



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Fourth Sunday of Lent - Laetare
Sunday - 30th March 2025

THE TRADITIONS OF LAETARE SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Lent marks the half-way point in the Season. In the past, this Sunday was known as *Laetare* Sunday. Why?

In the Missal, each Mass has an Entrance Antiphon - this is a sentence or two, taken mostly from the Scriptures, which can be sung or recited at the beginning of the Eucharist. At Saint Bride's we replace the Antiphon with a hymn. In days gone by people gave a title to each Sunday's Mass on the basis of the first word in Latin of the day's Antiphon. Today's Antiphon (pictured in its format in the *Liber Usualis* or book of Latin chants. It is taken from the 66th chapter of Isaiah: "Rejoice, Jerusalem! Come together all you who love her!" In Latin, 'laetare' is a verb which means 'rejoice'; hence today was called *Laetare* Sunday.



The reason for the joyful tone was given by Pope Innocent III, in 1216, when he stated that the faithful needed lifted so as "not to break under the severe strain of Lenten penances, but bear them with a refreshed and easier heart." The joyful theme is evident in the prayers of the Mass, and it is underlined further by two customs: the celebrant may replace the royal purple vestments with rose-coloured ones; and, pink roses may be used to decorate the sanctuary area of the church - both things we will do today.

MOTHERING SUNDAY



In Britain, the Fourth Sunday of Lent each year is also 'Mothering Sunday' Why? From the time of the Middle Ages many young people worked away from home as apprentices and servants. The Fourth Sunday in Lent was one of the few days in the year when employers would give their workforce the day off so that they could return to their 'mother church' - the place where they were baptised or grew up.

As they walked along the hedgerows, they would gather bunches of Spring flowers to place at the Lady Altar in their parish church. The Lady altar in our Church is specially decorated today - Mary, is our heavenly mother: spend a minute before her altar to honour her and perhaps to light a candle, and pray for your own mother, be she alive or dead.

The young servants and apprentices were also allowed to visit their mothers, bringing with them gifts, usually flowers, and a Simnel Cake, from the Latin *similia* meaning 'fine flour'. This was a fruit cake, covered in marzipan; around the top of the cake there would be eleven marzipan balls representing the eleven 'good' Apostles. These cakes are on sale in some supermarkets today.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent then is an opportunity to honour and pray for our mothers. It is also an opportunity to relax, for one day at least, from our Lenten penances, and celebrate the fact that Easter is almost here. **Father McGachey**



TODAY IS SCIAF SUNDAY

Today, 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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

For those children making their Confirmation later this year, the Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation, concludes today, starting at 9.15am in the Parish Hall. Our normal Children's Liturgy will also take place in the Parish Hall. Children's Liturgy will then be taking a break over the Easter school holidays, returning on Sunday 27th April. There is a small 'edible' gift for the children to collect as they leave the Church today.

THE SEASON OF LENT AT SAINT BRIDE'S

Please note some adjustments to the usual schedule this week

MONDAY and WEDNESDAY - Holy Mass at 7am. **NO 7am MASS ON FRIDAY THIS WEEK**

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

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY - Stations of the Cross at 9.35am

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY - Holy Rosary and Litany of Loreto - 9.35am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

*******MONDAY and TUESDAY** - Stations of the Cross at 12.10pm*****

*******MONDAY AND TUESDAY** - Holy Mass at 12.30pm***** **NO LUNCHTIME STATION OF MASS ON THURSDAY THIS WEEK**

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

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.

This week's winner is **Tricia Moran**. The quarterly winner is **Anne Duddy**. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

GIFT AID - CAN YOU HELP THE PARISH?

giftaid it

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 couple of weeks

I would encourage you to think seriously about joining the Giftaid Scheme. It costs you absolutely nothing - the only qualification is that you pay Income Tax.

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 £22,000 from your contributions.

Forms are available on the large table beyond Saint Anthony's statue, if you would like to sign-up. You can choose to make your contribution by using envelopes, or, if you prefer, to give your weekly offerings through Bank Standing Order. If you have any questions, please speak to us, we will be happy to help!



CONFESSIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

Following on from the success of the pre-Christmas Confessions, on Saturday 12th April (the day before Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week) at Saint Bride's we 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 will be heard 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 to help with Confessions. More details next week.

SCHOOL CONFESSIONS AND SICK VISITATIONS

Father Martin and myself will be hearing the Confessions of Saint Kenneth's Primaries 3 to 7, on Monday and Tuesday of this week. I hope next week to finish my sick visits before Easter - there are over seventy sick in this parish.

STALL

A selection of Mother's Day Card, Easter Cards and Easter Mass Bouquet Cards are available from the Stall at the back of the Church. There is also a selection of statues, including the Sleeping Saint Joseph and Our Lady, Untier of Knots, Fridge Magnets, large and small candles, as well as First Communion and other gifts. Please have a look! If there is anything you would like and do not see, please speak to Marie or Frances. Copies of 'My day by day' for the Easter Season are on sale priced £1.00 each. Please place all monies in the wall-box marked 'Stall'. Please have a look!

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 27th 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.

FROM FATHER MARTIN...

Congratulations to the Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School Under 18s Boys Football Team on making it to the final of the Scottish Cup. The boys came back from 2 nil down to beat Inverkeithing 4-3 in a thrilling match. The final will be played at Hampden Park on the 8th May against the winner of the other semi-final between Saint Peter the Apostle and Saint Ninian's. This is truly a once in a generation achievement, and to mark it, we would like to get the Team training tops to wear as they warm-up on the Hampden pitch before the Final, with the School badge and date, as a memento for the boys, We are looking to raise £500. If you could sponsor this, or would like to contribute, then speak to Father Colm after Mass this weekend. Thank you.

EASTER REMEMBRANCES

If you would like your dead relatives and friends to be remembered at the three Easter Masses at Saint Bride's, then please hand them in by Holy Thursday evening. We will offer these Masses for them, and their names will feature in the special Easter Sunday Bulletin.

FROM THE DOOHAN FAMILY

Catherine and Louise would like to thank all who attended Pat's Requiem Mass. We thank most sincerely for the Mass and Sympathy cards along with the flowers and messages of condolence. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions.

LONDON MARATHON - KILBRYDE HOSPITAL

Margaret Mary Cowan from Saint Bride's parish, is running the London Marathon on the 27th April, in order to raise funds for the Kilbryde Hospice. She is asking for your support <https://2025tcsllondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/margaret-mary-cowan> Thank you.

SCIAF LENTEN ALMS BOXES

Please return these by Holy Thursday, either to the porch or the sacristy.

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE...?

Could you spare a couple of hours on the Wednesday of Holy Week to help me wash down the benches after 10am Mass? The Main Altar, Our Lady's Altar and the Baptismal Font are also in need of some elbow grease - would you help to wash these down?

If you can, I would love to see you! It may be an idea to bring your own bucket since there does not seem to be enough to go round. Cloths and suitable detergents will be provided.

My sincere thanks to the small group of ladies who keep the Church spick and span all year round for all their hard work.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND THE TRIDUUM

Copies of the new translation of the Passion for Palm Sunday and Good Friday, will be available from the Sacristy next weekend. If you are reading on either of these days, it is important to familiarise yourself with the new translation and new layout of the new publications beforehand. They are quite changed in comparison with the old version. Thank you.

WE ADORE THEE, O CHRIST AND WE PRAISE THEE...

The fourteen Stations of the Cross are amongst the most popular of all Catholic devotions and are to be found displayed in almost every Church. What is their origin?



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.

It is interesting to note that while most of the Stations are based on Gospels, one is based simply on popular piety. The Scriptures make no mention of Veronica from the sixth station, but 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. Fr. McGachey

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

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

EMAIL frmcgachey@rcdom.org.uk
frmartin@rcdom.org.uk

ADDRESS Saint Bride's Parish, Whitemoss Avenue, East Kilbride G74 1NN

TELEPHONE 01355 220005

WEBSITE www.sbek.org **TWITTER** @StBrideEK **FACEBOOK** @StBrideEK

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, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn.

RECENTLY DEAD - Anna Mulligan, Ivy Jordan, Hugh Kelly, Paul McRoberts, Dymphna McNeil, Peter Sanderson.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTH'S MINDS AND MOTHERS DAY AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - Alice Fraser, Elizabeth Henry, Edward Henry jnr., John McAuley, Margaret McAuley, Margaret Downie, Catherine Hughes, Mary McCann, Bob Hendry, Pat Higgins, Anthony McFadyen, Luisa Faccenda, Alberto and Elio Faccenda.

FUNERALS

Anna Mulligan - Requiem Mass, Monday 31st March, 10am.

Ivy Jordan - South Lanarkshire Crematorium, 1st April, 4pm.

Hugh Kelly - Reception, Monday 14th April 6pm. Requiem Mass, Tuesday 15th April 12.30pm.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 23rd March - £2870. 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