**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*

YouTube: [https://www.rclargsandmillport.com/livestream](file:///Users/stmarys/Documents/LM-Bulletins/https%3A/www.rclargsandmillport.com/livestream)

*Parish Email: largs@gallowaydiocese.org.uk*

SC010576

*Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Canon Magee*

*PP’s email:* *peter.magee@gallowaydiocese.org.uk*

**Holy Mass** (*all Masses live-streamed)*

*Largs:* Saturday Vigil, 6pm; Sunday, 10am. Weekday Mass, 10am. Mon-Fri, except 2nd Thursdays. *Millport:* Sunday, 12.15pm; 2nd Thursdays, 10am.

**WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR**

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| **COMMEMORATION** | **READINGS** |
| 25/10: Mass for the Synod. *For the grace to be open to the Spirit’s inspirations.* | Ordinary Week 30Liturgical colour: green |
| 26/10: Mass of Our Lady, Mother of the Church. *For Our Lady’s intercession and protection for the Synod* | Ordinary Week 30Liturgical colour: blue |
| 27/10: Pro-Life Mass. *That the Spirit will raise up fervent pro-life politicians and public servants.* | Ordinary Week 30Liturgical colour: white |
| **28/10: Requiem Mass of Ms. Rena Valerio, RIP** | ProperLiturgical colour: purple |
| 29/10: Mass for the Sick. *For the grace of healing.* | Ordinary Week 30Liturgical colour: green |
| *30/10: Ferial* | *Ordinary Week 30* |
| **31/10: 31st Ordinary Sunday.** *For the grace to long for the Kingdom of God.* | ProperLiturgical colour: green |

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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| --- | --- |
| **DATE & TIME** | **INTENTION** |
| Sat 23/10, 6pm | Mgr. Peter Smith, RD |
| Sun 24/10, 10am | All Parishioners |
| Sun 24/10, 12.15pm | Frank Maguire, A |
| Mon 25/10, 10am | James McGinty, RD |
| Tues 26/10, 10am | Liam Nagle, A |
| Wed 27/10, 10am | Helen Goodfellow, A |
| Thurs 28/10, 10am | Rena Valerio, RIP |
| Fri 29/10, 10am | Ellen Rattigan, RD |
| Sat 30/10, 6pm | Francis Campbell, D |
| Sun 31/10, 10am | All Parishioners |
| Sun 31/10, 12.15pm | Albert McGilveray, RD |

*A = Anniversary of Death; RD = Recently Deceased; D = Deceased; S = Sick; SI = Special Intention; RIP = Requiem Mass*

**Sick:** Margaret Gallagher, Lidia Tracey, Helen McShane, Peter Leitch, Colette McCafferty, 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 Galbraith, Donal Hughes, Jonny Bilchak, James Reddoch, May Holland, Richard Dorman, Eileen Walker, Cynthia McGinty, Joseph Donnelly, Alistair Murphy, Isabella McInally, Eithne Brown, Mary Lyden, Murdoch MacDougall, Ylena Green, Peter Grant, Kenneth Reader, Toni Caughey, Mary Boyce, Debbie Wallace, Hugh Millar, Anton McCann, Rena Lee, Brian Gilligan, Mima Hamilton, Mary Chalmers, Baby Michael Allison, Stephanie Fisher, Liam McDermott, Mari Richards, Jean Gregan, Frank McCarthy, Desmond Balmer. **Recently Deceased**: Agnes Patricia McLure-McGonigal, Rena Valerio. **Anniversary of Death**: Eleanor Robertson, Frank McGarvie, Roseann Elliott. **Special Birthdays, Celebratory Anniversaries, etc**.

**NOTICES**

MS. RENA VALERIO, RIP (Largs): I regret to announce the death of Ms. Rena Valerio at the age of 69. On behalf of the whole parish, I extend our deepest sympathies to her brother Robert and to the whole family, and assure them of our prayers for her eternal rest. The Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 28th October at 10am, and thereafter to the Brisbane Glen Cemetery.

LITURGY THIS WEEK: We begin the week with a Mass to pray for the success (from the Spirit’s point of view) of the Synod launched last Sunday. Ongoing prayer is important for this. Let’s then invoke Our Lady, Mother of the Church, on Tuesday, also to commend the Synod to Her intercession. On Wednesday, we have a pro-life Mass to mark the 54th anniversary of the 1967 Abortion Act in the UK. On Thursday, we have the solemn duty of praying for Ms. Rena Valerio, that the Lord will welcome her into his glory. Friday is a good day to pray for the sick and commend them to our crucified Lord for peace and healing.

PRO-LIFE MASS: On Wednesday, 27th October, we remember the 54th Anniversary of the Abortion Act in the UK and all the children who have perished because of it. We also pray for the conversion of hearts and minds that life will once again be everywhere respected from conception until natural death. A special prayer of intercession should be made, too, for those women or men who have committed abortion and have experienced deep remorse as a result. May the Holy Innocents pray for them.

NOVEMBER LISTS: The Mass intentions for the month of November will, with the exception of funerals, be dedicated entirely to the Holy Souls. You will find blank lists and envelopes marked “November List” at the back of the church. If you wish to put in a donation along with your list, it will be gratefully received. If you cannot afford that, please don’t worry. Please place the sealed envelopes into the wooden box (Largs), on the open basket (Millport) or hand them to Fr. Peter personally.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 1) Largs: Saturdays from 5-5.45pm and Mondays after the 10am Mass, unless a funeral. 2) Millport: after the 10am Mass on the second Thursday of the month, unless a funeral. In an emergency, please call me.

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: Please ring 01475 673 682.

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.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY: We begin this week a series of bulletin inserts prepared by the Diocesan Synod Team, to help educate and prepare us to celebrate the Synod in our parishes. Here, then, is the first insert:

 “*What Is A Synod?* ‘Synod’ is an ancient word in the Tradition of the Church. The concept of ‘synod’ is evident from the earliest days of the Catholic Church, for example the Jerusalem ‘Council’ described in Acts 15. For the first time, Pope Francis is inviting all baptised people to participate in a synod on synodality, called: *For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission*. Over the coming months, you will hear the words ‘synod’ and ‘synodality’ regularly. Essentially, a synod is a meeting or assembly of the Church to prayerfully contemplate and discern the path forward, guided by the Holy Spirit. Synodality means journeying together in a prayerful way.

 Bishop Nolan has produced a video to invite all of us to participate in the Synod on Synodality. He tells us that ‘Pope Francis asks that we have the courage to speak out, to voice our opinions, but also that we have humility - the humility to listen...to other viewpoints, the humility to be open to change our minds.’ We will do this through prayerful encounters which will be facilitated by people who have been trained for this role. The video can be seen at [gallowaydiocese.org.uk/synod](#_top), or at the dedicated Facebook page [https://fb.me/gallowaysynod](#_top).

 Next week: *What is a Synodal Church?*”

**SYNOD PRAYER**

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,

as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,

make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go

and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;

do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path

nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity

so that we may journey together to eternal life

and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You,

who are at work in every place and time,

in the communion of the Father and the Son,

forever and ever. Amen.

CLICK TO PRAY, 2.0: The Vatican launched today the Pope’s international prayer network which can be downloaded as an App. Here are links that may help you access it: [https://apps.apple.com/ar/app/click-to-pray/id934935942](#_top) [& https://clicktopray.org](#_top) The App will apparently also provide assistance to pray for and during the Synod.

SYCAMORE COURSE (St. Mary’s): To join a group or for more information, please either contact Father Peter, or Gordon McMillan on Tel. 07977-403462, email gordonmcmillan7@gmail.com.

YOUTH SYCAMORE: For people of secondary school age, and ages up to 30, there's a brief meeting in the church hall after both the 6pm and 10am Masses, both this weekend, 23/24 October, and next weekend, 30/31 October, for a very short 5-minute information presentation on Youth Sycamore Gatherings. These gatherings have been organised by the Youth Office of our Diocese and will take place on a number of Sunday evenings at the hall of St. Margaret’s Cathedral in Ayr. Michael Sutherland will also give a brief 1-minute talk at the end of these Masses to promote Youth Sycamore and explain target age ranges, and invite people to the 5-minute presentation. Just to reassure parents, all safeguarding precautions will be in place; the parish will pay for the transport of the youth to and from the venue. More fliers have been put at the back of the church for those who are interested.

 Contact has also been made with the Head Teacher of Largs Academy to inquire whether it might be possible to promote Youth Sycamore in some format at the school.

YOUTH FORUM (St. Mary’s): Just before lockdown in March 2020, we were hoping to get our Youth Forum proposal up and running. Not letting ourselves be thwarted endlessly by Covid, it’s time to try again. Those who supported the Youth Forum last year and those who want to support it as we move ahead are invited to a meeting on Thursday 28th October in the parish hall at 7.30pm. As with other meetings, there will be Exposition from 7pm in the church so that we can entrust our young people and our initiative to the Lord for his blessing and inspiration.

PRO LIFE GROUP (Largs): Next meeting in the church hall on Monday 1st November at 7.30. New members will be made most welcome.

PARISH HALL COMMITTEE (St. Mary’s): The next meeting is on Tuesday 26th October at 7.30pm preceded by Exposition from 7pm in the church.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY (St. Mary’s): New helpers are needed. Anyone wishing to help should contact Fiona on 01475 675733 for more information.

ANNUAL TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION: On Thursday 28 October 2021, SPUC Scotland will hold the Annual Torchlight Procession to remember the lives lost from abortion over the last 54 years. Gathering at George Square, Glasgow, from 6pm, Rosary will commence at 6.30pm followed by the procession at 7pm to St Andrew's Cathedral, where Mass will begin at 7.30pm. All are welcome. Why not consider running a bus from your parish or diocese? For further information, please contact SPUC Scotland on 0141 221 2094. If you'd like more information, email charlie@spucscotland.org or call 0141 221 2094. Places must be booked on Eventbrite in order to attend.

COP26 MASS: The Bishops of Scotland will host a Mass during COP26 at St Aloysius’ Church, Rose Street, Glasgow on Sunday 7 November at 1 pm. The Mass is for Official Delegates, for Visitors to Glasgow and for the Faithful of Scotland. Places must be booked on Eventbrite in order to attend.

MISSION SUNDAY: Missio Scotland has provided free copies of its Magazine (at the back of the church) in preparation for Mission Sunday, which is todayt, 24th October. Gift Aid instructions are inside each copy of the magazine. The special collection will be taken up as you leave the church at all Masses on 23/24 October. Please remember to distinguish between the regular collection basket, which is at the entrance to the church when you come in, and the special collection basket, which is at the exit as you leave.

PARISH HALL KEEPER, JOB ADVERTISEMENT: If anyone in the parish of St. Mary’s is interested in becoming the Parish Hall Keeper, please contact Fr. Peter. He will send out the formal Job Description for you to examine. Please be advised that the number of flexible hours’ work required is seven per week, at £10 per hour. Applications should be submitted by Monday, 1st November.

LARGS CHURCHES TOGETHER: LCT is planning a Christmas meal for those living alone in the town and others who are in need. The first meeting to organise it took place this past Wednesday, 13th October. Each parish in the town will be invited to provide resources, and especially volunteers of various kinds. I would ask you to keep this in mind as the Christmas season approaches. More details will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead.

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



**Sunday 24th October - 30th Sunday of the Year COP26 - Responding to Code Red Report for Humanity**

In August 2021 the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, compiled by more than 230 climate scientists, warned that major climate disruption is inevitable and, in many instances, irreversible. The UN Secretary General António Guterres said:

Today’s IPCC Working Group 1 Report is a ‘Code Red’ for humanity... This report must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels, before they destroy our planet.

In June 2018 Pope Francis said:

As you know, in December 2015, 196 Nations negotiated and adopted the Paris Agreement, with a firm resolve to limit the growth in global warming to below 2° centigrade, based on preindustrial levels, and, if possible, to below 1.5° centigrade. Some two and a half years later, carbon dioxide emissions and atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases remain very high. This is disturbing and a cause for real concern.

Yet even more worrying is the continued search for new fossil fuel reserves, whereas the Paris Agreement clearly urged keeping most fossil fuels underground. This is why we need to talk together – industry, investors, researchers and consumers – about transition and the search for alternatives. Civilization requires energy, but energy use must not destroy civilization!

In their 2021 Pastoral Letter on the Sixth Anniversary of Laudato Si’ the Bishops of Scotland stated:

The dioceses of Scotland are in the process of divesting from fossil fuel investments. The Bishops’ Conference is aiming for carbon neutrality for its agencies, as are the dioceses in as sustainable and timely a way as possible.

*Prayer for World Leaders ahead of COP26:* We pray that all world leaders may take the necessary action to abandon the extraction and use of coal and fossil fuels.

*Prayer for the People of Scotland:* We pray that we may demand that our political leaders seek alternative, environmentally friendly and sustainable energy sources for all.

*For those with far-reaching responsibilities:* We pray that those with responsibility for industry and commerce will urgently divest from any investment in fossil fuels and seek ways of developing environmentally and sustainable energy sources for all.

**Purgatory and Prayer for the Dead**

*From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (nn. 1030-32)*

All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.

The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned. The Church formulated her doctrine of faith on Purgatory especially at the Councils of Florence and Trent. The tradition of the Church, by reference to certain texts of Scripture, speaks of a cleansing fire:

*As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgment, there is a purifying fire. He who is truth says that whoever utters blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be pardoned neither in this age nor in the age to come. From this sentence we understand that certain offenses can be forgiven in this age, but certain others in the age to come* (St. Gregory the Great).

This teaching is also based on the practice of prayer for the dead, already mentioned in Sacred Scripture: "Therefore Judas Maccabeus made atonement for the dead, that they might be delivered from their sin." From the beginning the Church has honoured the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God. The Church also commends almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead:

*Let us help and commemorate them. If Job's sons were purified by their father's sacrifice, why would we doubt that our offerings for the dead bring them some consolation? Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them* (St. John Chrysostom).

**Heaven**

*(from the Catechism of the Catholic Church, nn. 1023-29))*

Those who die in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified live for ever with Christ. They are like God for ever, for they "see him as he is," face to face:

*By virtue of our apostolic authority, we define the following: According to the general disposition of God, the souls of all the saints . . . and other faithful who died after receiving Christ's holy Baptism (provided they were not in need of purification when they died, . . . or, if they then did need or will need some purification, when they have been purified after death, . . .) already before they take up their bodies again and before the general judgment - and this since the Ascension of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ into heaven - have been, are and will be in heaven, in the heavenly Kingdom and celestial paradise with Christ, joined to the company of the holy angels. Since the Passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, these souls have seen and do see the divine essence with an intuitive vision, and even face to face, without the mediation of any creature* (Pope Benedict XII).

This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity - this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed - is called "heaven." Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness.

To live in heaven is "to be with Christ." The elect live "in Christ," but they retain, or rather find, their true identity, their own name.

*For life is to be with Christ; where Christ is, there is life, there is the kingdom* (St. Ambrose).

By his death and Resurrection, Jesus Christ has "opened" heaven to us. The life of the blessed consists in the full and perfect possession of the fruits of the redemption accomplished by Christ. He makes partners in his heavenly glorification those who have believed in him and remained faithful to his will. Heaven is the blessed community of all who are perfectly incorporated into Christ.

This mystery of blessed communion with God and all who are in Christ is beyond all understanding and description. Scripture speaks of it in images: life, light, peace, wedding feast, wine of the kingdom, the Father's house, the heavenly Jerusalem, paradise: "no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him."

Because of his transcendence, God cannot be seen as he is, unless he himself opens up his mystery to man's immediate contemplation and gives him the capacity for it. the Church calls this contemplation of God in his heavenly glory "the beatific vision":

*How great will your glory and happiness be, to be allowed to see God, to be honoured with sharing the joy of salvation and eternal light with Christ your Lord and God, . . . to delight in the joy of immortality in the Kingdom of heaven with the righteous and God's friends* (St. Cyprian).

In the glory of heaven the blessed continue joyfully to fulfil God's will in relation to other men and to all creation. Already they reign with Christ; with him "they shall reign for ever and ever."

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*