



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for Pentecost Sunday  
8<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## HAMMER OF HERETICS AND FINDER OF LOST THINGS...

In our parish Church, there is a beautiful carved wooden statue of Saint Anthony of Padua, which was donated by the Wright family, in memory of their father, who was Provost of East Kilbride. Anthony is one of the most popular saints of the Church - anyone who has attended the weekly Novena service, asking for his intercession. in Blessed John Duns Scotus Church in the Gorbals, will testify to that. Who was Anthony and why is he numbered among the greatest of the saints of the Church?

Born in Lisbon, into the noble family of Martins de Bulhões, he was baptised Fernando, in 1193. The family lived very near the Cathedral of Santa Maria Maior (Saint Mary Major), and it was within its precincts that he received his schooling, and from its cloisters that a vocation arose - at the age of fifteen, he joined the Augustinian Order, at the Abbey of Saint Vincent, as a novice. Here he became well-versed in the Sacred Scriptures and the Fathers of the Church (the great writers of the Church up until the end of the eighth century). There was one problem -because he was so well-known in Lisbon, he was visited by a constant stream of friends; so he asked to be transferred to the Monastery of Santa Cruz (Holy Cross) at Coimbra, then the capital of Portugal.



In 1219 he was ordained to the Priesthood and named *magister hospitum* (guest master) in the monastery; in this role he encountered five Franciscans who were on their way to Morocco to preach to Muslims there. Within a few months, these priests were martyred for the faith and their remains brought back to Portugal.

Fernando was so taken with their heroism, that he asked to join the Franciscan Order. He was received and given the name Anthony, after the

third century saintly hermit of Egypt whose feast day is 17<sup>th</sup> January each year. Soon after, he sailed to Morocco, but he became very sick, and his ship had to return. As Divine Providence would dispose, a storm blew his ship off course, and it landed on the island of Sicily.

Here Anthony joined with some Franciscans who were heading to Assisi for the General Chapter of the Order. Once there, he met Saint Francis of Assisi, who appointed him to a hermitage at Montepaolo. No-one knew of his learning, and Anthony was happy to carry out the most menial tasks for those entrusted to his care, while devoting himself to prayer to life of prayer.

In 1222, the Provincial brought Anthony with him to an Ordination of some Franciscans and Dominicans at Forlì. When the Dominican preacher did not turn up, they asked Anthony to say a few words. Beginning tentatively, it soon became clear that here was a man of extraordinary knowledge and eloquence. But it was his holiness that moved those present most. As a result, he was asked to preach more widely, and Saint Francis appointed him as the Order's first lecturer in theology.

Anthony taught first in northern Italy and then in the south of France, where he went to assist in the crusade against the Albigensian heresy, (Albigensianism, also known as Catharism, was a dualistic movement that emerged in France in the thirteenth century. They believed in the battle between good [spirit] and evil [matter], shunning all kinds of material possessions). Anthony preached in the churches and squares of Toulouse, Montpellier and Arles, the power of this preaching earning him the nickname *malleus haereticorum*, (the hammer of heretics). Speaking in a loud, clear voice, he had a winning manner and a wonderful memory, and although he spoke out against luxury and greed, he did so positively, by presenting the beauty of the Christian way to his listeners.

Anthony spent his last years at Padua in northeastern Italy, where he had extraordinary influence both in the religious and civic life of town: reducing crime, freeing debtors from prison, feeding the poor, and reconciling enemies. He died in Padua aged thirty-six and was canonised by Pope Gregory IX, less than a year after his death. The large Basilica built over his tomb, has become an international shrine visited by millions of pilgrims annually.

Artists have frequently depicted Anthony with the Child Jesus on his arm, or carrying a Bible, or holding a lily (symbol of purity). Since the sixteenth century, people have been praying to Saint Anthony to recover lost objects. This stems from the story that in the Monastery, a novice borrowed his Book of Psalms, more properly called a Psalter, without permission, and had to return it because of a rather fearful vision of Anthony looking for his Psalter everywhere. The texts of many of sermons survive - it was for these, and his reputation as a Biblical scholar, that in 1946, Pope Pius XII named him a Doctor of the Church.

**People traditionally bring lilies to Church to be blessed on his feast. I will do after the 10am Mass on Friday for anyone who would wish. Father McGachey**

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## **TODAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Today is the Fiftieth day after Easter Sunday and the Solemnity of Pentecost, the Feast of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

**We will offer a special anointing with the Oil of Gladness to anyone who would wish to receive it.** This anointing, is mentioned in the Prophet Isaiah when he says, "To grant those who mourn in Zion, giving them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning." In the Old Testament this anointing was considered as a powerful means of transmitting the gift of God's Spirit. **The Oil of Gladness is for spiritual, mental, emotional and physical healing. All of us can benefit from this spiritual healing. I hope that many of you will come to receive this blessing.**

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## **TODAY IS PAPAL COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY**

There will be a retiring collection today for World Papal Communications Sunday - to help support the work of the Catholic Press Office, an arm of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland.

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**NOVENA TO OUR LADY, UNTIER OF KNOTS CONTIUNES  
ON TUESDAY EVENING AT 7pm**

Our Lady will not be outdone in bestowing her favours in answer to prayers made in this most powerful Novena: untying the knots of our lives. The Novena continues this Tuesday with the Rosary, Novena Prayers and Benediction, beginning at 7pm.

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## SAINT HILARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL CONFIRMATIONS - MONDAY 7pm

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### 200 CLUB

Last week's winner was Marie McLaughlin. This week's winner is Edward Boyle. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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### STALL

Available at the stall are selection of statues, including the Sleeping Saint Joseph and Our Lady, Untier of Knots. Also on sale are: pictures of the Angelus, Our Lady, Untier of Knots, and many more. We also have fridge magnets, bookmarks, key rings, large and small candles, holy water fonts, and gifts. Please come along and have a look.

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### CALENDAR



**Monday** is the memorial of **Mary, Mother of the Church** - this ancient devotion to Our Lady was inserted into the Roman Calendar by Pope Francis several years ago. **Wednesday** is the memorial of **Saint Barnabas, Apostle**. He played an important role in the extension of Christianity outside the

Jewish world. It was Barnabas who presented Saint Paul to the other Apostles when, after his conversion on the road to Damascus, he came to Jerusalem. Barnabas was Paul's helper on his first missionary journey and returned with him to Jerusalem but left him when he set out on his second journey and went to Cyprus. He was the cousin of Saint Mark and Cypriot by birth. **Friday** is the memorial of **Saint Anthony of Padua**. See the front cover.

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### CONGRATULATIONS

To Ronan McQuade, one of our organists. He plays between the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses on a Sunday. Ronan has been a student of the organ at the Royal Academy in Glasgow. Last Wednesday, he had his recital exam in the Jesuit Parish, Saint Aloysius' Church in Garnethill. He played some very demanding pieces with great flair, and passed with flying colours gaining a Bachelor of Music (BMus) degree. *Ad multos annos!*

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### FOODBANK UPDATE

Once again, the collection last weekend for the *Loaves and Fishes Foodbank* was outstanding: £1135 in cash, £230 in food vouchers, plus 595 food items. The Foodbank has moved to the Community Hall in Greenhills. To accommodate this, we will not be collecting any items next month.

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## SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

CLERGY	Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, <i>Parish Priest</i> Rev. Colm E. Martin <i>Assistant Priest, High School and Hospital Chaplain</i>
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HALL BOOKINGS	Contact Mrs Annemarie McMillan hall@sbek.org
BULLETIN NOTICES	Contact Fr. McGachey or bulletin@sbek.org
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONTACT NUMBER	07712 903732

## REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - 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 Cochran, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, John Fletcher.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Jacqui Cadwallender, Anne Connolly, Denis McGeown, Jim McLellan, Matilda (Tillie) McGowan, Guido Enzo, William Andrew, Siobhan McKenna, Alec Carson, Anna Brawley, Brian Clarkin.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Philip Trainer, Agnes Magill, Paul McWilliams, Andrea Thomson, Aidan McArthur, Monica Strain, Ruben Aguillar Neves, Miguel Hernandez Fuentes, Jackson Clarkin.

### FUNERALS

Jacqui Cadwallender - Reception, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm. Requiem Mass, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.

Anne Connolly - Reception, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm. Requiem Mass, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 10am.

Denis McGeown - Requiem Mass, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 10am.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June - £2,980.** This Standing Orders in favour of the donation to the Parish or take out Parish. Offerings can be made by are as follows: St Brides Parish scanning the adjacent QR code. It you pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid your offering - the parish will receive a further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.



included the Basket Collection and Parish. You may wish to make a one-off a Standing Order in favour of the Bank Transfer, the details of which 10246966 and 80-12-97 or by will take you to a secure web page. If

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