



PARISHES OF ST PETER, AND ST FERGUS

Bulletin

SUNDAY 19 JANUARY 2025: Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity

(Readings: Is 62:1-5, 1 Cor 12:4-11, Jn 2:1-11)



St. Peter's R.C. Church, 154 Braehead Road,
Paisley, PA2 8NG

Phone - 0141 884 2435

Email - stpeter@rcdop.org.uk

Facebook: St Peter's Catholic Church Paisley

Web: www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk

St. Fergus' R.C. Church

35 Blackstoun Road, Paisley PA3 1LU

Phone- 0141 884 2435

Email - stfergus@rcdop.org.uk

Web: www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Thomas John

(Resident at St Peter's)

Sunday Mass:

St. Peter's 4.00pm (Sat) & 10.00 am, St. Fergus' 6pm (Sat) & 11.30 am

Weekday Mass: St Peter's - Tue, Thu & Sat; St Fergus - Mon, Wed & Fri

Confessions: St Peter's 3.15-3.50pm, St Fergus' 5.20-5.50pm; and on request

Parish News

PRAYER REQUESTS: We pray for all who are sick ... For all who have recently died in particular: Ronald James, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including: Cathie McAllister, and Jamileh Nasr.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS: St Peter's (12 Jan): Offertory: 428.95, B. Fund: £285.69, Votives: £104.56. St Fergus: Offertory £272.00, B. Fund: £119.00

ST PETER'S CHURCH REPAIR: As you are aware of the urgent need to repair the flat roof of the Church, it has been decided to ask John Calder & Sons Limited to do the work. The estimated cost is £18000.00 Once this work is completed we will have to look into other repairs which are pointed out in the building report. We have £20000.00 in our current account just enough for the first work. There is a box with a caption on 'Church repair' inside the church as you enter and at side door. If any of you would like to make a small donation, you are most welcome.

P4 PARENTS' MEETING: All Primary 4 parents of St Peter's School are invited to the Sacrament Meeting on Thursday 23rd in the parish hall at 7.00pm.

PARISH COLLECTIONS: Due to new regulations on PAYA charity, many parishes have done away with the QR code facility for making an offering to the Church. Of course, St Peter's didn't have one but St Fergus had one. An ideal way is to switch to a Standing Order, direct to St Peter's Parish and St Fergus parish. And if you pay tax please fill in the

form and the both parishes will receive a tax refund. You can boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms can both be collected from the sacristy. Many thanks for your financial support in whatever way you make your offering.

UNITY WEEK: The Church observes a week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins from Saturday 18th.

TEA & COFFEE: Tea, coffee available in the parish halls after the morning mass. All welcome.

ST PETER'S PARISH WEBSITE: The latest Christmas programme is available on our website. Please go through it. Website Id: WWW.STPETERSPAISLEY.CO.UK. The parish Facebook user ID is St Peter's Catholic Church Paisley.

LOURDES HOSPITALITÉ: Booking is now open for the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, 28th June-3rd July 2025. Booking is currently via the Tangney Tours website. If you have a life limiting, chronic medical condition or a taking regular medication you should register with the medical/nursing team. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Louise pilgrimage co-ordinator on 01475 638132

Diocese News

SICK AND RETIRED CLERGY COLLECTION-19TH JANUARY 2025: We remember our Sick & Retired Priests of the diocese with great love and affection. We have eleven retired priests, still active in prayer and witness: one living in Rome,

one living in Chile, three in houses throughout the diocese, five in parish presbyteries, and one at the Residence of the Little Sisters. We thank God for the gift of these priests and keep them in our prayers.

In 2023 our two special collections raised £37,384 and our Friends Campaign and donations raised £11,499, Gift Aid claims £4,826, rental income £9,270 and legacies £18,148. Our total income was £81,127. In 2023 our expenditure was £170,574 made up of retired priests' allowances £78,247, housekeepers' wages £11,222, repairs to properties £10,985 medical and nursing home fees £21,612, the Healthcare Trust £14,137, Council Tax £8,882, rental of premises £18,950 and other costs of £6,539. This left a shortfall of £89,447 of income compared to expenditure, partly offset by net (dividend) income of £73,438 from the Sick & Retired Priests Investment Fund, but this still left a deficit of £16,009. We greatly appreciate any support you can give at this time.

CLUSTER JUBILEE MASS: The date suggested to celebrate the cluster Jubilee Mass in St Andrew's cluster (All the parishes of Paisley) is on Thursday February 20th.

SAFEGUARDING THOUGH FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY: We provide training and support for all who are responsible for safeguarding. Safeguarding Induction training has been organised into one course only. If you are a new volunteer, or one who completed Part 1 training more than one year ago, you are invited to sign up for the training sessions: the next date is Tuesday 21st January at 7pm in the Diocesan Centre, Paisley.

RESILIENCE AND HOPE OF CHRISTIANS:

The devastation wrought by Southern California's sweeping wildfires, claimed at least two dozen lives and displaced hundreds of thousands of people. The fires, fuelled by powerful winds and severe drought, have destroyed thousands of structures, including homes, businesses, and churches. Some communities and some people narrowly escaped total destruction. Amid this great tragedy one can only wonder at the way some Christians expressed their spirit of resilience and hope in the Lord. They even speak of miracles happened there. They say Christians are pilgrims of hope and so they would recover from this shock and loss sooner than later. 'We will recover and be

back serving the Lord again.' Acts of kindness, support and outpouring of generosity inspire humanity's role in supporting one another during trials. The authorities reported to have said that 'many Christians do not wait for instructions; they respond spontaneously with donations, shelter, and other relief.' Some say, 'Our faith is tested on fire.' I just cite two examples to show their faith and trust in God in the midst of this tragedy. The Corpus Christi Catholic Church, once a basis of this affected area, now lies in ashes, with entire surrounding neighbourhoods wiped out. Yet, the community found the tabernacle intact without any damage caused to it. One parishioner said, "That, to me, is a miraculous sign that even when everything is lost, Christ remains." So, the tabernacle of this Church has emerged as a profound symbol of hope. Another example is a family gathered together to sing a hymn to our Lady in the heap of debris of their home when they found the statue of the Virgin Mary remains undamaged. There are people and communities who can stand firm in the face of great disasters when they have hope and faith in God.

Christian podcasts are surging in popularity – 2025 could prove a breakout year: The Christian podcasts are gaining popularity and importance especially from 2020 and in 2024 the number of viewers has increased. There are many Christian defenders of faith who have come forward with the intention of defending Christianity and standing for their faith. In 2024 many of the mainstream podcasts invited well-known Christian thinkers from all over the world to share their faith and stand for their religion. The use of digital media has become an important channel of communication. For example, in 2021 when Catholic media organisation [Ascension's](#) podcast "The Bible in a Year (with Fr Mike Schmitz)" stunned many by becoming the number 1 podcast on Apple. This podcast was reading the Bible each day by the priest.

In 2025, as we celebrate the Jubilee Year it is hoped that, this trend would hit the mainstream more than ever. It is said that in the first few days of 2025, another Catholic podcast by Ascension, "The Rosary (with Fr Mark-Mary Ames)", is welcomed by thousands of Catholics. Let us be evangelisers of the gospel in our own way not by becoming silent and passive but remain active workers in the field of Jesus' ministry.