



## PARISHES OF ST PETER, AND ST FERGUS

Bulletin

SUNDAY 02 NOVEMBER 2025

ALL SAINTS - SOLEMNITY

(Rev 7:2-14, 1 Jn 3:1-3, Mt 5:1-12)



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St. Fergus' R.C. Church

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Facebook: St Fergus Catholic Church

Web: [www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk](http://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, & Fri 10.00am; St Fergus – Mon, & Wed 9.30am

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 Alex Coyle, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (12 Oct):** St Peter's - Offertory: £532.00, B. Fund: £360.00, Hall Let £140.00, Tea & coffee: £80.00 St Fergus: Offertory: £277.00.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** A humble request to parents of St Peter's School and St Fergus School to send their children to Mass and children's liturgy on Sundays.

**ALL SOULS DAY (The Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed)** is on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**ST PETER'S SCHOOL** children will attend mass on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> in the parish church at 10am.

*No mass in St Fergus on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

**ST CONVAL'S CEMETERY MASS:** Join Bishop Keenan for the annual November Holy Mass at St Conval's Cemetery, for the happy eternal rest of the souls of those buried there. Holy Mass will begin in the cemetery at 2pm on Sunday 2nd November 2025. To follow online, use the following link:

<https://youtube.com/live/7R4ohRsv1x8?feature=share>

**MASS OF COMMITMENT FOR PRIMARY 7:** As part of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Primary 7 children of St Peter's School will have their mass of Commitment on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov in St Peter's parish and on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> for Primary 7 of St Fergus School in St Fergus parish during Mass.

**NOVEMBER LIST:** The Church dedicates the month of November to praying for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Masses will be celebrated each day in this month for their happy repose especially those whose names appear on our lists in both parishes. Envelopes are now

available for collection. Please return your completed lists with any offerings enclosed in the collection baskets, or return them to the chapel house.

**TEA & COFFEE** - available in the parish hall after the morning mass. All are welcome.

**INFORMATION:(St Peter's Parish):** A Christmas Fayre will be organised in St Peter's Church hall on Sunday 30 Nov between 2 and 5pm. Fete flyer is available in the Church.

This year for Christmas, as a parish we are hoping to forge ties with St Vincent's Hospice to raise fund for them through carol singing in the Piazza. Also visiting the residents and singing of carols is also in the plan. Children's liturgy will take the lead and requests the parishioners to join them. A notice will be put up at the back of the Church when dates are confirmed. Please add your name to the list in order to encourage children and support the hospice that does incredible service to the needy.

**ALL SAINTS' DAY:** We celebrate today the solemnity of All Saints, a celebration honouring all men and women who have entered Heaven. Usually it is celebrated on 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, but this year, it is being transferred to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Who are All Saints? All saints include both those who have been officially canonized or beatified and the multitude of those who have lived lives of heroic holiness and are now in God's presence enjoying the beatific vision.

It is important to know what 'Halloween' is all about, as we celebrate All Saints' Day. Halloween has become a secular celebration in the modern day. The English word 'Halloween' comes from "All Hallows' Eve", being the evening before the Christian holy days of All Hallows' Day (All Saints' Day) on 1 November and All Souls' Day on 2 November. 31st Oct night is the eve of All Hallows (All Saints), where we invoke the saints to

help us here on earth be unattached from anything which is evil. Pope Gregory III moved the feast of All Saints also known as All Hallows' Day to November 1st, while in 844 Pope Gregory IV made it a holy day of obligation for the entire Church and added a vigil day and octave to follow, making the celebration nine days in all. "The evening before All Saints' Day became a holy, or hallowed, eve and thus Halloween." Halloween actually has significant Catholic roots. The name itself comes from All Hallows' Eve – that is, the Vigil of All Saints' Day on Nov 1, when Catholics remember those who have gone before us to enter our heavenly home. Unfortunately, in many places, Halloween has lost its Christian and saintly focus and has become a secular, and even pagan, celebration.

The solemnity of All Saints Day is a holy day of obligation in the Catholic Church. These individuals whom we venerate as saints honoured God in a variety of ways: through authentic witnessing of Christian life, deep prayer and mystical union, through enduring martyrdom or other forms of religious persecution, through acts of service, such as caring for the needy or teaching the faith, and through exemplary married and religious life. Some saints were powerful witnesses like the Apostles and early Christians, preachers or miracle workers. Others were leaders, some lived in obscurity, and still others experienced exile or made significant personal sacrifices for their faith. In various ways, these men, women, and children glorified God during their lifetimes.

By honouring this host of saintly witnesses, we honour and glorify God through their lives. By honouring them, we honour Him Who made them holy. This liturgical solemnity is but a foretaste of the eternal Solemnity of Heaven. In Heaven, the virtues, sacrifices, prayers, and selfless service of all the saints will radiate as beacons that eternally manifest the great mercy and goodness of God. The life of every saint in Heaven will become a continuous chorus of praise and worship of God, intertwined with the choirs of angelic hosts. With the Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones, the saints will cry "Holy, Holy, Holy..." With the Dominions, Virtues, and Powers, the saints will participate in God's providential care of the New Heavens and Earth. Heaven today, as well as the New Heavens and Earth at the end of time, will be nothing other than a continuous solemn celebration of all that God is in His essence and all that God has done in the lives of those who responded to His grace.

Honouring the saints also becomes an invitation to each one of us on earth to strive after the holiness the saints attained. The saints give us an example of how to lead a holy life. The lives of saints such as the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saints Francis of Assisi, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Ávila, Thérèse of Lisieux, Augustine of

Hippo, and Thomas Aquinas—should be studied and pondered so that we can learn from their example.

We must also remember that, from Heaven, the saints become powerful intercessors for us on earth. It is true that God could deal directly with us without using the mediation of angels and saints. He chooses to use secondary causes, while He always remains the First Cause and Source of all grace. The saints and angels are among those secondary causes God chooses to mediate His grace. For that reason, we should rely upon their intercession. Doing so is an act of faith by which we profess our belief in God, using the saints and angels as His instruments.

Even in the New Testament times, martyrs were honoured by the community of believers, beginning with the deacon Saint Stephen, the first martyr. As the first century of the Church unfolded, others began to suffer persecution and death at the hands of Roman emperors, and the Church honoured their deaths. In 64, Emperor Nero was the first to organize a persecution of Christians in Rome, taking the lives of Saints Peter and Paul, and many others. After this first persecution in Rome, other Roman emperors systematized various persecutions throughout the entire empire. The worst persecution took place under Emperor Diocletian from 303–311. During that persecution, churches and sacred texts were destroyed; Christians lost their property, legal rights, and lives; and those who were not killed were imprisoned and tortured. Some estimate that during the Diocletian persecutions, there were thousands of martyrs.

As we honour all the saints in Heaven today, ponder the fact that we are called to be among their company. Seek a profound depth of holiness and abundance of grace. Strive to grow in virtue. Purge all sin, even small sins, from your life. Pray as often as you can. Read about the saints. Ponder the Scripture. Act with generosity and charity. Forgive everyone. And do everything you can to become the super saint God wants you to become

*Prayer: All saints in Heaven, I thank you for the holy witness you each have given to the Church and rejoice in the blessings you now enjoy in Heaven. Please pray for me and for all people, that every one of us will become holy, bearing witness to Christ with our lives, and one day enter Heaven. (Partly taken from My Catholic Life).*

**ALL SOULS' DAY:** November is the month to remember the faithful departed. We offer mass and prayers for them throughout the month by which we live in communion with them. On the day following our celebration of all the saints in heaven, we commemorate the dead who are in purgatory, awaiting their entry into heaven. We also visit cemeteries and offer special prayers for them during this month.

