

PARISHES OF ST PETER, AND ST FERGUS Bulletin

SUNDAY 27APRIL: 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER PASS (DIVINE MERCY)- C

(Readings: Acts 5:12:16, Rv 1:9-13.17-19, Jn 20:19:31)



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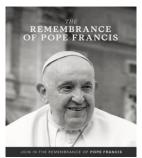
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Parish Priest: Rev. Thomas John (Resident at St Peter's)

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 10.00am; St Fergus – Mon, Wed & Fri 9.30am

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



In Loving Memory: Pope Francis 1936-2025

Pope Francis, who led the Catholic Church for nearly 13 years died at age 88. Name: Jorge Mario Bergoglio. Born on December 17, 1936, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the son of Italian immigrants. Entered the Society of Jesus in 1958. Ordained a priest in 1969. Appointed Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. A cardinal by Pope John Paul II in 2001. Elected pope on March 13, 2013. Became the 266th pope of the Roman Catholic Church. Succeeded Pope Benedict XVI. Became the first Jesuit pope, the first pope from the Americas. The first to take the name "Francis," inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, a symbol of peace, poverty, and care for creation. Died on Easter Monday, April 21, 2025. Known for his humility and deep concern for the poor. Pope Francis led the Church through more than a decade facing a lot of challenges and making bold reforms. He championed a Church "of the poor and for the poor." He reached out to the peripheries of both society and the Church. He was a global voice for migrants, the marginalized, and the environment. He wrote landmark encyclicals like Laudato Si' and Fratelli Tutti.

Cardinal Kevin Farrell, camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church, said that 'Pope Francis's entire life

was dedicated to the service of God and his Church. He taught us to live the values of the Gospel with fidelity, courage, and universal love, especially for the poorest and most marginalized.' His 12-year pontificate was characterized by a focus on mercy, care for creation, and attention to what he called the "peripheries" of both the Church and society. During his tenure, Pope Francis canonized 942 saints — more than any other pope in history — including his predecessors John XXIII, Paul VI, and John Paul II. He published four encyclicals and seven apostolic exhortations while promulgating 75 motu proprio documents. Throughout his papacy, Francis significantly reshaped the College of Cardinals through 10 consistories, creating 163 new cardinals. His appointments reflected his vision of a global Church, elevating prelates from the peripheries and creating cardinals in places that had never before had one, including Mongolia and South Sudan. His papacy faced unprecedented challenges, including the global COVID-19 pandemic, during which he offered historic moments of prayer for humanity, notably the extraordinary urbi et orbi blessing in an empty St. Peter's Square in March 2020. He also

repeatedly called for peace amid conflicts in Ukraine and the Holy Land.

Pope Francis convoked four synods, including the Synod on Synodality, whose second session concluded in October 2024. He implemented significant reforms of the Roman Curia and took several steps to address the clergy abuse crisis, including the 2019 motu proprio *Vos Estis Lux Mundi* (CNA, 21/4/2025)

Pope Francis, spoke of the Church as mother in these words: "And so the Church was a Mother, the Mother of more children, of many children. It became more and more of a Mother. A Mother who gives us the faith. A Mother who gives us an identity. But the Christian identity is not an identity card: Christian identity is belonging to the Church, because all of these belonged to the Church, the Mother Church." Dear Brothers and Sisters...I would like to speak of the Church as God's family. Like the merciful father in the parable of the prodigal son, God wants all of us to live in his love and to share in his life. The Church is an essential part of this divine plan; we were made to know and love God and, despite our sins, he continues to call us to return to him.

On the 2013 feast of the Holy Family, Pope Francis said: Let us remember the three key words for living in peace and joy in the family: 'may I,' 'thank you' and 'sorry.' In our family, when we are not intrusive and ask 'may I,' in our family when we are not selfish and learn to say 'thank you,' and when in a family one realizes he has done something wrong and knows how to say 'sorry,' in that family there is peace and joy. Let us remember these three words." Combating gossip was a popular theme throughout his pontificate. "It's so rotten, gossip. At the beginning, it seems to be something enjoyable and fun, like a piece of candy. But at the end, it fills the heart with bitterness and also poisons us," Pope Francis said Feb. 16, 2014. "I tell you the truth," he told the faithful in St. Peter's Square. "I am convinced that if each one of us would purposely avoid gossip, at the end, we would become a saint! It's a beautiful path."

O God, faithful rewarder of souls, grant that your departed servant Pope Francis whom you made successor of Peter and shepherd of your Church to lead us from the front may happily enjoy forever in your presence in heaven the mysteries of your grace and compassion which he faithfully ministered on earth. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS:</u> We pray for all who are sick ... For all who have recently died in particular Pope Francis, Monsignor Charles Cavanagh, Billy Dalling, Martin Rolland and John Devine and for all

those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Patrick Parker, John Donaldson, Wallace Burns, Moira Ruthven, Dennis Pope, and Margaret Laird

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS: St Peter's (13 & 20 April): Offertory: £1202.25, B. Fund: £827.10. Holy Places £410.50. St Fergus: Offertory: £561.00, Holy Places: £148.00.

<u>FUNERAL MASS:</u> A requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of John Devine on Wednesday 30th April at 10am in St Peter's. His remains will be received into the Church on Tuesday 29th April at 6pm. Rest in Peace.

ST FERGUS: NO MASS ON WEDNESDAY 30TH (funeral in St Peter's) and ON 2ND MAY (first Friday mass in St Peter's). On Monday 28th April P4 Thanksgiving mass 9.30 am in the school CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS: The Sacrament of Confirmation of St Peter's is on Wednesday 30th April in St Mirin's Cathedral at 6.30pm, and St Fergus on Wednesday 7th May in St Mirin's Cathedral at 6.30pm. The First Communion of St Peter's is on Saturday 10th May at 10am and St Fergus was on Saturday 3rd May.

<u>FIRST FRIDAY MASS IN ST PETER'S</u>: on Friday 2nd May at 10am in the Church. The school joins.

<u>CLEANERS FOR THE CHURCH:</u> Could some of you please volunteer to clean St Peter's Church once a week (at your convenience) for 30 minutes to one hour? If you are willing please inform Fr Thomas.

JUBILEE TRIP TO SHRINE AT SCHOENSTATT: Invitation to both parishes. If you wish to join the parish trip to Schoenstatt, (about 40 minutes' drive from here on Sunday 8th June) please add your name to the list this weekend. We will be booking a coach next week. The parish is paying for the coach.

100 CLUB IN ST PETER'S: We now have 98 people enrolled for 100 club. This means the winner will receive £245 and the parish £245 for the Church repair. Anyone else who wishes to join to bring us up to 100 members should do so today. We have 2 spaces left. Please remember £5 subscription is due on the last weekend of every month, to enable the draw to take place on the next weekend. Good luck to everyone.

<u>TEA & COFFEE</u> - available in the parish hall after the morning mass. All are most welcome.

SAFEGUARDING THOUGHT FOR APRIL 2025: The Church continues to be fully committed to the prevention of abuse.