

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Thirtieth Sunday of the Ordinary Season – 25th October 2026

CUM SANCTIS TUIS IN AETERNAM, QUIA PIUS EST…
With your Saints forever, for you are merciful…

The Latin words above, taken from the Communion Antiphon in the Requiem Mass, encapsulate beautifully the message at the heart of November – the mercy of God that awaits us at the end of our earthly life, and the promise of a new life in heaven with the Saints.



In the Solar Calendar, the year is divided into twelve months. It is sometimes called the *Gregorian Calendar*, because it was introduced in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII (+1585). The word *November* comes from the Latin *novem* (meaning *nine*) used in Roman times, when there were ten months in the Calendar year, *March* being the first and *November* being the ninth month.

In every culture on earth, death is surrounded by ritual. In Roman Catholicism that ritual is accompanied by prayer, for we believe that we can help the dead by praying for them.

Every time we profess the Apostles' Creed, we say: *I believe in the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.* The expression *Communion of Saints* has nothing to do with Holy Communion but refers to the threefold division of the Church: **the Church Triumphant** - the Saints in heaven; the **Church Militant** - those alive on earth and **the Church Suffering** - the souls in Purgatory. We believe that we, the Church Militant, can benefit from the intercession of the Church Triumphant and that we can help the Church Suffering through our prayers.

In the earliest Christian times, prayers for the dead were graffitied (from the Greek *graphein* 'to write') on the walls of the Catacombs, or cemeteries, of Rome, where Christians were buried. In the third century, prayers for the dead, as well as celebrations of the Eucharist, on the anniversary of a loved one's death became widespread.

Famously the Abbot, Saint Odilo of Cluny (+1049), introduced into his community, 2nd November as the day when the Cluniac monks would remember the dead of all times and places. The custom gradually spread to England and then to Spain. In 1915, because of the huge numbers of fallen during World War I, Pope Benedict XV (+1922) extended this day for commemorating the dead to the universal Church, calling it *the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed*, or *All Souls' Day*.

At the heart of the feast lies the doctrine of *Purgatory*. The word Purgatory comes from the Latin verb *purgare* meaning 'to purify'. Purgatory is that place of purification, through which those who have died in God's friendship, but who still need cleansing sin, must pass through, before being admitted to Heaven. During the month of November, we pray for the dead who are undergoing that purification, that they may soon enjoy God's company.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY?

THE *NOVEMBER LIST* AND *THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE*

We can complete a *November List*, writing the names of those we would like to be prayed for at Saint Bride's: at the Rosary and Litany for the Holy Souls, Monday-Friday; at each Holy Mass during November, and the Marian Devotions on Monday evenings at 7pm. The November Lists will be placed in the *Book of Remembrance*, which will form part of a special November Shrine in the Church.

VISITING A CEMETERY

The word 'cemetery' comes from the Greek word *koimeterion*, which means 'dormitory' or 'place of rest'. During November, if you can, be sure to follow the pious custom of visiting a cemetery and praying for the dead there. On the Continent families visit the cemetery the week before All Souls' Day to clean and prepare the headstone and grave. On the day itself, they place flowers and candles, as an act of remembrance. So much so that, in the day, the cemeteries become a massive sea of colour, and at night, are illuminated by hundreds of flickering candles. This year at the Stall, we have some seven-day candles, which can be placed, either at a grave or lit at home, to remember the dead.

FINALLY

The Holy Souls in Purgatory, our Faith teaches us, are helped by our prayers. Prayer brings healing and comfort, amid pain and sorrow. This November, let us pray for our beloved dead, in the hope that, as the English martyr, Saint Thomas More (+1535) wrote to his daughter Margaret, on the morning he was due to be executed: "Pray that we will merrily meet again in the joy of heaven." Give them eternal rest, O Lord. **Father McGachey**.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy returns this Sunday. We will be running a program for children in P3 who will be making their First Reconciliation in the early months of 2027. The programme begins on Sunday 1st November, for 4 weeks (1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd), in the Parish Hall and will commence each week at 9.15am for about 45 minutes, after which the children will come to the Church.

MONDAY - DEVOTIONS TO HONOUR OUR LADY

Beginning at Our Lady's altar, followed by a torchlight procession, the recitation of the Rosary with the Litany of Loreto, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

LEARNING ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC FAITH

RCIA classes continue on Tuesday at 7pm. This week's topic is: *The Blessed Trinity: Father, Son and Spirit.* It will be given by Father Martin in the Chapel House.

CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE OVER THE WINTER MONTHS

Now that British Summer Time has ended with the changing of the clocks: the Wednesday Evening Prayer has come to an end. It will return during Advent. Secondly, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at **9.30am**, Monday to Friday, instead of 9.15am. Thirdly, the Litany for the Dead will replace the Litany of Loreto during November.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP – MONDAYS AFTER 10am MASS

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS



Next Sunday, 1st November, is the Solemnity of All Saints, when the Church remembers those who are now with God in heaven, including our family members and friends. We have several relics, including: Saint Lucy, Saint Bernadette, Saint Pius X and Saint John Paul II. These will be displayed in the Church. I hope you will come forward to venerate them.

Bishop Joseph Toal will be joining us at the 11.30am Mass, to bestow on Miss Betty Purdie, the Diocesan *Bene Merenti* (Well-Deserved) Medal for more than sixty years of service to Saint Bride's Parish. At the Mass there will be special music for the Feast, including the glorious sound of the trumpet. Please join us for a celebratory tea in the Parish Centre afterwards.

Readers, please remember that the Mass Readings are for All Saints and not the Thirty-First Sunday.



ALL SOULS' DAY

Monday 2nd of November is *the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed*, more commonly called *All Souls' Day*. It is a day of prayer for our departed loved ones. There will be a special Mass, with incense and organ, at 10am. During the Mass, the traditional Latin Antiphons from the *Missa Pro Defunctis* (Mass for the Dead) will be sung – they are very beautiful. I hope that many of you will come to pray for your dead relatives. At 7pm, we will have Marian Devotions, during which the Rosary will be offered for the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

NOVEMBER LISTS – 'REMEMBER ME AT THE ALTAR OF GOD' Saint Monica

Please complete a *November List*, writing the names of those you would like to be prayed for during the month. They will be placed in the Books of Remembrance, which will form part of special November Shrine. Please have a look at the Books! It is customary to include an offering with your November List to support the Liturgical life of the Parish. Thank you.

A NOTE FROM FATHER MARTIN – PARISH ALMA CLUB

It is hoped to start an ALMA Club in the Parish for adults with Learning Difficulties and Additional Support Needs. If you would be interested in helping out, please come along to the **second meeting** this Thursday, 29th October, at **7pm** in the Hall.

CEILIDH - IN AID OF THE RENOVATION OF THE CHURCH HALL

A Ceilidh is being held on Friday 30th October in the Parish Hall. Tickets will be on sale this weekend at all the Masses. All welcome. Any donations of raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated. They can be left in the Parish Library.

FABRIC

The outside lighting around the Chapel House and Church has now been fixed or replaced. The wall-mounted heaters around the Church were serviced on Thursday. The votive candle stands were given a fresh coat of paint last week. We are awaiting a date for the installation of a new Gas Meter for the Church. The implementation of the findings of a recent Fire Risk Assessment of the Hall is in hand. The leaks in the flat roof of the Church House have been repaired.

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200 CLUB – this week's winner is Susan Timmons. Please collect your winnings.

SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH – EAST KILBRIDE

CLERGY Rev. Dr. Francis G. McGachey, *Parish Priest*
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BULLETIN NOTICES Contact Fr. McGachey or Fr. Martin or bulletin@sbek.org

SAINT 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, 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 Cochrean, Merisa Todd, James McLean, Elizabeth Kyle, Thomas Quinn, Chris McElroy, Danny McCash, John Paul Quinn, Thomas Finnigan, George Kelman, Ann Marie Kane, Rosemary Maley, Peter Friel, Molly and Robert Ward, Noreen Lockhart, Michael Conroy, Fiona Jane Anderson, Lindsay Sweeney, Robert Ward, Margaret Boyle, Kenneth McEwan, Rosie Maher Law, Stuart Gibbons, Sadie Elliot, Billy Wilson, Marie Quigley. Christopher Bailey, Margaret Saroli, Louise Brannan, Raymund Brannan, Louise MacFarlane, Brendan Darcy, Claire Elliot.

RECENTLY DEAD – John Beatie, Bernadette Breslin, Caroline Kurdell, Anne Cameron, Kiera McMenemy, Kitty Roberts, Adolf Sherman.

ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES – Jim and Annie Flannigan, Thomas Flannagan, Paul McKellar, Idris Smith, Paul Archiebald, Luisa Faccenda.

FUNERALS

John Beattie – Requiem Mass, Wednesday 4th November 10am.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 18th October - £3,110. This included the Basket Collection and Standing Orders in favour of the Parish. You may wish to make a one-off donation to the Parish or take out a Standing Order in favour of the Parish. **Offerings can be made by Bank Transfer, the details of which are as follows: St Brides Parish 10246966 and 80-12-97 or by scanning the adjacent QR code. It will take you to a secure web page. If 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**.