



SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Sixth Sunday of the Ordinary Season - 15th February 2026

THE BEGINNING OF THE SEASON OF LENT 2026

MEMENTO HOMO, QUIA PULVIS ES

Remember man, that you are dust

Wednesday of this week, 18th February, 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.

Given that Ash Wednesday is an in-service day in our schools, parents, please try to ensure that your children have an opportunity to attend Holy Mass today.

Father McGachey

SCHEDULE - MONDAY AND TUESDAY OF THIS WEEK

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – Monday 9.15am
HOLY ROSARY WITH THE LITANY OF LORETO – Monday 9.30am
HOLY MASS – 10am

Please note that Tuesday is the last day of Eucharistic Exposition and the Rosary for the time being.
These will be replaced by Stations of the Cross during Lent.



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 - 9.30am

HOLY MASS WITH THE BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES - with organ and incense - 10am. We will be joined by the Staff of Saint Kenneth's Primary School and Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's High School - today is an Inservice day in our schools

LITURGY OF THE WORD AND BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES - 12noon in Hairmyres Hospital. Father Martin has invited Bishop Toal to be present at this service

HOLY MASS WITH THE BLESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES with the organ - 7pm

THE SEASON OF LENT AT SAINT BRIDE'S

MONDAY TO FRIDAY - Holy Mass at 7am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Stations of the Cross 9.30am

MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS - Mass at 12.30pm in the Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's HS

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS - Mass at 1.20pm in Saint Andrew's and Saint Bride's HS

Everyone is welcome to attend these Masses in the High School. Enter the school, sign your name in the Visitors' Book and take the lift to the First Floor - the Oratory is there. I think we should support the school Masses by our prayerful presence and encourage the pupils to see the beauty of our Catholic Faith.

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

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAYS OF LENT - Evening Prayer at Our Lady's Altar at 7pm

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



200 CLUB

The winners for the last three weeks: Claire Campbell (1st February), Mary Stewart (8th February), and this week's winner (15th February) is Anne Duddy. Please collect your cheque from the sacristy.

ASH WEDNESDAY ANNUAL RETIRING COLLECTION

By the Third World Group, to help Sister Eleanor of the Parish, working in Nairobi, Kenya. There will be baskets at the doors of the Church. Alternatively, you can donate to Saint Bride's Third World Group at the Bank of Scotland: Code 800664 and Account Number 00873793. Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

MARIAN DEVOTIONS ON MONDAY EVENING 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.



HOLY MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Thursday 26th February, Holy Mass with the Sacrament of the Sick at 10am. Followed by a light breakfast in the Parish Centre.

FUTURE EVENTS

SUNDAY 22nd FEBRUARY - At the 9.30am Mass, The Rite of Enrolment for the children of Primary 4 who will make their First Holy Communion in May.

TUESDAY 3rd MARCH - FIRST RECONCILIATION for the children of Primary 3 at Saint Kenneth's Primary School. Beginning at 5.30pm.

TUESDAY 17th MARCH - HOLY MASS FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT PATRICK with Organ and Incense at 10am.

THURSDAY 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. Holy Mass with Organ and Incense at 10am.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Continues at 9.30am with everyone back in the Main Hall of the Parish Centre. From next Sunday (22nd February), we will be in Lent and so, week by week, we will be concentrating on preparations for Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

THE BLACK ROBES AND SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA

One of our parishioners, Dr Ann McDowell, has left some samples of her book, *The Black Robes and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha*, at the Stall. Kateri, born in 1656, in present-day New York, to a Mohawk chief and a Christian Algonquin mother. She survived smallpox as a child, which left her scarred and with poor eyesight. Converting to Catholicism at age of 19, she moved to Quebec to escape persecution. Kateri was the first Native American person to be canonised. Ann has left a sign-up sheet if you wish to order a copy. They cost £5.00 each, and she has kindly donated all monies from the sale of the book to Saint Bride's Parish. It is well worth reading!

LOAVES AND FISHES FOODBANK

Thank you for your generosity £1,820 was collected in the January Collection. Our next collection will be on the 28th February/1st March. Again, no food donations, but cash and food vouchers, please.

CURRY NIGHT IN SUPPORT OF HCPT GROUP 23

A curry night is being held on Friday 20th February at 7pm in Christ the King Church Hall, 220 Carmunnock Rd, Glasgow. Tickets cost £20 per ticket. Enjoy a delicious curry provided by the Turban Tandoori, while helping us raise vital funds to support HCPT Group 23, who take disabled and disadvantaged children on a pilgrimage at Easter. If you would like to purchase tickets or to secure a table of 10, please get in touch with Eileen on 07950262348.

If you're unable to come, you can still support us by donating a raffle prize or making a donation via our just giving page:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/23hcpt?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL. Every bit of support makes a real difference. Thank you for supporting HCPT Group 23.

FATHER MARTIN WILL BE ON HOLIDAY FROM TUESDAY 24TH- FRIDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

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, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, Nessie McFadyen, Noreen Lockhart, Patricia Carey, Anne McDowell, Paul McCartney, Kevin McCann, Gayle Cochran, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, Theresa Tierney, Colette Roxburgh, John Paul Quinn, Susan and Robin Topping, Arthur Connor (Canada), Thomas Finnigan (Prestwick), George Kelman, Ann Marie Kane. Rosemary Maley, Peter Friel, Molly and Robert Ward, Noreen Lockhart, John Convery, Neil McCready, Michael Conroy. Paul Tollan, Fiona Jane Anderson, Lindsay Sweeney, Robert Ward,

RECENTLY DEAD - Tony Melvin, Eddie Finnigan, Ann Weir, Jim Dickson, Margaret Frances O'Donnell, Mary Dunn, Frances McShane, Edward Cassidy, Michael Hartley, Anne Jackson.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES - David Knight, Mary McGowan, Jim Thomson, Thomas McLaughlin, Mary Early, Mary Roberts, Cathie McGregor, Eileen McGuigan, Anthony and Mary Hastings, Moncia McDuff, Niall Murdoch, Stewart Davis, Paulette McShane, John Reilly, John McAuley, Margaret McAuley.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 8th February - £3,080 the Parish or take out a Standing be made by Bank Transfer, the Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 take you to a secure web page. offering - the parish will receive donation you give.



You may wish to make a one-off donation to Order in favour of the Parish. Offerings can details of which are as follows: St Brides or by scanning the adjacent QR code. It will If you pay Income Tax, you can Giftaid your a further 25 percent on the basis of the