



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Seventh Sunday of Easter - 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026

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## SAINT ISIDORE - THE PATRON SAINT OF FARMERS

**O**n the 12<sup>th</sup> March 1662, Pope Gregory XV celebrated one of the most important Canonisations in the history of the Church, raising to the altars four well-known figures: Saint Teresa of Avila (Carmelite nun and co-reformer of her Order), Saint Ignatius of Loyola (Founder of the Society of Jesus, commonly known as the Jesuits), Saint Francis Xavier (Soldier turned professor and co-founder of the Jesuits) and Saint Philip Neri (Saint of Florence and founder of the Congregation of the Oratory).

Along with these respected giants in the Church's life, a man called Isidore, from Madrid, was made a Saint too. Possibly, you have heard his name before - in our own Diocese we had a small parish dedicated to him, in Biggar, near Lanark. But who was Saint Isidore and why is he a saint?



Born in 1130, in Madrid, Isidore was named by his devout parents after another famous Saint, Isidore of Seville - the sixth century bishop and theologian. When he was barely old enough to hold a hoe in his hands, Isidore entered the service of Juan de Vargas, as a farm labourer. De Vargas was wealthy landowner who had a vast estate at Torrelaguna, outside Madrid.

Isidore had three great loves in his life: God, family, and the soil. He and his wife Maria Toribia, who resembled him in character, and who is popularly known in Spain as Maria de la Cabeza (Mary of the Head). Together they had a son, who died tragically at a young age. The couple proved to their neighbours that poverty, hard work, and sorrow cannot destroy happiness if we accept them with faith and in union with Christ. Maria is popularly held to be a Saint by Spaniards, although not officially canonised.

Isidore had deep religious instincts: he rose early in the morning to go to Church and spent many a holiday visiting the Churches and Shrines of Madrid and the surrounding areas. His devotion, one might say, became a problem, for his fellow workers - he was often late for work. His employer, De Vargas, reprimanded him for this fault, but he later had a vision of a second team of white oxen led by angels ploughing alongside Isidore, doing double the work. As he ploughed, he said his prayers and talked with God. Isidore and Maria had a practical concern for those even less fortunate than themselves, often feeding the poor from their own modest table.

He died in 1130 and his incorrupt body lies in the Church of Sant Andres in Madrid - a beautiful Church in the *La Latina* district of the city and well-worth visiting. Even after his death, stories of miracles continued. He is said to have guided King Alphonso of Castile to make a surprise attack to defeat the Moors. In 1615, King Philip III of Spain was cured of severe fever through bringing the body of Isidore into the king's bedroom. His tomb is much venerated today, by the lowliest and the greatest of Spanish society and his favours are plentiful.

Not surprisingly, he is the patron of the Spanish capital and of farmers and rural life generally. In art, Saint Isidore's emblem is a sickle. His feast was last Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May.  
**Father McGachey**

## COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY - TODAY

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

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### MAY IS MARY'S MONTH



There were even more people at the second week of the Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots than there were on the first Monday. It was trully wonderful to see! I hope Our Blessed Lady has begun to answer your prayers. She will not be outdone in her kindness towards us. The third week of the Novena is on Monday evening at 7pm.

Each morning in May we will recite the Holy Rosary and pray the Litany of Loreto at 9.30am. If you cannot attend either the Monday Devotions or the daily recitation of the Rosary, at least try to recite a decade of the Rosary, or spend some minutes at Our Lady's altar before or after Mass on a Sunday. Light a candle and tell her how much you love her!

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### NEXT SUNDAY IS PENTECOST SUNDAY



Next Sunday is the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday, and the Solemnity of Pentecost, when we recall the coming of the Holy Spirit on Our Lady and the Apostles, recorded by Saint Luke in the Acts of the Apostles. The Pentecost event is closely linked with the Sacrament of Confirmation, for this reason we will renew our Confirmation promises at Mass.

At the end of all Masses next weekend, we will offer an anointing with the Oil of Gladness. 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 brings spiritual, mental, emotional and physical healing. All of us can benefit. I hope that many of you will come to receive this blessing.

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### DIARY DATES

- **THE MONTH OF JUNE - MONTH OF DEVOTION TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS -** We will recite the Litany of the Sacred Heart after the Rosary each morning.
  - **FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE - SOLEMNITY OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS -** In place of the Rosary today at 9.30am we will have the traditional prayers to the Sacred Heart, including the prayer of Consecration to the Heart of Jesus.
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### AFTERNOON TEA - FUNDRAISER FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF HALL

Please join us at our fundraiser on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May, from 1pm-4pm. You will be welcomed with a glass of Prosecco or orange juice on arrival, and a sumptuous Summer Afternoon Tea. Various Raffles with some stunning prizes will take place on the day. Tickets cost £12.50 and will be on sale after all Masses from this weekend. The event is open to everyone. Please support your parish and have an afternoon of fun.

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**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY MORNING MASS UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER**

## OUR NEXT MASS FOR THE SICK

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 10am, we will have our next Mass with the anointing with the Oil of the Sick, as well as organ and incense. Mass will be followed by rolls and sausage and tea and coffee, in the Parish Centre. All very welcome.

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## FIRST COMMUNIONS

Congratulations to the second of the children of Saint Kenneth's Primary School who made their First Communion yesterday.

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## 200 CLUB

This week's winner is Anne Marie Carroll. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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## PROPOSED PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO PARIS, 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

A full spiritual and excursion programme walking in the footsteps of the French saints. Mass in Notre Dame Cathedral, Basilica of Sacré-Coeur, the Convent of the Miraculous Medal at the Rue du Bac. Bed and Breakfast with lunch provided in Paris each day. The overall cost is dependent on numbers and fluctuating flight prices. At the moment, it looks like being around £1100, which is very reasonable for Paris. A deposit is required of £550 to secure your place. There is a £234 single room supplement. To book, contact Anne Marie Cairns at Alba Tours on 01698 262941 or [annemariecairns@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annemariecairns@yahoo.co.uk) **Father Martin.**

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## STALL

A selection of First Communion and Confirmation cards and gifts are on sale at the stall. There are other piety objects, as well as a wide range of candles, gifts and prayer cards.

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## CALENDAR

On **Monday** the Church remembers Pope **Saint John I** (+526), who was elected in 523. The Arian King Theodoric had him thrown into prison at Ravenna, near Venice, where he died a few days later. A man of holiness and much suffering, he is often called 'the unbloody martyr'. **Wednesday** is the memorial of **Saint Bernardine of Siena** (+1444). He turned his back on the world at an early age to lead the life of a hermit, but later he entered the Franciscan Order. A notable preacher, one of his favourite subjects was encouraging people to desist from blasphemy and honour the holy name of Jesus instead. **Thursday** is the memorial of **Saint Christopher Magallanes** (+1927). He was joined in martyrdom by twenty-one diocesan priests and three devout laymen, all members of the *Cristeros* movement, which rose up in rebellion against the anti-Catholic Mexican government of Plutarco Calles during the 1920s. They were shot by a firing squad for their fidelity to the Church. **Friday** is the memorial of **Saint Rita Cascia** (+1457). After eighteen years of married life, Rita's husband died. She became a nun at Cascia, in central Italy, where her patience, and cheerfulness left a lasting impression of her fellow sisters. She is a wonder-worker and is often invoked as an intercessor in circumstances of unhappy or difficult marriages.

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## THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The children of Primary Seven at Saint Kenneth's Primary school will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Joseph Toal this Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May, at 7pm.

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# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH - EAST KILBRIDE

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

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

**THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL** - Monica McShane, Mary Easton, Margaret Rose McMahon, Richard O'Donnell, Owen O'Donnell, Jean Lafferty, Mary O'Brien, Margaret Murphy, Brian Ewing, Alan MacDonald, Jan Milligan, Catherine McLean, 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, John Paul Quinn, Thomas Finnigan (Prestwick), George Kelman, Ann Marie Kane, Rosemary Maley, Peter Friel, Molly and Robert Ward, Noreen Lockhart, Neil McCready, Michael Conroy, Paul Tollan, Fiona Jane Anderson, Lindsay Sweeney, Robert Ward, Margaret Boyle, Kenneth McEwan, Rosie Maher Law, Stuart Gibbons, Sadie Elliot, Billy Wilson, Ian McFadyen, Nessie McFadyen, Marie Quigley.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - Harry Burns, Maura Murdoch, Hugh Quinn, Bili Shaw, Jimmy Fletcher, Alex Black, Edgar Thomson, Vincent Mayberry, Sheena McTavish, Paul Kirkland.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Elizabeth (Betty) Smith, Edward Williamson, Paul Coogans, Philip McAinsh, Monica Barrett, Paul McLay.

**FUNERAL** - Harry Burns - Reception Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 7pm. Requiem Mass Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 10am.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May - £3,015. to the Parish or take out a Offerings can be made by follows: St Brides Parish the adjacent QR code. It will Income Tax, you can Giftaid further 25 percent on the basis of the donation you give.



You may wish to make a one-off donation Standing Order in favour of the Parish. Bank Transfer, the details of which are as 10246966 and 80-12-97 or by scanning take you to a secure web page. If you pay your offering - the parish will receive a