



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Eighth Sunday of the Ordinary Season - 2nd March 2025

MEMENTO QUIA PULVIS ES ET IN PULVERUM REVERTERIS

Remember man, that you are dust, and to dust you shall return...

Wednesday of this week, 5th March, is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Season of Lent. The English word 'Lent' comes from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten*, meaning 'spring'. The name of the Season in other languages, for example, Italian, *Quaresima*, or Spanish *Cuaresma*, or French *Carême*, comes from the Latin *Quadragesima*, meaning 'a period of forty days'.



In the Christian tradition, forty days refers to a time of intense prayer and preparation; it is a reminder of the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness and of Christ's forty-day fast in preparation for his public ministry.

From around the Sixth century the faithful began to sprinkle ashes on their foreheads at the beginning of the Lent, and the start of Lent was moved from a Sunday to the preceding Wednesday, so that there would be exactly forty days of fasting - reckoning Holy Saturday to be the last day of Lent. The Sundays of Lent did not count!

The Second Vatican Council in the 1960s reinstated the double focus of the Season: baptism and penance. It also clearly defined the duration of Lent: Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the morning of Holy Thursday. So Lent has six Sundays, 'Palm Sunday' being the sixth.

ASH WEDNESDAY IS A DAY OF FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Please remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and Abstinence, that is to say: all persons who are between 14 and 60 are bound to abstain from eating meat. The law of fasting requires a Catholic between 18 and 60 to reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals (collations) which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

A TIME OF CHANGE AND CONVERSION

Lent is built on three pillars: Prayer, Fasting and Alms Giving. Come out to the extra prayer times and liturgies in the Church. A full programme of what will be happening at Saint Bride's is inside the Bulletin. Fast from or give up something you enjoy doing. Give of your time, your energy, your talents, to help those less fortunate and in need. Make the Season of Lent a holy time for yourselves and your families.

Father McGachey

SCHEDULE - MONDAY AND TUESDAY OF THIS WEEK

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – Monday 9.15am

HOLY ROSARY WITH THE LITANY OF LORETO – Monday 9.35am

HOLY MASS – 10am

On Tuesday morning after 10am Mass the Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School have organised a 'Pancake Tuesday Coffee Morning' to help raise funds a Lourdes Pilgrimage in the summer with the Diocese. Please show your support!

On Tuesday evening, the Primary Three pupils of Saint Kenneth's Primary School will make their First Confession from 5.30pm onwards.
Please keep them and their parents in your prayers.



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

ASH WEDNESDAY AT SAINT BRIDE'S

CHURCH OPENS 6.30am and closes after Evening Mass

HOLY MASS WITH THE BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF
ASHES - 7am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 9.35am

HOLY MASS WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES with organ
and incense 10am

HOLY MASS WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES - in Saint Kenneth's Primary
School at 2pm

HOLY MASS WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES with organ 7pm

Father Martin will offer four Masses for the children of the Saint Andrew's
and Saint Bride's High School and a Mass a 12noon in Hairmyres Hospital

THE SEASON OF LENT AT SAINT BRIDE'S

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS - Holy Mass at 7am

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - Holy Mass at 7am in Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Stations of the Cross 9.35am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

***** TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - Stations of the Cross at 12.10pm*****

***** TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - Holy Mass at 12.30pm*****

MONDAYS OF LENT - Devotions in honour of Our Lady: with a Torchlight Procession from
Our Lady's Altar, a prayerful recitation of the Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed
Sacrament at 7pm

CONFESSIONS - Saturdays 9.30am to 9.50am and after Mass
4-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA - Tuesdays after 10am Mass

PRO-LIFE ROSARY - Wednesdays after 10am Mass

NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - Tuesdays after 10am Mass

Father Martin will offer Mass each day in the High School at lunchtime

ASH WEDNESDAY ANNUAL RETIRING COLLECTION

for the Third World Group. Money collected will go to Sister Eleanor of the Parish working in Nairobi, Kenya. There will be baskets at the doors of the church. Alternatively, you can donate to St Bride's Third World Group at the Bank of Scotland: sort code 800664 and account number 00873793. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

All small change, whether in cans or bags, are still being collected, and can be left in the Sacristy. We recently collected and banked £78. Many thanks - Pip Slorach.

SECOND FAMILY MASS

Our second Family Mass takes place next Sunday and the 9.30am Liturgy. Children from Saint Kenneth's School will read the Scripture Readings and bring forward the gifts at the Offertory Procession. After Mass, there will be rolls and sausage, teas and coffees and soft drink in the Hall, as well as games and other entertainments for children. Please join us, you will be most welcome!

17th MARCH - THE FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK

Holy Mass for the feast day of Saint Patrick, with Organ and Incense at 10am.



19th MARCH - THE SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

At 9.40am special service of Prayers and Intercessions before the stained-glass window of Saint Joseph, in honour of this great Wonder-Worker and Powerful Intercessor. Holy Mass with Organ and Incense at 10am.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The parish-based Sacramental Preparation for the children of Saint Hilary's and Saint Kenneth's First Holy Communion classes continues today, and on the 9th and 16th of March at 9.15am in the Parish Centre.

The Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation begins next Sunday, 9th March, and continues each Sunday until the 30th March.

The Children's Liturgy for the remainder of the Children will take place as usual. Our sincere thanks to the volunteers who co-ordinate and staff this important facet of parish life. Father Martin and McGachey

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This annual ecumenical service is being held on Friday 7th March at 2pm in the Old Parish Church and has been written this year by women of the Cook Islands. Refreshments in the hall afterwards. Your attendance would be much appreciated.

FOOD BANK

Donations will be collected at all weekend Masses. Thank you for your continued support.

LADIES AFTERNOON TEA AND CABARET

in aid of HCPT is being held in St Bride's Pastoral Centre, East Kilbride on Sunday 27th April. Tickets cost £15. There will also be raffle tickets for sale - cost £5, and the prize is £100. Tickets for both the Cabaret and raffle will be on sale at all Masses from this weekend.

STALL

The Lent edition of 'My Day by Day' is on sale at the Stall, priced £1. There is a new selection of merchandise, which arrived earlier this week, at the Stall. Please have a look!

200 CLUB

This week's winner is **John Convery**. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CALENDAR

Friday 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 **Saturday** 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.

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**

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

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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, James McLean, Liz Feeley, His Holiness Pope Francis.


RECENTLY DEAD - Gloria Montgomery, Mark Rowantree, James McLean, Haydn Carr, Jim Patterson, Luke Schofield, Antonio Spadarro, Monica Lewis.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Jean O'Neil, Mary Roberts, Catherine Hughes, Eileen McGuigan, Paul McAdams, Anne O'Hanlon, David Knight, Austin Toner, Terry Dolan, John McAdams, Daniel Hernon, Maureen Cowan, Janice Newlands, Paul McKenna, May McCann.

FUNERALS

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 16th February - £2,740. Sunday 23rd February - £2,765. 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 Parish. Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the are as follows: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 the adjacent QR code. It will take you to a secure web Income Tax, you can Giftaid your offering - the parish further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you



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