



ST. PETER'S AND ST. FERGUS' PRISHES

Bulletin

SUNDAY 09 AUGUST: 19 SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

(1 Kgs 19: 9-13, Rom 9:1-5, Mt 14: 22-33)



St. Peter's R.C. Church, 154 Braehead
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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' 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: Ian Brough, Marion Crawford and Patience Asemota and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time including David Mc Bready, and Maria Green.

ST FERGUS CHURCH: The 5.30pm Vigil Mass will resume on Saturday 22nd August 2026.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS (26 July & 2nd Aug): St Peter's – Offertory: £886.00, B. Fund: £724.00, Hall Lets: £200.00. Apostleship of the Sea: £70.00. St Fergus: Offertory: 398.00, B. Fund: £51.00, Votives: £190.00, Lucky Star: £33.00.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK 2026: In partnership with SPUC you are invited to join Bishop John Keenan on his coach to London for March for Life UK 2026. Departing midnight Friday 4th September from Paisley Saint Mirin's Cathedral, with a pickup 12:30am at Glasgow Saint Andrew's Cathedral. Arriving in London at Emmanuel Centre approx. 7:30am to 8am Saturday 5th September for the exhibition, Mass, talks and stall. Departing on Saturday 5th September at approximately 6pm, dropping off at Glasgow and Paisley. £30pp. For further details, visit rcdop.org.uk/marchforlife2026.

RACHAEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT FOR SPIRITUAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALING AFTER ABORTION: A retreat will be held in Glasgow on Tuesday 8th September to Thursday 10th September. This confidential, supportive retreat is powerful for anyone who has been affected by their own or someone else's abortion experience. For more information, please call/text Sister Andrea on 07816942824 or email sisterandrea@rachelsvineyard.org.uk. For more details, see

www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk.

SAFEGUARDING THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST: We continue to ensure our parishes are safe places.

THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD: This is a major feast in the Church celebrated every year on 6th August. It commemorates the manifestation of Jesus' divine glory on Mount Tabor to three of his apostles: Peter, James, and John. On that occasion, Moses and Elijah appeared beside him—symbols of the Law and the Prophets—confirming his salvific mission. In Matthew 5:17, Jesus says, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them".

This feast originated as early as the end of the 5th century. It is celebrated exactly 40 days prior to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, on every year. In the West, it began to be celebrated from the 9th century. On July 22, 1456, Crusaders defeated the Turks at Belgrade who had presented a serious threat against Western Europe. News of the victory reached Rome on August 6, and Pope Callistus III placed the feast on the Roman calendar the following year. This solemnity is also celebrated in the Eastern Churches of Byzantine, Syriac, and Coptic tradition.

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three

tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and do not be afraid. ”And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, “Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.” (Mt 17:1-9).

Gospels of Mark, Matthew, and Luke – give us an account of the Transfiguration of Jesus on top of Mount Tabor (Mark 9:1-8, Matthew 17:1-6, Luke 9:28-36). Jesus “was transfigured before the apostles. His face shone as the sun: his garments became white as snow”. Two other figures appeared with Him: Moses and Elijah. Christ thus stood between the two prominent figures in the Old Testament. Then, a voice was heard from above saying, “This is My Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him.”

After the transfiguration Jesus ordered the three not to tell others what they had seen until he had risen on the third day. Even if they did not fully comprehend what had happened on Mount Tabor, for the apostles Peter, James, and John, it was a glimpse of the glories of heaven and of sharing in the resurrection of Christ promised to all who believe in Jesus as the One promised by God.

Through this event, Christ sought to encourage and strengthen the Apostles who were depressed by their Master's prediction of His own Passion and Death. He informed them that this victory would be achieved through His own suffering and death. They were made to understand that His redeeming work has two phases: The Cross, and glory—that we shall be glorified with Him only if we first suffer with Him. So, it is the symbol and hope of our glory in heaven - we hope it will give us some foretaste of our own Easter. It is a triumph of His Church over evil. It anticipates the glory of heaven, where we shall see God face to face. Through grace, we already share in the divine promise of eternal life.

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE: Most Catholics are familiar with the name ‘St Maximilian Kolbe. What is he known for? He was born as Raymond Kolbe on January 8, 1894, in the Kingdom of Poland, part of the Russian Empire. He was a Polish Franciscan friar and a martyr in the German death Camp of Auschwitz during World War II. Much of his life was strongly influenced by a vision he had of the Virgin Mary when he was 12 and as a result he started promoting devotion to the Immaculate Virgin Mary and is known as the Apostle of Consecration to Mary. One of his visions was: “one night I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, the other red. She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity, and the red that I should become a martyr. I said that I would accept them both.”

One year after his vision, Kolbe and his elder brother, Francis joined the Franciscans. In 1910, Kolbe took the name Maximilian. He was very intelligent and scholarly. He earned doctorates in philosophy and theology by the time he was 28. He worked for the conversion of sinners and enemies of the Church. In 1918, he was ordained a priest and worked in various capacities in the Church and published many anti-Nazi German publications. During the WWII when Germany invaded Poland he opened up a temporary hospital to aid those in need. When his town was captured, Kolbe was sent to prison but released three months later. He opened up a temporary hospital to aid those in need. When his town was captured, Kolbe was sent to prison but released three months later. He continued providing shelter for refugees including hiding 2,000 Jews from German persecution. On February 17, 1941, the monastery was shut down; Kolbe was arrested by the German Gestapo and taken to the prison. Three months later, he was transferred to Auschwitz.

Toward the end of his second month in Auschwitz, men were chosen to face death by starvation to warn against escapes. Kolbe was not chosen; however, he took the place of a man with a family. After two weeks of dehydration and starvation the guards gave him a lethal injection and he died on August 14. He was canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 10, 1982 and declared him a martyr. He is recognized as the patron saint of families, prisoners, journalists, and the pro-life movement. His feast day is August 14.