



PARISHES OF ST PETER, AND ST FERGUS

Bulletin

SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2025: Sunday of the Word of God

(Readings: Neh 8:2-10, 1 Cor 12:12-30, Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21) p. 129



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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

PRAYER REQUESTS: We pray for all who are sick ... For all who have recently died in particular: Thomas McCarthy and Daniel McIntyre and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including: David Barclay and Agnes McInnes.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS: St Peter's (19 Jan): Offertory: 469.05, B. Fund: £290.20, Sick & Retired Clergy: £126.00. St Fergus: Offertory: £394.00, Sick & Retired Clergy: £167.00

FUNERAL: In St Peter's, a requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of the soul of Thomas McCarthy at 10.00am on Tuesday 28th January. His remains will be received into the church on Monday 27th at 6.00pm.

A requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of the soul of Daniel McIntyre at 10.00am on Friday 31st January. His remains will be received into the church on Thursday 30th at 6.00pm. RIP

NO MASS IN ST FERGUS ON FRIDAY 31ST

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF ST PETER'S

PAISLEY: As received from the Finance office. The profit and loss account for 6 months ended 30 June 2024 shows a profit of £4,786.

Income £29,103

Expenses £24,317

Profit £4,786. This represents a profit of 16%.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the parish. Those of you wishing to set up standing order please complete a standing order form and gift aid declaration, if applicable and return them to me.

Through Gift Aid we can claim back 25p from every £1 paid of taxpayer donations. These forms can be obtained from the parish website. Alternatively, you can set up regular faster payment to the parish via your online banking system using the bank details below:

St Peter's Parish

Sort Code 80-22-60

Account No 16382568

(The financial statement of St Fergus will be available soon).

ST PETER'S CHURCH REPAIR: John Calder & Sons Limited will begin the flat roof works from the first week of March. 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.

REGISTRATION: If you are a new parishioner, please enter your name and address in our new parish register which is placed in the main chapel as you enter. This is in view of contacting you if any need arises and to facilitate pastoral activities with you.

THANKS to all those twelve parents of Primary 4 of St Peter's School who attended the Sacramental meeting in the parish hall last Thursday 23rd.

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

SAFEGUARDING THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY: We provide training and support for all who are responsible for safeguarding.

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 any questions, please contact Anne Louise pilgrimage co-ordinator on 01475 638132

MONTHLY DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS: There will be a Divine Mercy Mass and Adoration on Wednesday 29 January at 7 p.m. at St Mary's Church, 163 George Street, Paisley, PA1 2UN which will be celebrated by Fr John Morrison.

ST. MIRIN'S CATHEDRAL AND THE JUBILEE INDULGENCE: Pope Francis reminds us that "God's forgiveness knows no bounds". The Jubilee Indulgence during the Holy Year 2025 is a beautiful expression of the mercy of God. The "indulgence" of our Loving Father frees the sinner, already forgiven through the Sacrament of Penance, from every residue left by the consequences of sin, enabling us to grow in love rather than fall back into sin. To obtain the indulgence at St. Mirin's Cathedral during this year, as pilgrims of hope we undertake a pilgrimage to our Cathedral, especially for the celebration of Holy Mass, : are purified by the Sacrament of Penance (in the days around the visit); are refreshed by the worthy reception of Holy Communion; and we also pray for the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff. As groups, or as individuals, we can also receive the indulgence by devoutly visiting the Cathedral for a period of time for Eucharistic adoration and meditation, concluding with the Our Father, Profession of Faith, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary (for example, Hail Mary; Hail, Holy Queen; Memorare). The indulgence may be obtained each day and may be applied in suffrage for the souls in purgatory.

WHERE DID THE ROSARY COME FROM? Catholics have great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. An important way to express devotion to her is by praying the rosary. It is actually a journey through the entire salvation history with the help of the Blessed Virgin. There are many stories regarding the origin of this pious practice. We can trace its origin to the praying of the 150 Psalms by the monks. It is said that illiterate laypeople who, unable to read the 150 psalms monks recited daily,

were given simple prayers to repeat instead. And the faithful imagined this: a prayer chain of 150 "Hail Marys" and "Our Fathers" on a string of knots. Eventually, those knots were swapped for beads. It was in 1208 that tradition tells us that the Blessed Virgin appeared to Dominic and gave him a spiritual "secret weapon" — a prayer that would help Catholics fight heresy and grow closer to God. Our Lady revealed the form of the devotion and the layout of the holy mysteries of the life of Christ and Mary which would repel heresy and propel any believer into faith-filled piety. And thus, the Holy Rosary, a meditation on Christ's life through twenty distinct mysteries, was born. Today the rosary has become an integral part of Catholic devotion.

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES (1567-1622) Every Jan. 24, the Catholic Church celebrates St. Francis de Sales, bishop of Geneva and doctor of the Church, known as "the saint of kindness." St. Francis de Sales is also the patron saint of the Catholic press, journalists, writers and those seeking patience and humility. He is considered a spiritual master, inspiring saints such as St. John Bosco and St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus.

He was born into a noble family in the Duchy of Savoy, France. However, he felt a strong calling to the priesthood, despite his family's objections. After studying law and theology at the University of Padua, he was ordained a priest. Francis won the hearts and admiration of thousands of Catholics through his gentle approach and prayer life. He was outstanding for his compassionate approach and persuasive writings that led many back to Catholicism. He decided he should lead an expedition to bring the sixty thousand Calvinists back to the Catholic Church.

For three years, he slogged through the countryside. Most often he was not welcome, as he had doors slammed in his face, no one would listen to him and rocks thrown at him. The parents didn't want their children to listen to him, however, he went to the children. When the parents saw how kind he was as he played with the children, they began to talk to him.

His unusual patience kept him working. So, Francis found a new way to get the attention of their hearts. He wrote out little pamphlets to explain true Catholic doctrine and slipped them under the doors. This is one of the first records we have of religious tracts being used to communicate the true Catholic faith to people who had fallen away from the Church. It is believed he brought 40,000 people to the Catholic Church.