was a Roman citizen. He was brought up as a strict Jew, and later became a persecutor of the Christians. While on his way to Damascus to arrest Christians, he was converted by an apparition of Our Lord. He made three missionary journeys which brought him to the great centres of Asia Minor: including Galatia and Ephesus and southern Europe: Philippi, Thessalonika, Athens, Corinth, Malta and Rome. He was beheaded in the Eternal City around 66, and his relics are in the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside-the-Walls, Rome.

FABRIC AND FINANCE

Sincere thanks for your generosity to the Christmas Collection. It is a real A real testimony of your care for your parish. May God reward you!

We have already made three loan repayments to outstanding debt incurred a number of years' ago when the church roof was replaced. The debt stands at £158,000. We hope to be able to bring this down to under £100,000 this calendar year. Additionally, we will have to make a loan interest payment of £3,300 by the end of the month.

In common with other parishes of Diocese, we have not received a heating bill for the past two months because the energy supplier has changed again. One can only guess how much this will be when it arrives!

The rewiring of the Chapel House, to meet legal requirements, is now in its third week. The job has not been as bad as we thought it was going to be, with the minimum of disruption. The bill will be approximately £18,000. We have a major health and safety inspection on the 17th February. There are a few issues which have to be addressed before then.

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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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

REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Clare (Slorach) Keane, Monica McShane, Mary Easton, 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), Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart, Grace McHugh, Leo McCrear, Margaret Hannigan, Steven Russell, Patricia Carey. Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Teresa Tierney.

RECENTLY DEAD - Mary O'Brien, David Shearer, Margaret McFadden, Edward Docherty, Maureen Hughes, Tom Walton, David Curry, Nicky Twigg, Dan Baird, Maureen Tiernan, Anne Daly, Betty Hendry, Maureen Kennedy.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Mary Ann Lorimer, Jo Maule, Anne Caird, Mary Kurdell, Frances Smith, Catherine Hughes. Gerry Buchanan, Aidan Smith, Thomas Kilroy, Monica Smith, Lynn Toner, Hugh Burns.

FUNERALS

David Curry - funeral Fosters Funeral Parlour, Monday 20th January 9am.

Tom Walton - funeral South Lanarkshire Crematorium, Thursday 23rd January 1pm.

Maureen Kennedy - Requiem Mass, Thursday 30th January 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 12th January - £2,845. 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 will take you to a secure web page. If you pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid the parish will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.

