

## SECOND ORDINARY SUNDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026

“BEHOLD, I HAVE COME, LORD, TO DO YOUR WILL” (Psalm 40, 8a.9a)

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY, 18-26 JANUARY**

**SAINT MARY, STAR OF THE SEA**  
28 GREENOCK ROAD, LARGS, KA30 8NE  
&  
**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR**  
COLLEGE STREET, MILLPORT, KA28 0BG  
Registered Charity No. is SC010576

Ferguson, Michelle Rall Stephenson, Catherine Dawson, Karen Bohme, John Alexander, Catherine Montgomery.

**Sung Psalm Response:** Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

**A WARM WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!**

**PLEASE SILENCE MOBILE PHONES!**

**FOR HEALTH & SAFETY REASONS, PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE FRONT CIRCLE OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH! DROP-OFFS ONLY.**

Tel: 01475 740019

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

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

Parishes' Emails: [largs@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:largs@rcdg.org.uk)

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**Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Canon Magee**

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

**Parishes' Secretary: Mrs. Luciana Stewart**

Email: [luciana.stewart@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:luciana.stewart@rcdg.org.uk)

**St. Mary's Parish Buildings & Grounds Caretaker & Hallkeeper:**

**Mr. Edward Stewart, 07796 209986**

Email: [edwardastewart70@gmail.com](mailto:edwardastewart70@gmail.com)

**Our Lady's Parish Buildings & Grounds Caretaker:**

**Mr. Luigi Giorgetti, 07941 222303**

Email: [luigigiorgetti@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:luigigiorgetti@yahoo.co.uk)

**Holy Mass** (all Masses in person & live-streamed):

**Largs:** Saturday Vigil, 6pm; Sunday, 10am.

10am Mass on Mon, Tue, Thu (except 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays) & Fri.

8am Mass on Wednesdays.

Holidays of Obligation: Vigil, 7pm; Day Mass at 10am only.

**Millport:** Sunday, 12.15pm; 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays, 10am.

Holidays of Obligation, 12.15pm only.

**N.B. There may be occasional variations in Mass times, so please check the weekly bulletin to be sure.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation or Confession:**

**Largs:** Saturdays, 5-5.45pm; Mondays, after 10am Mass.

First Mondays of the Month: 7-8pm.

**Millport:** After 10am Mass every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday.

**Eucharistic Adoration & Prayers for Vocations to the Priesthood on**

**Mondays at 2pm, Largs (Hall).**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet (Largs), Fridays 2.30-3.30pm.**

**Prayer Line:** Please ring 07746 923 680 for prayerful support.

**Bible Study Group (Largs):** Thursdays, 2.15pm, in the hall (bar the last Thursday in the month).

**Parishes' Pro-Life Group:** First Fridays after 10am Mass, except for the months of January, July and August.

**Book Club (Largs):** Last Thursday, 2.15pm in the hall.

**Chat 'N' Do (Largs):** Wednesdays, 1-3pm in the hall.

**Tea & Coffee in St. Mary's Hall after Sunday 10am Mass**

**SVDP phone number:** 0777 763 7369.

Please direct all enquiries and requests directly to this number.

**Safeguarding Mobile Phone Numbers:** Contact our Parish Safeguarding

Coordinators: 1) Largs - Lewis Docherty on 07707 598929; 2) Millport

- Andrew Gallagher on 07789 229842.

**Crosshouse Hospital chaplain:** Fr. Stephen McGrattan at

[crosshousehospital@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:crosshousehospital@rcdg.org.uk) or 01563 521832;

**Ayr Hospital chaplain:** Fr. Benjamin Mkeri at [ayrhospital@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:ayrhospital@rcdg.org.uk) or 01635 882145.

**Recently Deceased:** John Arthur Gallacher, Jodie Sally Campbell, Edna Casey, Joe Gribbon, Donald Carmichael, Mother Matthias, OSB, Doreen Friel, Kathleen Fitzpatrick. **Anniversary of Death:** Loredana Fontana, Miss Elizabeth Mackie, Mary Murray, Betty Ralston, May McLaughlin, Billy Greer. **Sick:** Anne Comiskey, John Leith, Linda Reynolds, Jimmy Sturman, Agatha McAllister, Betty McLean, Michael McSorley, Sandi Bray, Margaret Kett, Alison Foran, Tom Maguire, Angela Fraser, Dale Cooper, Iain McBride, Caterina King, John Nicol, Frank Murray, Brian Murphy, Margaret Gallagher, Helen McShane, Colette McCafferty, Jessie Clements, May Holland, Eithne Brown, Mary Lyden, Ylena Green, Hugh Millar, Anton McCann, Rena Lee, Jim Lee, Brian Gilligan, Elizabeth Robertson, Barry Smith, Margaret Fitzpatrick, William McGrath, Betty O'Donnell, Linda Scott, Jordan McGee, Sheila

### WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, Year A COMMEMORATION	WEEKDAY, Year II READINGS & MASS INTENTION
18/1: Second Ordinary Sunday – green	Anne Teaz, A (Vigil) All Parishioners (10am) Joseph Di Paola, A (12.15pm)
19/1: Votive Mass of Christian Unity – green	Week 2, Mon Mary Askew, RD
20/1: Votive Mass of Mary, Mother of the Church – blue	Week 2, Tue Kathleen McComish, RD
21/1: St. Agnes, Virgin & Martyr (d. 304) – red	Week 1, Wed Special Intention (EF)
22/1: Votive Mass of the Holy Eucharist – white	Week 2, Thu Sandi & Tim Bray, SI
23/1: Votive Mass of Christian Unity – green	Week 2, Fri Betty Ralston, A
24/1: St. Francis de Sales ---	---
25/1: Word of God Sunday. Third Ordinary Sunday – green	Joe Gribbon, RD (Vigil) Thomas John Taylor, A (10am) All Parishioners (12.15pm)

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

### NOTICES

**LITURGY THIS WEEK:** Bar Wednesday, which is the feast of St. Agnes the Martyr, the liturgical calendar this week allows us to opt for votive Masses for particular intentions. Since this is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, I will offer Mass on Monday and Friday for this all-consuming desire of the Heart of Christ. Please fast and pray at home, alone and together, so that His Sacrifice on the Cross to gather us into His One Body is met with our love and praise. On Tuesday, we ask Our Lady, Mother of the Church, of Christians and of Humanity to pray with us for this same intention. On Thursday, we ask the Eucharistic Lord to make His broken Mystical Body one again in His Truth and Love.

**2026 – A YEAR OF PRAYER:** The Bishop's Pastoral Letter announcing this year of prayer is on the parish website for those who wish to read it. Prayer cards to accompany us through this year are available at the back of our churches. We will say the prayer before the final blessing of all Masses, except funerals. It will be distributed to the sick of the parish and to our Primary School as well. Please say this prayer daily and even more often if you can.

Throughout this year, the Bishop will celebrate in different parts of the Diocese a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit. The first of these will be on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm in St. Margaret's Cathedral**. Everyone is invited, and encouraged, to attend. The further schedule of Masses will be announced in due course.

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“BEHOLD, I HAVE COME, LORD, TO DO YOUR WILL” (Psalm 40, 8a.9a)

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY, 18-25 JANUARY**

FEAST DAY OF THE RELIGIOUS MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CHURCH: Bishop Frank will be celebrating a Mass for Religious in the Cathedral on 2 February 2026 at 12 Noon. He would like a warm invitation to be extended to parishioners to also attend this Mass in recognition and support of the Religious and to pray for vocations to their orders.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2026: The Week of Prayer takes place every 18-25 January, both these days being Sundays this year. St. Mary's will host the Largs District Churches Together Ecumenical Service on the evening of 25 January at 5pm. I encourage parishioners to attend the Service and to pray that as many Christians as possible in our district come along to honour and pray for Christ's last will and testament to be done, that we might all be one (John 17).

The official English Vatican webpage for the Week of Prayer: <https://www.christianunity.va/content/unitacristiani/en/settimana-di-preghiera-per-l-unita/semaine-de-priere-pour-l-unite-des-chretiens-2024/anglais.html>

There will be tea/coffee, etc., in the hall afterwards.

JUBILEE YEAR OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a “Special Year of St. Francis” beginning 10 January 2026 to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the saint's death. During this time of grace, which will extend until January 2027, the faithful are granted the opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence. Until Jan. 10 of next year, the faithful can obtain this grace under the usual conditions — sacramental confession, Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the pope — by making a pilgrimage to any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship dedicated to St. Francis anywhere in the world.

Furthermore, the elderly, the sick, and those who, for serious reasons, cannot leave their homes can obtain the plenary indulgence by spiritually joining in the jubilee celebrations and offering their prayers, pains, or sufferings to God.

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD? Do you sense a call to serve God and his people in the Priesthood? The Catholic Church in Scotland is inviting you to explore the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood. If you are considering a life dedicated to serving in the ministry, we encourage you to apply for seminary starting in 2027. To learn more about the application process and what a Priestly vocation entails, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Stephen McGrattan on [stephen.mcgrattan@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:stephen.mcgrattan@rcdg.org.uk). The Vocations Director will support you in your journey of discernment and guide you through the steps along the way. Don't hesitate; the Lord may be calling you to something extraordinary. Take the first step and contact the Diocesan Vocations director today!

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL (St. Mary's): The next meeting is on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 7pm in the parish hall. This meeting will examine the annual financial returns for 2025, to be submitted to the Diocese by 31<sup>st</sup> January. A financial statement will be made to the parish by the end of February. The meeting will also consider some further works to be undertaken, this time on the outside area on the north of the church building. The Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES) is supporting community and faith organisations to install solar PV and battery storage in their buildings. Time permitting, we will also examine the material related to this.

PARISH FESTIVAL 2026: 18-27 September. Please reserve the dates and start thinking of what you can do to contribute!

OUR PARISH YOUTH (St. Mary's): While I invite parents to encourage their young people to participate in diocesan youth events (cf. below), would it not be good if we also had something for them here in St. Mary's? Although it might lead nowhere, I feel I should at least ask/appeal to parishioners with the know-how, the time and the energy to consider starting something for our youngsters. We cannot compete with current trends for entertainment or recreational ideas, but that's not what most counts. What we need is something that speaks to them, but which also draws and challenges them to come closer personally to Christ and the Church. Can we at least commit to praying to the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire us to come up with an initiative of some sort out of love and care for our young people's hearts and souls?

TO OUR PARISH YOUTH OF ALL AGES AND TO THEIR PARENTS:

The Diocese of Galloway Youth Office is being enthusiastically run by Fr. Kevin Rennie, assistant priest in Kilmarnock. There are various plans in the pipeline already for Lent and Advent 2026, as well as for weekly events. Some of these can be attended virtually, via Teams, for those with travel limitations. Some of the events are advertised on the numerous posters in the church porch. Alternatively, you can simply visit [youth.rcdg.org.uk](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk) and have a look for yourself. Don't be shy! Parents, please use your parental skills and influence to encourage your children to “think outside the box” or even “outside social media” and encourage them to meet in person other Catholic young people, to build community and friendships for their spiritual and psychological health both now and in the future.

CHANA: Thank you so much to those who donated to the "Night Before Christmas". In all 91 children, 34 teenagers and 20 adults received a gift at Christmas thanks to your generosity.

BIBLICAL TEXT FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: Ephesians 4:1-13

*“I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, “When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.” (When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)*

*He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the Body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.”*

New Revised Standard Version