

7th ORDINARY SUNDAY, 20th FEBRUARY 2022

“Without the Holy Spirit, there is no Synod” (Pope Francis)

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>

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.

Reconciliation or Confession

Largs: Saturdays, 5-5.45pm; Mondays, after 10am Mass.
Millport: After 10am Mass every 2nd Thursday.

WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

COMMEMORATION	READINGS
21/2: Mass for the Synod. <i>For the grace to be free of hypocrisy.</i>	Ord. Week 7 Liturgical colour: green
22/2: Requiem Mass for James McCamley, RIP.	Proper Liturgical colour: purple
23/2: St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr (d. 155). <i>For the grace of to live for today.</i>	Ord. Week 7 Liturgical colour: red
24/2: Mass of Our Lady. <i>For the grace to hate evil.</i>	Ord. Week 7 Liturgical colour: blue
25/2: Votive Mass of the Holy Cross. <i>For the grace to say what I mean and mean what I say.</i>	Ord. Week 7 Liturgical colour: red
26/2: <i>Feria.</i>	---
27/2: 8th Ordinary Sunday. <i>For the grace of prudent speech.</i>	Proper Liturgical colour: green

MASS INTENTIONS

DATE & TIME	INTENTION
Sat 19/2, 6pm	John Boyle, D
Sun 20/2, 10am	All Parishioners
Sun 20/2, 12.15pm	Patrick Hilley, D
Mon 21/2, 10am	John Boyle, D
Tues 22/2, 12.30pm	James McCamley, RIP
Wed 23/2, 10am	Theresa Temple, D
Thurs 24/2, 10am	Mary Gaggini, D
Fri 25/2, 10am	Margaret Mary Collins, D
Sat 26/2, 6pm	Edward McMillan, D
Sun 27/2, 10am	All Parishioners
Sun 27/2, 12.15pm	Tom Lee, D

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, Margaret Rutherford, Martin Doherty, Ben Brownlie, Sheena Lane, Roddy Galbraith, Donal Hughes, Jonny Bilchak, James Reddoch, May Holland, Richard Dorman, Eileen Walker, Cynthia McGinty, Joseph Donnelly, Alistair Murphy, Isabella McNally, 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 McLaren, Mary Chalmers, Baby Michael Allison, Stephanie Fisher, Liam McDermott, Mari Richards, Jean Gregan, Frank McCarthy, Baby Ethan Ferguson, Harry Sammons, Henry McMonagle, Kenneth Manners, Joseph Bennett, Joyce Clark, Margaret Dalzell. **Recently Deceased:** Margaret Yates, James McCamley, Annette Bradley, Anthony Brady, Malcolm Innes. **Anniversary of Death:** Amabile Bianchi, Marie Clare Cushley.

NOTICES

MR. JAMES McCAMLEY, RIP (Largs): Let's continue to pray for James and for his beloved wife Marion and the rest of the family. Requiem Mass will be on 22nd February at 12.30pm and thereafter to the Haylie Brae cemetery.

RESTORATION OF OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS: The Bishops of Scotland are restoring this religious, moral and canonical obligation as of the First Sunday of Lent, 5/6 March. Please look on it as an expression of eternal love for the Lord and for his Bride, the Church.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Regular confessions in *Largs* will recommence on Saturday 19th February from 5-5.45pm. I will also hear confessions after the Monday 10am Mass. In *Millport*, it remains as before, after the 10am Mass on 2nd Thursdays. Please telephone or email me if you are in need outside these times.

FIRST RECONCILIATION (St. Mary's): The children of Primary 3 at St. Mary's Primary School will be making their First Reconciliation at 11am on Tuesday 8th March in the school. Please pray for them that the grace of this wonderful sacrament will always attract their hearts and be a leaven of reconciliation in their families, school and parish.

ASH WEDNESDAY: 2nd March, 2022. Masses in St. Mary's, Largs, at 10am (with primary school children in attendance) and 7pm. Mass in Millport at 12.15pm. Please note that, by direction from the Bishops, ashes will not be distributed this year in the usual way, on the forehead, but will be sprinkled on the head/hair of the person as is common practice in most European countries (and as was practiced in biblical times). It is therefore necessary that head coverings be removed and that you bow your head slightly as the priest sprinkles the ashes on your head.

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BAPTISM OF CIARAN CASSIDY (St. Mary’s): With great joy, I announce the baptism of Ciaran, foster son of Gordon and Angela Sutherland, this coming Saturday, 26th February, at 12 Noon. We pray that the Spirit of Christ will show His divine joy as He takes up residence within Ciaran’s soul, and that He will impart to him all the graces of holiness and wholeness that his innocent heart requires.

BAPTISM OF FINN SCALLY (Our Lady of Perpetual Succour’s): I am also delighted to announce the Baptism net Sunday, 27th February, during the 12.15pm Mass in Millport, of Finn Scally, second son of Martin and Gillian Scally, and also great grandson of the late Maria Kelly, RIP. Let’s pray for Finn and his family that this will be a great occasion of grace and joy for one and all.

LITURGY THIS WEEK: The shadow of the Cross is present in a particular way this week in our Liturgy with the Funeral Mass on Tuesday for James McCamley, the celebration of the martyrdom of St. Polycarp, a heroic bishop of the 2nd century, on Wednesday and a Votive Mass of the Holy Cross on Friday. On Thursday we look to Our Lady to give us a share in Her joy; on Monday we prepare ourselves spiritually for the parish Synod Encounter with a Mass asking the Spirit to guide us.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS (St. Mary’s): I invite our parish groups to come forward and to offer to lead the Stations of the Cross at 7pm on Friday evenings during Lent. There are six slots available: 4, 11, 18, 25 March and 1 & 8 April. There are many forms in which the Stations can be prayed. I only ask that in planning them, you stay to 30-40 minutes maximum.

SERVICE OF THE WORD (St. Mary’s): Sunday 20th February at 7pm. We continue with the theme, “I believe in the Holy Spirit.” If there’s time, we will pass to, “I believe in the Holy Catholic Church.”

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: On the first Friday of Lent, 4th March, at 2pm, both at St. Mary’s in Largs and at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour’s in Millport, the Catholic community this year will host the annual World Day of Prayer which is observed across the globe. This year’s theme is “I Know the Plans I Have for You” (Jeremiah 29). The material has been prepared by Christian women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. I encourage everyone to participate.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY (St. Mary’s): This recommences this Sunday, 20th February, at the 10am Mass.

PARISH YOUTH INITIATIVE (St. Mary’s): I am pleased to inform parishioners that a group of adults, led by Edward Stewart, and all of whom have or are in the process of obtaining a PVG, has been working in the background over many months to take forward a parish activity for our young people, mainly for the under 18’s. With the agreement of

the Parish Finance Council, I have ringfenced for 2022 some initial funds to obtain equipment (sports and IT, etc.) that will help promote this activity. Depending on how things progress, the parish will provide a budget for the group on a yearly basis. It is important to invest in our young people in other ways, too, of course, but it’s difficult today to do anything without some funding.

More importantly, the adults involved in this initiative ask for your prayers for themselves, individually and as a group, so that they work well together and that the Lord protect their health and inspire their minds. The adults are: Edward and Luciana Stewart, Suzy Smith and Michael Sutherland.

TABLE OF FORTHCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Event	Date	Time & Place
<i>Service of the Word</i>	20 February	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Synod Ecumenical Input</i>	26 February	6pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Canon Sandy</i>	27 February	10am, St. Mary’s
<i>Montgomerie</i>		
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	2 March	10am, St. Mary’s 12.15pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour’s 7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Agape</i>	3 March	6.30-8pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Parish Finance Council</i>	4 March	11am, Largs Hall
<i>World Day of Prayer</i>	4 March	2pm, St. Mary’s 2pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	4 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Synod Encounter</i>	6 March	2pm, Largs Hall
<i>Synod Encounter</i>	6 March	3pm, Millport
<i>First Reconciliation</i>	8 March	11am, St. Mary’s Primary
<i>Day of Prayer for Victims of Abuse</i>	8 March	3pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Fr. Peter on retreat</i>	9-16 March	---
<i>Sycamore</i>	9 March	7.30pm, Largs Hall
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	11 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Evening Devotions</i>	13 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Sycamore</i>	16 March	7.30pm, Largs Hall
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	18 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Service of the Word</i>	20 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Sycamore</i>	23 March	7.30pm, Largs Hall
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	25 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Parish Pastoral Council (virtual)</i>	29 March	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Sycamore</i>	30 March	7.30pm, Largs Hall
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	1 April	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Penance Service</i>	5 April	2pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Sycamore</i>	6 April	7.30pm, Largs Hall
<i>Agape</i>	7 April	6.30-8pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Stations of the Cross</i>	8 April	7pm, St. Mary’s
<i>Palm Sunday</i>	10 April	Sunday Mass schedule
<i>Evening Devotions</i>	10 April	7pm, St. Mary’s

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PARISH CHOIR (St. Mary’s): Choir practice recommences this Sunday, 20 February 2022, after the 10 am Mass and all are most welcome to join. The focus of our practices will be the Holy Week liturgies and your voice would only enrich our efforts in that most special and sacred week. Please contact Anne Timmons (673053) or Louise Devine (672572) if you have any questions.

MILLPORT ROSARY GROUP: Thursdays at 2pm in the church. For more information, contact 01475 530 417.

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.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM (St. Mary’s): The PST met virtually on Saturday 19th February. Consideration was given to the PP’s Report to the Parish on the 2021 Safeguarding Audit, which, if approved, will be made available next weekend. Input was given from Helena Rameckers, the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor. Other matters discussed concerned the updating of PVG’s and training, as well as the formation of the PST itself in the eight safeguarding standards of the Catholic Church in Scotland.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE (St. Mary’s): The annual recurrence of this important Day of Prayer will be celebrated at St. Mary’s on Tuesday 8th March at 3pm, with our eyes and hearts fixed firmly on the Cross and the hour of the death of Christ, the Supreme Victim of human sin. As Christ redeemed and healed humanity through his victimhood, we will beseech Him humbly yet urgently to grant deep healing, reconciliation and peace to all involved in the terrible scourge of abuse committed by men and women of the Church against the most vulnerable and innocent among us. Please make attendance at this Prayer Service a real priority and commitment of love and hope during the Holy Season of Lent.

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

SYCAMORE (St. Mary’s): During the forthcoming season of Lenten grace, I am pleased to announce that the Sycamore course will resume in the parish. The season celebrated last Advent was very successful for those who took part. I encourage everyone to consider going along even for one or two evenings during Lent. The dates are March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th and April 6th. The time is from

7.30-9pm. For more information, contact Gordon McMillan on mobile 07977 403 462, or email gordonmcmillan7@gmail.com.

SYNOD ENCOUNTER (St. Mary’s): **Sunday, 6th March, from 2pm**. To register your participation, simply either put your name and contact number into the post box in the church porch, or email Fr. Peter at largs@gallowaydiocese.org.uk, or phone either 07398 109 094 or 07592 059 069, and leave a message with your name and contact number.

Participants have to be registered so that, if more wish to participate than the hall can hold, a second synod session can be organized for another Sunday.

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY (Millport): Helena Rameckers of the diocesan Synod Team, with logistical support from Linda Reynolds, will lead the Synod Encounter in Millport on **Sunday 6th March, from 3pm**. I encourage everyone to attend. It’s important, though, that you register to participate so as to facilitate the practical arrangements. Please write your name and contact number on a piece of paper and pop it in the box available at the back of the church. Alternatively, telephone Linda on 01475 530 417 or drop her an email at lindajanette72@gmail.com

SYNOD ECUMENICAL OUTREACH (St. Mary’s): Canon Sandy Montgomerie, of St. Columba’s Episcopal church, will address our congregation both at the Vigil Mass on Saturday 26th February and at the Sunday morning Mass on 27th February. Let’s prepare for this occasion by praying for him and for and ourselves.

LENTEN RETREAT ONLINE: The Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow is offering an online retreat based on the life of St. Ignatius. It can be followed individually or in a group. More details are available at the following link: <https://iscglasgow.co.uk/lent22.html>

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL (Largs): Meeting on 4th March at 11am, St. Mary’s Hall.

TEA AFTER SUNDAY 10am MASS (St. Mary’s) will recommence this Sunday 20th February.

COUNTRY DANCING (St. Mary’s) will recommence on Monday 21st February at the usual time.

CHAT & DO (St. Mary’s): Message from Marie Ann McCord: “We will restart on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 1 pm. I will see you all on 2nd March but Bernie will be there on the 23rd. Looking forward to seeing everyone again.”

HOSPITAL VISITING: For general visiting in Crosshouse Hospital please contact Fr Stephen McGrattan on 01563 521832 or at

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crosshousehospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Deacon Robert Mackie on ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 07703 751403. For the urgent assistance of a chaplain please ask the hospital staff to page the priest on call.

If you are being admitted to Inverclyde Hospital, please inform Fr. Peter personally or through a family member, and I will be pleased to visit you.

SAFE HOME VISITS: I am always happy to make safe home visits to those who wish, especially if you need the Sacraments or are troubled and want to talk to me. If so, please contact me *directly* at the parish phone number or at the email address at the top of the bulletin, rather than go through third parties.

AFGHANISTAN AID: At all Masses this weekend, there will be a second collection for Afghanistan. Gift Aid envelopes are available and our donations will reach the Afghans via SCIAF.

BULLETIN NOTICES: All notices should be submitted to the parish house by no later than **12 Noon on Wednesdays**.

JANUARY INCOME

Description	Largs	Millport
<i>Loose plate</i>	£2,570.00	£630.50
<i>Bank</i>	£2,755.00	£220.00
<i>Flowers</i>	£10.00	---
<i>Justice & Peace</i>	£436.67	£116.70
<i>Crib</i>	£129.77	---

GOD'S WORD IS AN INEXHAUSTIBLE SPRING OF LIFE

Lord, who can comprehend even one of your words? We lose more of it than we grasp, like those who drink from a living spring. For God's word offers different facets according to the capacity of the listener, and the Lord has portrayed his message in many colours, so that whoever gazes upon it can see in it what suits him. Within it he has buried manifold treasures, so that each of us might grow rich in seeking them out.

The word of God is a tree of life that offers us blessed fruit from each of its branches. It is like that rock which was struck open in the wilderness, from which all were offered spiritual drink. As the Apostle says: *They ate spiritual food and they drank spiritual drink.*

And so whenever anyone discovers some part of the treasure, he should not think that he has exhausted God's word. Instead he should feel that this is all that he was able to find of the wealth contained in it. Nor should he say that the word is weak and sterile or look down on it simply

because this portion was all that he happened to find. But precisely because he could not capture it all he should give thanks for its riches.

Be glad then that you are overwhelmed, and do not be saddened because he has overcome you. A thirsty man is happy when he is drinking, and he is not depressed because he cannot exhaust the spring. So let this spring quench your thirst, and not your thirst the spring. For if you can satisfy your thirst without exhausting the spring, then when you thirst again you can drink from it once more; but if when your thirst is sated the spring is also dried up, then your victory would turn to harm.

Be thankful then for what you have received, and do not be saddened at all that such an abundance still remains. What you have received and attained is your present share, while what is left will be your heritage. For what you could not take at one time because of your weakness, you will be able to grasp at another if you only persevere. So do not foolishly try to drain in one draught what cannot be consumed all at once, and do not cease out of faintheartedness from what you will be able to absorb as time goes on.

(From a commentary of St. Ephraem, deacon)

LOVE

Love bade me welcome; yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.

But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

'A guest,' I answer'd, 'worthy to be here:'
Love said, 'You shall be he.'
'I, the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,
I cannot look on Thee.'

Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
'Who made the eyes but I?'

'Truth, Lord; but I have marr'd them: let my shame
Go where it doth deserve.'

'And know you not,' says Love, 'Who bore the
blame?'

'My dear, then I will serve.'

'You must sit down,' says Love, 'and taste my meat.'
So I did sit and eat.

(George Herbert)