



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Third Sunday of Lent

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

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## SAINT MARGARET CLITHEROW - "THE PEARL OF YORK"

Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, as well as being the Solemnity of the Annunciation, it is the feast day of one of the Reformation martyrs of England, Margaret Clitherow. Who was she and why is she a Saint today?

About four hundred years ago, in the city of York, there lived a family called Middleton: Thomas, the father, was a chandler or candle maker, and his wife Jane. They had two sons, Thomas and Robert, and two girls, Alice and Margaret, who was born in 1553. When Margaret was five, Queen Elizabeth I came to the throne, and completed the work begun by her father Henry VIII, of making England a truly Protestant nation. The Middletons, like many others, left their Catholicism to the side and embraced the beliefs of the new Church of England.



When Margaret was nineteen, she married John Clitherow, a local butcher. After their marriage they lived in the famous street called the *Shambles* in the heart of York: his shop was on the ground floor, and the family resided in the rooms behind and above. A few weeks' later Margaret became a Catholic - although John attended Sunday services in the new Church of England, he was still a Catholic at heart - one of his brothers was in fact a priest. However to openly confess to being a Catholic would mean fines and possibly imprisonment, and certainly the loss of one's business. Margaret, on the other hand, refused to attend, and was often sent to jail for a few days at a time as a punishment. The Clitherows were blessed with three children: Henry, Anne, and William, and such was Margaret's enthusiasm for her new religion that she raised the children in it too.

Margaret allowed the family home to be used by priests, who were being hunted down by the Queen's soldiers. There they could offer Mass and celebrate the Sacraments. She would allow the clergy to take refuge in the 'priest hole', a hiding place built into the walls of the house and would store the vestments and sacred vessels in a secret cupboard. She kept nothing hidden from her children, and it was this openness which brought about her final arrest.

Margaret began to realise the end was near when John was summoned by the Council to explain the prolonged absence of their eldest son, Henry, who had been sent abroad to receive a Catholic education two years earlier. One day, while the Council was questioning John, the Sheriff arrived to search the house. Although Margaret's own children gave nothing away, the Sheriff seized upon a sickly foreign boy who was living with the family at the time, who gave in to his threats, showing him not only the 'priest hole' but the vestments and sacred vessels too. Margaret was immediately arrested and imprisoned; her children would never see her again. In actual fact, Anne, her daughter, would go on to become a nun, while her two sons, William and Henry, became priests.

The Council was intent on finding evidence to use against Margaret, even though she was greatly loved and respected by everyone who knew her. She was not intimidated by the sham trial but filled rather with courage. While she was subjected to much verbal abuse and jeering by the crowds, her husband would not hear a bad word spoken against her, saying "she is the best wife in England, and the best Catholic too." In 1586 she was found guilty of having hidden Jesuit priests in her home and of having allowed Mass to be said there.

She received her death sentence calmly, expecting to be hanged. She was, however, sentenced to a particularly brutal kind of end known as the "*peen forte et dure*", that is to say: to be laid naked on the floor, blind-folded, with a sharp stone in the small of the back, and then to have a heavy wooden door placed over the body, which would be piled high with heavy stones, forcing the air from the lungs... As the weights were placed upon her, she was heard to say "Jesus! Jesus! Jesus! Have mercy on me!" These were her last words, and a quarter of an hour later she was dead. She was given a secret burial, but six weeks later her grave was located, and her body was found to be incorrupt. Before being given a more worthy burial, the right hand from her body was removed, and is today a precious relic in the Bar Convent in York. **Father McGachey**

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## ATTENTION ALL READERS

Following a long-standing tradition of the Church, we will be reading from the Year A Cycle of Sunday readings as of today, and for the next two Sundays, the Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent.

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## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Thank you to all the children of Saint Kenneth's and Saint Hilary's Primaries who completed their programme of preparation for First Communion. For those children making their Confirmation later this year, we still have two weeks of Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation, today and next Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 9.15am in the Parish Hall. Our normal Children's Liturgy will also take place in the Parish Hall, starting at 9.30am, on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March. Children's Liturgy will then be taking a break over the Easter school holidays, returning on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

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## SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION - THIS TUESDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH

This feast commemorates the moment in time when the Archangel Gabriel was sent by God to Our Lady in Nazareth, inviting her to be the Mother of God's Son. Mary said 'Yes', and our faith teaches us, that by the power of Holy Spirit, she conceived Our Lord in her womb. The feast falls exactly nine months before Christmas. It is a feast of Our Lord and of Our Lady too. The Annunciation is a special day of prayer for the protection and promotion of human life, from womb to tomb.

In place of the Stations of the Cross on Tuesday, we will recite the Joyful mysteries of the Rosary at Our Lady's altar. We will have the organ and incense at 10am Mass on Tuesday morning.

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## STALL

On sale are a selection of Mother's Day cards and gifts, as well as Easter Cards, First Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts. Please have a look!

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### SAINT HILARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL FIRST CONFESSIONS

Will take place on Tuesday evening, beginning at 5.30pm. Please keep the children and their parents in your prayers.

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### 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

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

\*\*\*\*\*MONDAYS, TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - Holy Mass at 12.30pm\*\*\*\*\*

MONDAYS OF LENT - Devotions in honour of Our Lady: with Torchlight Procession from Our Lady's Altar, 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

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## CLUB 200

Firstly, thank you for your continued support of the Parish through the Club 200. It is much appreciated! For those who pay the 200 Club subscriptions each 6 months by cheque or cash, the subscriptions of £30 fall due on the 1st April 2025. Those wishing to pay by cheque should make their cheques payable to 'St Bride's Club 200'. Cheques can be mailed to Saint Bride's RC Church, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN or handed in to the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please do not send cash through the post. Envelopes with cash can be handed into the Chapel House or Sacristy. Please mark Club 200 and your name on the envelope. Thank you.

Additionally, we are looking for new members for the Club 200. If you are interested, please speak to Father McGachey or Father Martin after Mass.

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### NEXT SUNDAY IS SCIAF SUNDAY

Next Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) Sunday. There will be a retiring collection to support the

work they do on our behalf. Please give generously as you always do.

There are SCIAF 'wee boxes' at both entrances to the Church. Please return these by Holy Thursday.

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## 200 CLUB

This week's winner is Anne Connolly jnr. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

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## LADIES AFTERNOON TEA AND CABARET

in aid of HCPT (Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust) is being held in Saint Bride's Pastoral Centre, East Kilbride, on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets cost £15. There will also be raffle tickets on sale, priced £5 each, and the prize is £100. Tickets for both the Cabaret and raffle will be on sale at all Masses today.

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## FOOD BANK

The essential items required for the weekend of 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March are: 5,6,7 size nappies, tinned meals, pasta, pasta sauce, tinned vegetables, pot noodles, shampoo, and ladies' toiletries. Thank you for your generous support.

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## LONDON MARATHON - KILBRYDE HOSPITAL

Margaret Mary Cowan from Saint Bride's parish, is running the London Marathon on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, in order to raise funds for the Kilbryde Hospice. She is asking for your support by donating via the form at the back of the church or by using the following link. <https://2025tcs londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/margaret-mary-cowan> Thank you to all in the parish for your ongoing support.

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## GIFTAID ENVELOPES

If you use envelopes 56 or 57, please could you speak to Father McGachey after Mass.

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## CONFESSIONS FOR HOLY WEEK



Following on from the success of the pre-Christmas Confessions, on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April (the day before Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week) at Saint Bride's will have an Lenten Quiet Day - the Church, specially decorated for the Season, will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, from the end of 10am Mass until the Vigil Mass.

There will be Confessions from 9.30am until 9.50am.

Then Confessions all day from the end of 10am Mass until 4.20pm; and after the Vigil Mass until 5.45pm.

There will be a number of visiting priests - we will publish the schedule of Confessors nearer the time.

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## THANK YOU

The family of the late Bernard Phimister would like to thank all those who gave Mass Cards and Sympathy Cards, and other expressions of sympathy, as well as floral tributes, during their recent sad bereavement. Holy Mass will be offered for the intention of all.

# GIFT AID – CAN YOU HELP THE PARISH?

We are almost at the end of the Financial Year, and those of you who use collection envelopes have just about finished your booklets. New envelopes will be delivered to your homes over the next few weeks.

*giftaid it*

There are lots of people coming to Mass at the weekend at Saint Bride's. You are very generous to the Parish – Father Martin and myself are so grateful for your support. When we empty the collection bags on a Sunday afternoon, there are lots of high value notes. We often wonder: how many of these contributions could have

been Giftaided?

We would encourage you to think seriously about joining the Giftaid Scheme – particularly our younger parishioners. It costs you absolutely nothing - the only qualification is that you pay Income Tax.

Some of you may believe that you are already signed-up to the Giftaid scheme, and in reality you are not. Please check with me if you are in doubt.

This is a very important source of income for the parish, since for every pound you contribute to the collection, we can claim 25p from the Government. Money for nothing!

Last year we earned almost over £22,000 from your contributions. With so many bills to be paid, this helps us face the future with more confidence.

Forms are available on the large table beyond Saint Anthony's statue today, if you would like to sign-up. Leave them in the sacristy as soon as possible.

You can choose to make your contribution by using envelopes, or, if you prefer, to give your weekly offerings through Bank Standing Order.

Perhaps you wish to increase your donation to the Church. This can be arranged too.

If you have any questions, please speak to Father Martin or Father McGachey after Mass, we will be happy to help! Sincere thanks for your continued generosity to Saint Bride's. God reward you!

# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

**CLERGY** Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*  
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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, 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, Steven Russell, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Gayle Cochrean, Merisa Todd, James McLean, His Holiness Pope Francis, Steven McKinnon, Elizabeth Kyle,

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Elizabeth (Betty) Eccles, Anna Mulligan, Patrick Doohan, Kevin Coyle, Harry Feeney, Moira McNally, Karen Young, Donald McBain, Paul McTavish.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - John Hughes, Betty Cunningham, Jim Graham, Terry Cassidy, Thomas McLaughlin, Madge Reilly, Margaret M. Muldoon, Anne Byrne, Ronaldo Esposito, Jeremy Saint Clair, Bob Hendry.

### FUNERALS

Morag Nugent - Funeral Service, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March, South Lanarkshire Crematorium.  
Anna Mulligan - Requiem Mass, Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 10am.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March - £2845.** This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. You may wish to or take out a Standing Order in made by Bank Transfer, the details Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 or will take you to a secure web page. Giftaid your offering - the parish the basis of the donation you give.



make a one-off donation to the Parish favour of the Parish. Offerings can be of which are as follows: St Brides by scanning the adjacent QR code. It If you pay Income Tax, you can will receive a further 25 percent on