



## ST. PETER'S AND ST. FERGUS' PARISHES

Bulletin

SUNDAY: 01 FEBRUARY 2026

(Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13, 1 Cor 1:26-31, Mt 5:1-12)



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St. Fergus' R.C. Church

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Web: [www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk](http://www.stpeterspaisley.co.uk)

Sunday Mass: St. Peter's 4.00pm (Sat) & 10.00 am, St. Fergus' 5.30pm (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 (Sat), St Fergus' 5.00 -5.25pm (Sat); and on request

PRAYER REQUESTS: We pray for all who are sick, for all who have recently died Catherine McEwan, Mary Brogan and Donna Hughes and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including Thomas Traynor

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (25 JAN): St Peter's - Offertory: £459.00, B. Fund: £324.00, Retired Clergy: £85.00, Hall lets £100.00. St Fergus: Offertory: £235.00.

FUNERAL MASS: A requiem mass will be celebrated for the happy repose of Margaret Murphy on Friday 6th at 10am in St Peter's. Her remains will be received into Church on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm. May she rest in peace.

No mass in St Petr's School on Friday 6th.

EASY FUNDRAISING FOR ST PETER'S AND ST FERGUS: As we are already in the beginning of the new year, it is likely that many are in the process of securing cheaper summer flights to arrange their vacation. Without adding any additional fare to the cost of your air tickets, you will be able to raise some fund for the parish. Many of the airlines donates a percentage of the sale price to the customer's chosen cause without any additional cost to you. *Easyfundraising* is a platform that allows people to raise money for a noble cause. When you book your tickets through the *easyfundraising website or app*, the airliner donates a certain per centage as charity to the customer. It may be a small amount but it's a meaningful contribution, and we are thankful for it. This same principle applies to any online purchasing too. For more information please get a copy of the flier at the back of our Churches.

100 CLUB: A reminder – this month's payment for the 100 club is this weekend, 31<sup>st</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>.

TEA AND COFFEE in the parish hall. All welcome.

ACUTIS EVENINGS: S4-6 pupils are invited to the next Acutis Evening for catechesis, dinner and

prayer, on Friday 6th February. It will take place in St James's church and halls (Greenock Road, Paisley) from 6-8pm. Please note that (one-time) registration for these events in necessary. Parents/guardians should visit [www.tinyurl.com/dpy-acutis-evenings](http://www.tinyurl.com/dpy-acutis-evenings). Email Fr Ryan Black for more info at [VE-Youth@rcdop.org.uk](mailto:VE-Youth@rcdop.org.uk).

FIRST FRIDAYS FOR LIFE - 6th February 2026 - St Charles', Paisley: Bishop John invites you to fast and pray on the First Friday of each month to protect the unborn child and for the flourishing of the Pro-Life movement so that our society will build an authentic culture of life. Join your priests throughout the diocese on the First Friday of each month as we pray for life! The next Mass of the season will be offered in St Charles', Paisley, on Friday the 6th of February at 7 PM; Adoration & Confession from 6 PM

CONSECRATED LIFE: The Catholic Church celebrates the World Day for Consecrated Life on February 2nd, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, that is, the day when the Blessed Mother presented her Son in the temple and consecrated Him to God. This feast was instituted in 1997 by Pope Saint John Paul II. It is intended to help the entire Church to esteem ever more greatly the witness of those persons who have chosen to follow Christ by means of the practice of the evangelical counsels. The consecrated life, Pope John Paul II wrote in his post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Vita Consecrata*, "is at the very heart of the Church," and for this reason ought to be celebrated.

The day aims not only at thanking God for the gift of consecrated life, but also at promoting a knowledge of and esteem for the consecrated life, as well as at inviting consecrated men and women to solemnly celebrate together the marvels which

the Lord has accomplished in them. For someone who has chosen the consecrated life, their path of following Christ is through their vows of chastity, poverty and obedience. This often involves belonging to a religious order and living with others in community.

They are called to live as Christ lived; to model their lives on the life of Jesus – who was chaste, poor and obedient – making their hearts freer for service and prayer. Pope Benedict XVI's Letter on Consecrated Life sent to participants in the plenary assembly of the Vatican Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, reads as:

The Church's history is marked by interventions of the Holy Spirit, who has not only enriched her with his gifts of wisdom, prophecy and holiness, but has endowed her with ever new forms of evangelical life through the work of the founders and foundresses who have passed on their charism to the family of their spiritual sons and daughters. This has meant that today, in monasteries and spirituality centres, monks, religious and consecrated persons can offer the faithful sanctuaries of contemplation and schools of prayer, education in the faith and of spiritual guidance.

Above all, however, consecrated persons continue the great work of evangelization and witness on all the continents, even on the front lines of the faith, with generosity and often with the sacrifice of their lives, even to the point of martyrdom.

Many of them are totally dedicated to catechesis, education, teaching, the advancement of culture and the ministry of communications. They are close to young people and their families, the poor, the elderly, the sick and lonely people.

There is no human or ecclesial context where they are not present, frequently silent but always effective and creative, a continuation as it were of the presence of Jesus who went about doing good works to all (cf. Acts 10: 38).

The Church is grateful for the witness of fidelity and holiness borne by so many of the members of the Institutes of Consecrated Life, for the ceaseless prayers of praise and intercession raised by their communities, and for their life spent at the service of the People of God.

Today, the consecrated life, like other sectors of ecclesial life, certainly has no lack of trials and problems. "The great treasure of the gift of God... is held in fragile earthen vessels (2 Corinthians 4:7), and the mystery of evil also threatens those who dedicate their whole lives to God" (Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life, "Starting Afresh

from Christ," n. 11). At the beginning of the new millennium, the consecrated life is facing formidable challenges that it can only confront in communion with the whole People of God, their Pastors and all the faithful.

The day is particularly important as the numbers of vocations to consecrated life have been reported to be in decline worldwide, a reality which can be attributed among many things to the numerous distractions of our modern world that hinder us from hearing God's call.

One of the great threats faced by the Church is lack of vocation to Priesthood and religious life especially in Europe; and the United Kingdom is not an exception. We all know the seeds of faith/vocation is sown in the young hearts by the parents and the Church. Our homes should be a place of vocations. Jesus tells the story of the sower in the Gospel of Mark chapter 4: 1-20 in which he mentions that seeds should be sown in good soil in order to produce a harvest of thirty, sixty or hundred. So, the ideal place to speak about, and to encourage our children about priesthood, first and foremost is our own homes. Our children need encouragement, prayer life and occasional reminder from the parents for the need to be priests in the Church. I often ask boys whether they want to be priests and the response very often is a 'big no.' Then I begin to wonder, may be because they hear only from the priests and not from their parents who are the principal teachers of faith. Parents' holiness, prayer life, faith, love for the Church, and piety can be sources of inspiration for their children.

