



# SAINT BRIDE'S PARISH, EAST KILBRIDE

Bulletin for the Fifth Sunday of Easter 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026

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## THE NOVENA TO OUR LADY, UNTYER OF KNOTS BEGINS ON MONDAY EVENING

**A**re there knots in your life that seem impossible to unravel? We all have them: children and grandchildren who have lapsed from the practice of the faith; addictions to drugs, alcohol, pornography, pursuit of money, over attachment to possessions; family members who have gone off the rails and are in trouble; unemployment; debt and financial worries; sickness; old age; hoping that our children make the right decisions for their future; depression; guilt for past sins; unhappy marriages; inability to forgive and a thousand other knots besides.

**Turn to Mary, Untier of Knots! Allow her to be generous and show her blessings and untie these knots.**



Devotion to Our Lady, Untier of Knots is about three hundred years old. It became popular in our own day thanks to the late Pope Francis. He had been a student in Germany where he learned about it. When he was consecrated Archbishop of Buenos Aires, he had copies of a famous painting of Our Lady, untying knots, made and distributed around the parishes of the Argentinian Capital. He often said that "All the knots of our hearts, every knot of our consciences, every knot of our lives, can be undone by Our Lady."

### What is the story behind this devotion?

A German nobleman, Wolfgang Langenmantel and his wife, Sophia, were on the brink of divorce. Their marriage was full of tensions and anger. Wolfgang was distraught. So he turned to a Jesuit priest, Father Jakob Rem, for spiritual help. The two prayed together to Our Lady for Wolfgang's marriage to be healed each time they met.

During their last meeting, in September 1615, Wolfgang gave Father Rem his Wedding Ribbon - Wolfgang and Sophia had their hands bound together with this ribbon during their wedding Mass, as a symbol of unity. Father Rem took the ribbon and placed it in the hands of a statue of Our Lady. He asked Mary to "untie the knots" of Wolfgang's marriage. Shortly afterwards, the couple were reconciled and their differences settled.

Wolfgang and Sophia's grandson, Hieronymus Langenmantel, became a priest and requested that an artist depict their story. In the painting, one angel gives Our Lady the knotted ribbon, while the other holds the unknotted side and presents it to us. Johann Schmittner was the artist, and he painted the image around 1700. It is on display at Saint Peter's Church in Augsburg, Germany. Saint Bride's has been gifted a new image of Our Lady, Untier of Knots by a generous parishioner and it will be displayed for the first time on Monday night. Write your petitions and place them in the box before the image and invite Mary to do the rest. Come and make the Novena and ask for Our Lady's help. Plead with her to untie the knots of your life and the lives of those you know and love.

We will begin at Our Lady's altar, where this week we will crown the statue of Mary, as Queen of the May. A torchlight procession will follow, then the recitation of Rosary, the Novena Prayers, concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come along and allow Mary our mother to do the rest. **Father McGachey**

## MAY IS MARY'S MONTH



In 1878, the poet Gerard Manley Hopkins (+1889), convert to Catholicism and Jesuit priest, wrote his famous work *The May Magnificat*. In it are the well-known words, "May is Mary's month, and I muse at that and wonder why: her feasts follow reason, dated due to season – Candlemas, Lady Day; but the Lady Month, May..."

Many of us would have grown up with traditions associated with the month of May: the 'May altar' in primary school - pupils bringing bunches of flowers to decorate it... the focus of prayer each day in the classroom. The custom of saying a decade of the

Rosary each day as part of our daily prayers at school, the crowning of the statue of Our Lady... If you are a teacher in a Primary School, why not re-introduce this beautiful custom and teach the children to love our Blessed Lady as their heavenly mother?

Many of us would have attended traditional May Devotions in honour of Our Blessed Lady in the Church in the evenings of May. On the Mondays of May at 7pm, we will have devotions in her honour, with the Novena Prayers to Our Lady Untier of Knots (see front cover).

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 before Mass, 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: ask for her help and tell her how much you love her!

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### RETIRING COLLECTION - TODAY

To help pay for the education of our future priests in Motherwell Diocese in Rome, Salamanca and Birmingham. Please be generous as you always are.

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### THIS WEEK AT SAINT BRIDE'S

**HOLY MASS - Sundays: Vigil 4.30pm, 9.30am (with Children's Liturgy) and 11.30am**

**CONFESSIONS - Saturday after 10am Mass; 4pm-4.20pm and after the Vigil Mass**

**TUESDAY-SATURDAY - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.15am**

**TUESDAY-SATURDAY - The Holy Rosary and Litany of Loretto 9.30am**

**MONDAY-SATURDAY - Holy Mass 10am**

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### FIRST COMMUNIONS

The children from Saint Kenneth's Primary School will make their First Communion at 10am Mass on this coming Saturday, 9th May and the following Saturday, 16th May, at 10am Mass. There will not be Rosary or Confessions before Mass on these days. The High School carpark will be open to accommodate the increased traffic. If there are any pass keepers who would be prepared to offer their services on one or both Saturdays, please let me know.

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### SCIAF BOXES - PLEASE RETURN THESE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

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### 200 CLUB

Last week's winner was Sally Hastings and this week's is Jim Toner. Please collect your cheque from the Sacristy.

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## 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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## AFTERNOON TEA - FUNDRAISER FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF HALL

On Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May, from 1pm-4pm. You will receive a glass of Prosecco on arrival and a sumptuous Summer Afternoon Tea. Various Raffles with some stunning prizes will take place on the day. Tickets are priced £12.50 and will be on sale after all Masses from next weekend, 10<sup>th</sup> May. The event is open to everyone. Please support your parish.

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## LOCUS TERRIBILIS EST (THIS PLACE IS AWE-INSPIRING) Genesis 28,17

Last week, we received a request for information, as well as external and internal photographs of our Parish Church from the prestigious Italian Architectural and Liturgical publication *Thema*. The article will be published in the coming months. We will attempt to put something together this week and send it to them. A few weeks ago, we had twelve architectural students visit the Church with some of their tutors from a university in London. It is gratifying to know that our Church continues to be famous and to draw interest from home and abroad!

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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 on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. The Bishop will be visiting the Primary School on Friday morning of this week.

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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 publications cards. Copies of *My Day by Day* for May are on sale priced £1.00.

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## SATURDAY MORNING MASS

During May and June, both Father McGachey and Father Martin, have several Weddings each to celebrate elsewhere, at home and abroad, as well as First Communions of family members to attend in other parishes, and Ordinations to the Priesthood to attend in other parts of the country.

As many of you will know, Father McGachey's mother is poorly at the moment, and he would like to spend some more time with her. He plans to be on holiday in July and Father Martin in August. Not wanting to burden each other with absences because of commitments in other places, they would like to take off the Saturday morning Mass from the 23<sup>rd</sup> May, until the beginning of September.

There will be Saturday morning Masses in the other parishes in East Kilbride. The parish clergy will continue to celebrate the Vigil Mass at 4.30pm every Saturday as usual. Confessions will begin fifteen minutes earlier on a Saturday afternoon, at 3.45pm, during the time. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

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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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**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

## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

**THOSE WHO ARE UNWELL** - Monica McShane, Mary Easton, Margaret Rose McMahan, 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, Harry Burns, Billy Wilson, Ian McFadyen, Nessie McFadyen, Marie Quigley.

**RECENTLY DEAD** - May Callaghan, John Taggart, Hugh Quinn, Theresa Callaghan, Eileen Behan, Bunty Bruce, Simon Loftus, Margaret Glen, Andrew Thomson.

**ANNIVERSARIES, MONTHS MINDS AND BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES** - Liz Gallagher, Brian Curran, Denis Maguire, Tom Coll sen., Frank McParland, Helen McGuckien, Winnie Smith, Helen and Peter Orsie, Anne McFadyen, Joe McFadyen jnr., John McFadyen, Helen Collins, Neil McTaggart, John O'Connor.

### FUNERALS

May Callaghan - Requiem Mass Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> at 10am.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April - £3,050.  
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