

## EASTER SUNDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2021

### SAINT MARY, STAR OF THE SEA

28 Greenock Road, Largs, KA30 8NE

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

College Street, Millport, KA28 0BG

Tel: 01475 740019.

Website: [rclargsandmillport.com](http://rclargsandmillport.com)

YouTube:

<https://www.rclargsandmillport.com/livestream>

Parish Email: [largs@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:largs@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

SC010576

Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Canon Magee

PP's email: [peter.magee@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:peter.magee@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

Galbraith, Donal Hughes, Jonny Bilchak, James Reddoch, May Holland, Richard Dorman, Eileen Walker, James McGinty, Joseph Donnelly, Alistair Murphy, Isabella McNally, Benet Brodie Snr, John Gunn, Eithne Brown, Mary Lyden, Murdoch MacDougall, Ylena Green, Peter Grant, Kenneth Reader, Toni Caghey, Richard Dawson, Susan Rose, Mary Boyce, Debbie Wallace, Hugh Millar, Brian Brady, Chris Punzalan, Catherine Montgomery. **Recently Deceased:** Canon Ray Coyle, Alex Kiddie. **Anniversary of Death:** Esther Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Robertson, Collin Moran, Anne Gaffney, Edward Boyce, James Murray Robertson, Molly Carroll, James Docherty. **Special Birthdays or Anniversaries:** ....

## NOTICES

### Holy Mass

Largs: Saturday Vigil, 6pm; Sunday, 10am; Mon-Fri, 10am. All Masses live-streamed, **without a congregation.**

### WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

COMMEMORATION	READINGS
5/4: Easter Octave, Monday	Proper Liturgical colour: white
6/4: Easter Octave, Tuesday	Proper Liturgical colour: white
7/4: Easter Octave, Wednesday	Proper Liturgical colour: white
8/4: Easter Octave, Thursday	Proper Liturgical colour: white
9/4: Easter Octave, Friday	Proper Liturgical colour: white
10/4: Easter Octave, Saturday	Proper Liturgical colour: white
11/4: Divine Mercy Sunday	Proper Liturgical colour: white

### MASS INTENTIONS

DATE & TIME	INTENTION
Sat 3/4, 8pm	Collin Moran, A
Sun 4/4, 8am	Sadie Corr, RD
Sun 4/4, 10am	All Parishioners
Sun 4/4, 12.15pm	Special Intention (PM)
Mon 5/4, 10am	Special Intention (DH)
Tues 6/4, 10am	Special Intention (LR)
Wed 7/4, 10am	Alex Kiddie, RD
Thurs 8/4, 10am	Roseann Elliott, D
Fri 9/4, 10am	Moir Johnston, RD
Sat 10/4, 6pm	Margery Lewis, D
Sun 11/4, 10am	All Parishioners
Sun 11/4, 12.15pm	Margaret McGibney, RD

A = Anniversary of Death; RD = Recently Deceased; D = Deceased; S = Sick; SI = Special Intention

**Sick:** Margaret Gallagher, Maria Kelly (Millport), Lidia Tracey, Helen McShane, Peter Leitch, Colette McCafferty, Alex Greig, Sarah McDougall, Bruce McDougall, Jessie Clements, Baby Ava May Cleary, Teresa Black, Peter McConville, Claire McConville, Lizzie Park, Ness Cranston, Francis Livingstone, Lorraine McBride, Tommy Monaghan, Marie Gómez Fernández, Margaret Rutherford, Martin Doherty, Ben Brownlie, Sheena Lane, William Percy, Roddy

WEEKDAY MASSES (Largs): Rightly, we all wish to return to being present physically at weekday Masses as well as on Sundays. Our parish Covid Team is planning and consulting on how this can be done safely and carefully, keeping in mind that the mutant of the virus currently around in our area is 70% more infectious than the original one. Care must also be taken that not too much is demanded of our stewards. The more stewards we have, the greater chance there is of opening up for weekday Mass, provided all the other factors involved are duly taken into consideration. If you wish to volunteer for stewarding, please get in touch with Roger Townley on 07815 562184.

WEEKDAY MASS (Millport): As you know, Thursday morning was my usual slot for a morning Mass in Millport. For the moment, I will not resume that commitment until the situation in Largs becomes clearer.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Unless you have great need, I would intend to take a break from confessions this week.

SERVICE OF THE WORD: The next one will be on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, at 6.30pm.

HOLY WATER: Holy water is a sacramental, which associates us with the grace of the sacrament to which it points and stirs within us the memory and desire of that grace. So, if anyone wishes me to bless holy water, I will do so during the Sundays of Eastertide. Please bring your own bottle of water with you, and I will bless them all at the moment of the penitential rite of the Mass.

THURSDAY AGAPE: Please *deliberately* interrupt your Thursday evening (8<sup>th</sup>) to join the live-stream Agape for even a few minutes between 6.30-8pm, for no other reason than to tell the Lord you love him in the spiritual company of all other parishioners doing the same. Details of the breakdown of the 90-minute Agape are on the home page of the parishes' website.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: At 3pm on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> April, I will live-stream Divine Mercy devotions, including the recitation of the chaplet.

## EASTER SUNDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2021

**PARISHES' ROSARY INTENTION:** For a swift end to the covid-19 pandemic and a swift distribution of the vaccine to everyone, beginning with the most vulnerable.

**PRAYERLINE:** For prayers, phone: 078037 48251.

**SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS:** Looking ahead to when we may be able to resume normal worship and return to parish ministries, it will be necessary for all parish volunteers to complete their second Safeguarding Induction Training session, if they require a PVG to carry out their ministries. The diocesan trainers strongly recommend that as many volunteers as possible attend this training session online, from the comfort and safety of their own homes, during this current lockdown. To book a place in an online session at a convenient time for you, please visit [www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/safeguarding-calendar](http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk/safeguarding-calendar), which will be regularly updated with available dates and times. If you are unsure whether you need to attend, please contact your Parish Safeguarding Coordinator; many volunteers have already attended either in-person immediately before the pandemic, or online during it. Thank you for your commitment to your parishes.

**SAFEGUARDING MOBILE PHONE NUMBERS:** For direct access to our Parish Safeguarding Coordinators: 1) Largs (Gordon Sutherland) – 07707 598929; 2) Millport (.....) – 07852 753874.

**SVDP PHONE NUMBER:** 07950 586214. Please direct all enquiries and requests directly to this number.

**HOLY PLACES:** At all Masses on the weekends of 10/11 April, 17/18 April and 24/25 April, there will be a special collection in aid of the Holy Places in the Holy Land. This collection links us to those Christians who today live and care for the presence and action of the Church in the land where Jesus lived, died and rose again. Please be generous!

**GIFT AID SCHEME (Largs):** If you would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme, please contact Louise Devine on 672572. Please also consider making your weekly or monthly contributions to the parish by standing order or faster payment by calling Karen Govaerts on 07542 570863.

**BULLETIN:** Requests for notices to be included in the weekly bulletin by 12 Noon on Wednesdays.

### EASTER HOPE AND HEALING

In some ways, we complete this Easter a *very* long Lent. I don't mean Lent 2021, but Lent 2020, which Covid has made to last right up until now! While we cannot yet declare final victory over Covid, and while further nasty surprises could still be up its sleeve, nevertheless it is right and important to say that light is appearing at the end of the tunnel. Victory over Covid the Coward is dawning!

So, I write to encourage you to let some of that dawn light brighten the eyes of your heart and mind. Let it soothe a little the fears and anxieties of the night and begin to dispel its phantoms and frights. In many ways, this dawn light is like the first light the women saw as they came to the tomb of Jesus in the early morning of Easter day. It doesn't yet say much, but it hints at the glorious light yet to come.

Many have suffered bereavement during this period. In Largs alone, we have had over 20 funerals – very few due to Covid, I hasten to add, but no less painful for all that. Sadly, the restrictions, especially at the beginning, meant that only a minimal kind of prayer service was allowed, not to mention minimal numbers in attendance. And while the Funeral Mass was then gradually allowed, you always felt that the deceased person and their family deserved more as the parish community bade them farewell. So, there are a lot of people who in some real way did not get a chance to grieve properly and with proper support. *Your pain is our pain* and we want you to know that the prayers and love of parishioners have been with you and your loved ones throughout. Let us hope that the peace of the Easter message will bring you some relief and comfort and, why not, even a budding sense of joy: Christ's risen joy is not just for himself but also for you! Entrust into his arms those you have loved and who have gone. From within those arms, I am very sure they embrace you still.

For other parishioners, the pandemic has brought a variety of problems: a decline in mental health; medical procedures delayed repeatedly; the loss of job and income; a generalised anxiety and fear of the future; a loss of compass; a loss of self-confidence; problems at home; and so many other wee and not so wee difficulties. Many might be reluctant to socialise ever again or beyond a restricted group. Who knows what the return to church will be like once all restrictions are lifted? People will make their own judgments, for good or for ill.

Jesus is well aware of all of these situations and of their details. Yet He holds before us today, not only his Cross, but also his Resurrection. Things can and will be better! There is hope! You can recover that hope! Life still holds much good and much promise for everyone! Hearts can again be uplifted, encouraged and even overjoyed!

There is much healing of hearts, minds and bodies needed as we emerge from the pandemic, and we can all be agents of that healing for one another. I invite you to ask the Risen Jesus very simply to heal whatever brokenness you are experiencing and to lift the weight that may lie on your heart. Be creative in the power of his resurrection in finding ways to become agents of healing to others in the parish and in the town. This year, more than many others, we must draw on our faith and trust in Christ that Easter is the dynamo of all our hope and healing. Alleluia!

Fr. Peter