



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Solemnity of Christ, the King of the Universe - 23rd November 2025

CHRISTUS VINCIT, CHRISTUS REGNAT, CHRISTUS IMPERAT

The above words are taken from the famous *Laudes Regiae* (Royal Praises), a long hymn of acclamations and invocations, punctuated by the famous refrain: *Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat* (Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands). It is the hymn, par excellence, for today's Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of the Universe, and the last Sunday of the liturgical year. As King, Christ claims dominion over all creation and his kingdom of justice and peace, grows from strength to strength.



"LONG LIVE CHRIST THE KING..." - SAINT JOSELITO

In 1926, the Mexican Government's restrictions on the freedom of religion and conscience forced the faithful in the country to come out and defend their faith in dramatic fashion. It was a time of bullets, death, and persecutions.

Amid the noise of war, could be heard the voice of a fifteen-year-old boy, who walked to his grave shouting "Long live Christ the King!"

Refusing to give up his Catholic faith, José Sánchez del Río, or Joselito (little Joe) as he was commonly called, died a martyr in the *Cristeros* War that shook Mexico between 1926 and 1929. It is reckoned that around a quarter of a million lives were lost during this dark period in Mexico's past.

Joselito's childhood was that of a normal boy: he went to school and had a knack for making friends. His family, from Michoacán, was pious and active in the local parish. His parents' living faith was the basis of his holiness.



Having gained the approval of his parents to join the *Cristeros* Movement - the response of Catholics in Mexico to the secularist, anticlerical political regime, led by the politician, Plutarco Calles, in control of the country in those days.

José had to convince the Movement's leader that he was mature enough to be part of the organisation. In fact, his first request was refused. But José did not give up. He persisted and offered himself as an assistant, which the leader accepted. At the *Cristeros* camp, Joselito encouraged the others to pray the Rosary daily. He cheered up his companions by his good humour, and won their admiration by his hard work. They nicknamed him Tarcissius, after the Roman martyr, who when in his teens, was attacked and killed by the Roman mob while carrying the Blessed Sacrament in 295AD.

On the 6th of February 1928, he was taken prisoner by government troops. Joselito was easy to catch because he had given his horse to his General while they were in battle.

From prison, before his death, he wrote the following moving letter to his mother: "I was taken prisoner in combat today. I believe I am going to die, but nothing matters, Mother. Resign yourself to God's will. I'm dying very happy because I'm dying in the fight next to Our Lord. Don't worry about my death. Rather tell my other brothers to follow the example of the youngest son, and you: do the will of God. Have courage and send me your blessing, together with that of my father. Greet everyone for me for the last time and receive for the last time the heart of your son who loves you so much and wanted to see you before dying."

At 11pm on the 10th of February, José Sánchez del Rio walked to the cemetery, with the soles of his feet, which had been flayed, in agony. Even in pain, José did not deny his faith. Standing in front of his open grave, and without giving in to those who tried to get him to deny Christ, he shouted out one last time "Long live Christ the King! Long live the Virgin of Guadalupe!" What an example in life and death of loyalty to Christ, the Universal King and Our Blessed Lady! A true role model, who deserves to be more widely known.

José was raised to the altars as a saint by the late Pope Francis on the 16th of October 2016. His story from the 1920's is one of the many testimonies of Mexicans who helped to keep the Catholic faith alive in their country in the face of tremendous opposition. Father McGachey

TOMORROW - LAST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER PRAYERS FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

Father McGachey will lead the prayers on Monday evening this week at 7pm, for our beloved Dead. We will begin at Our Lady's altar, followed by a torchlight procession, the recitation of the Rosary and the Litany for the Holy Souls, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Please use this opportunity to pray for your dead loved ones and help them get to heaven.



Thank you to the Bereavement Group for their assistance in preparing the Annual Mass for the Dead last Monday, and for all the work they do in keeping in touch with the Bereaved throughout the entire year. We are deeply grateful.

It was wonderful to see so many of you attend the Mass for the Dead. Many of you have commented on how beautiful the Mass was, and how comforting Father Martin's homily was. Thank you for this. It shows how seriously you take remembrance and prayer for your beloved dead.

THIS FRIDAY, 28th NOVEMBER - THE FEAST OF SAINT ANDREW

On Friday 28th November, Holy Mass will be at 11am, with the pupils of S1 and S6 at Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School. It will be celebrated by Bishop Joseph Toal and the former chaplains, as well as the clergy from the local Parishes. You are all invited to attend this Mass and show your prayerful support for the School.

200 CLUB

This week's winner is Bill Stewart. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE AND COFFEE MORNING



Tickets for our Annual Christmas Raffle will be on sale today before and after Holy Mass. Prizes this year include: a Fortnum and Mason's Luxury Christmas Hamper, a Cash Prize of £150, Magnums of Moët and Chandon Champagne, a bottle of Johnnie Walker Blue Label whisky, signed Celtic FC ball and other memorabilia, a 55Inch Smart Television, amongst many other items.

We are looking for donations of bottles for the Bottle Stall at the Christmas Coffee Morning which will take place on Sunday 14th December, after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses. These can be handed into the sacristy at any point.

All the proceeds from the Raffle and Christmas Coffee Morning will go to the Parish, to help us face the winter months with renewed confidence. Thank you.

CANON RYAN'S CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

Our annual appeal for Christmas gifts and toys for less fortunate children in the East End of Glasgow begins today and will run until the weekend of the 15th/16th December. The items can be left beside the gate to the Choir Loft - since the Church is open each day, the gifts will be taken after each Mass to the Library. Please do not wrap any gifts. Thank you for your generosity and support.

RADIO BROADCAST FOR 'ADVENT SUNDAY'

Next Sunday at 3pm, BBC Radio 3 will broadcast the traditional 'Advent Sunday' service live from Saint John's College, Cambridge, at 3pm. It is a beautiful liturgy of readings and congregational and choral music for the Season of Advent. I am sure you would enjoy it, if you get the chance to listen. You can listen any time on 'BBC Sounds'.

THE STALL

Copies of 'My day by day' for December are now on sale at the Stall - £1.00. New Christmas merchandise is on display too, including Cribbs, Christmas ornaments and Christmas Cards. Please support your Parish.

MONDAY - MASS FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

Takes place tomorrow, Monday 25th of November, at 7pm, in the Cathedral of Our Lady of Good Aid, Coursington Road, Motherwell. All those who have a connection to Catholic Schools are invited to attend. Bishop Toal is the Main Celebrant and will be joined by High School Chaplains and pupils and teachers from across the Diocese. Next Sunday, the Scripture Readings at the weekend Masses will be done by senior pupils from Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's. They will also distribute a specially prepared handout about the school.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our 4-week programme of Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation for Primary 3 continues this Sunday, 23rd November and 30th November, in the Parish Hall at 9.15am, with normal Children's Liturgy starting at 9.30am in the back room of the Parish Hall.



Programme for
**THE SEASONS OF
ADVENT AND
CHRISTMASTIDE
AT SAINT BRIDE'S
PARISH**

**ADVENT
BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY**

The Season of Advent and the New Liturgical Year begin next Sunday. The world around us is ready to celebrate Christmas, but the Church invites us to resist the temptation for four weeks and make the Advent Season a time growing towards the Lord and preparing for his return.

Please make Advent a holy time for yourselves and your families, by joining us at the special seasonal liturgies. Find time to make a good Confession, too, as a preparation for the worthy celebration of the Christmas Feasts.

THE *RORATE CAELI* MASS

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7am

This Advent, our parish will celebrate a special Mass, commonly known as a *Rorate Caeli* Mass. Deeply rooted in the history of the Church, after a period of decline, it is enjoying a resurgence in recent times.



What is a *Rorate Caeli* Mass?

Rorate Caeli is Latin for “Drop down, you heavens”, and is a phrase taken from the Prophet Isaiah 45,8. The Mass is traditionally celebrated just before dawn during Advent, in honour of Our Blessed Lady. The Church is illuminated by candles to highlight Mary’s role in bringing the Eternal Light, Jesus Christ, into the darkness of the world.

As the Mass progresses, the Church becomes brighter, until the rising sun fills it with the light of day. As a Votive Mass of Our Blessed Lady is said, white vestments are worn instead of the violet normally used during Advent. The Mass prayers and readings highlight the prophecies about the coming of the

Messiah and Mary’s role in bringing Christ into the world.

A *Rorate Caeli* Mass will be celebrated in our neighbouring parish of Our Lady of Lourdes on the Tuesdays and Thursdays of Advent at 7am.

DEVOTIONS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY

Mondays 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd December at 7pm

Following on from our popular weekly Devotions in honour of Our Lady in October and for the Holy Souls in November, we will have special Advent Devotions in honour of the Mother of God, on the Mondays the Season at 7pm.

Gathered at Our Lady’s altar we will offer her our day: our joys and sorrows, and ask her to present them to her Son, while commending ourselves to her protection and guidance.

After reciting the Angelus, we will form a torchlight procession and move off to the main part of the Church, where we will recite the Holy Rosary, the Litany of Loreto and conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.



SATURDAY 13th AND SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER

FEAST OF SAINT LUCY - PATRON OF EYESIGHT

After Mass on Saturday morning, and at the three weekend Masses for the Third Sunday of Advent, we will offer individual blessings with Relic of Saint Lucy. Her name means ‘light’ in Latin, and for this reason, the fourth century martyr is invoked as the Patron Saint of good eyesight and for interceding for those with problems with their vision. Please come to receive a blessing today.

SIMPLE VESPERS OR EVENING PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesday at 7pm

Once the preserve of the great monasteries of the Middle Ages, where it was chanted by the communities of monks, Vespers is one of the five Divine Offices, recited by Priests and many Religious and lay people across the world.

This year we will pray simple Vespers, by candlelight, before Our Lady's Altar.

It includes an Advent Hymn, two Psalms from the Old Testament and a Canticle from the New Testament. Followed by a short Scripture Reading, a brief reflection, Mary's canticle of praise from Saint Luke's Gospel, known as the *Magnificat*. It concludes with Intercessions, the Lord's Prayer, a Concluding Prayer and Blessing. We will finish with the *Salve Regina* (the 'Hail Holy Queen' in Latin).

It will last no longer than thirty minutes and is the perfect way to end the day, giving thanks for its blessings and praying for God's continual help in the new day that begins tomorrow. Please join us.



MONDAY 8th OF DECEMBER

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Solemnity recalls how Our Lady, when she was conceived in her mother, Saint Anne's, womb, was preserved from all stain of Original Sin - she was immaculately conceived - because she was destined to be the Mother of God. Our 10am Mass on that day will be a Solemn Mass with organ and incense. In the evening, at 7pm, we will have special Devotions in honour of Our Lady for the feast.

SATURDAY 20th DECEMBER - ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Please use the opportunity to make a good Confession in preparation for Christmas

9.30am - 10am - Father McGachey

10.30am - 11am - Father Martin

11am-12noon - Visiting Priest

12noon - 1pm - Visiting Priest

1pm-2pm - Visiting Priest

2pm-3.15pm - Father Martin

3.15pm-4.20pm - Father McGachey

From the end of the Vigil Mass until 6pm
- Father McGachey



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from the end of 10am Mass until 4.15pm.

The Holy Rosary will be recited at 9.30am, 12noon and 2pm, followed by the Litany of Loreto.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT SAINT BRIDE'S



THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

WEDNESDAY 24th DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS EVE

No 10am Mass on Christmas Eve morning

Vigil Mass of Christmas,
with incense, organ and cantor, 4pm

Vigil Mass of Christmas,
with incense, organ and cantor, 8pm

Midnight Mass of Christmas, by candlelight, with incense, with organ and cantor,
12 o'clock midnight

THURSDAY 25th DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS DAY

Dawn Mass of Christmas with incense,
organ and cantor 9.30am

Day Mass of Christmas with incense,
organ and cantor 11.30am

FRIDAY 26th DECEMBER

There will be no Holy Mass today at Saint Bride's

SATURDAY 27th DECEMBER

Holy Mass at 10am

Confessions 4pm-4.20pm

Vigil Mass of the Feast of the Holy Family 4.30pm

SUNDAY 28th DECEMBER - FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Holy Masses at 9.30am and 11.30am

MONDAY 29th DECEMBER - WEDNESDAY 31st DECEMBER

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 9.15am

The Holy Rosary at 9.30am

Holy Mass at 10am

THURSDAY 1st JANUARY - SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Holy Mass, with incense, organ and cantor at 11am,
after Mass, Holy Water will be distributed for you to sprinkle your homes with

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH

CLERGY Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*
Rev. Colm E. Martin, *Assistant Priest, High School, Hospital 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

PARISH SCHEDULE

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-Saturday at 9.30am
HOLY MASS - Monday to Saturday 10am
NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL - on Tuesdays after Mass
NOVENA TO SAINT MONICA - on Thursdays after Mass
THE CHURCH IS OPEN - Monday-Sunday 9am-6pm

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL - 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 Cochran, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, Theresa Tierney, Paul Ellis, Colette Roxburgh, John Paul Quinn, John Saroli, Lizann O'Hare, Susan and Robin Topping, Arthur Connor (Canada), Thomas Finnigan (Prestwick), George Kelman, Linda Simi, Ann Marie Kane. Rosemary Maley, Peter Friel.

RECENTLY DEAD - Marion Greenan, Alan Dunbar, Hugh McKenna, William McIntyre, Isobella McCorry, Anastasia Ludoivco, Maureen McShane, Jessica O'Neill, Paul Baker, Tom Guinness, Michael Maguire (London).

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - John and Mary McKay, Dominic Butler, John Kennedy, Helen Hendry, Jackson Smyth, Apollonia Di Maggio, Clare Fox, Derek Traynor.

FUNERALS

Marion Greenan - Details to be confirmed

Alan Dunbar - Reception, Tuesday 3rd December at 6pm. Requiem Mass, Wednesday 3rd December at 10am

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 16th November - £3,005. 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. It will pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid your offering - the parish will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.



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