

SIXTEENTH ORDINARY SUNDAY, 19th JULY 2026

"YOU ARE SOVEREIGN IN STRENGTH BUT YOU JUDGE WITH MILDNESS" (Wisdom 12:18)

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.

Psalm Response: O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

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.

WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, Year A COMMEMORATION	WEEKDAY, Year II READINGS & MASS INTENTION
19/7: Sixteenth Ordinary Sunday – green	Canon Patrick McSorley (6pm Vigil) All Parishioners (10am) Sheila Ravey, A (12.15pm)
20/7: St. Apollinaris, Bishop & Martyr (d. 2 nd century) – red	Ordinary Week 16, Mon Joseph Milgrew, A
21/7: St. Laurence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor (d. 1619) – white	Ordinary Week 16, Tue Peter Igoe, A
22/7: Feast of St. Mary Magdalene – white	Proper Stephen McGugan, A
23/7: Feast of St. Bridget of Sweden, Patroness of Europe (d. 1373) – white	Proper Eddie McLaughlin, A
24/7: St. Charbel Makhlouf, Priest (d. 1898) – white	Ordinary Week 16, Fri Michael Welsh, D
25/7: St. James Apostle	---
26/7: Seventeenth Ordinary Sunday – green. World Day of Grandparents & the Elderly.	Briege Colville, D (6pm Vigil) All Parishioners (10am) James McKay, D (12.15pm)

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

NOTICES

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: 07301 021 644.

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 or 01563 521832;

Ayr Hospital chaplain: Fr. Benjamin Mkeri at ayrhospital@rcdg.org.uk or 01655 882145.

Recently Deceased: Romano Sambucci, Robert Miller, Susan McCahon.
Anniversary of Death: Patricia Dyson, Sarah Murdoch, Sarah Tuthill, Maud McGuire, Henry McMonagle, Peter Robson, Thomas Taylor, Edward McLaughlin. **Sick:** Leah Todd, May Fulton, James & Margaret Sherriff, the Dillon Family, Anne Comiskey, Linda Reynolds, Jimmy Sturman, 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, Eithne Brown, Mary Lyden, Ylena Green, Hugh Millar, Anton McCann, Rena Lee, Jim Lee, Brian Gilligan, Barry Smith, Margaret Fitzpatrick, William McGrath, Linda Scott, Jordan McGee, Sheila

MR ROMANO SAMBUCCI (St. Mary's): Truly sorry to record the death of Romano who died on the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul. He will be sorely missed by many, not least by his beloved wife Anna and their sons Marco and Giancarlo. As we pray for Romano's eternal rest, we also pray for the consolation and comfort of his loved ones and of all who knew and cared for him. Romano's Requiem Mass was this past Friday, 17th July.

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION DAY: The Diocesan Youth Office invites all those who have made their First Communion this year to join them for a celebration at St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock on Saturday 25th July from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. Details in the church porch (posters). The day will include a variety of fun and engaging games, a couple of short talks, Mass, and lunch (pizza and a BBQ). There is no charge.

LITURGY THIS WEEK: This week is packed with the commemoration of saints, some better known to us and others that we can get to know with benefit for our spiritual lives and witness to Christ. The saints, as the angels, are all present at every Mass. They are the "great cloud of witnesses" mentioned in the Letter to the Hebrews who are cheering and urging us on to share with them in the final victory over sin and death.

St. Apollinaris was bishop of Ravenna; apart from his martyrdom, little else is known about him – but his martyrdom is the most important thing to know! St. Laurence of Brindisi was a Capuchin Friar who had a vast knowledge of languages and of the Bible. Both gifts made him a great preacher across Europe. St. Mary Magdalene reminds us that there is always hope of

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repentance after sin and that a burning love for Christ can transform the heart. St. Bridget of Sweden was a married noblewoman with eight children who sought to moderate the indecent life of the Swedish royal court. At one point, she and her husband decided to embrace the monastic life. She was a denouncer of excess, a counsellor to the Pope, a mystic and a spiritual writer. St. Charbel Makhlouf was a Lebanese peasant who devoted himself to prayer and solitude. He became a Maronite monk and priest and, later, a hermit, spending the rest of his life in asceticism, prayer and fasting. Many came to him for advice. After his death, thousands of miracles were reported around his place of burial, even to this day.

I invite you to get to know a new saint every week, to seek their help in prayer and to ask them for the grace that you, too, may be a saint, that is, wholly given over to the love of Christ.

ADORATION (Millport): Sundays, 1.30-2.30pm.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: The time is drawing close (**Tuesday 1st September at 7pm in St. Mary's Hall**), when we will recommence our RCIA programme for anyone over 18 within our parish boundaries who wishes to be baptized into the Catholic Church or enter into full communion with the Church from another Christian denomination. **I invite ALL parishioners to consider carefully and prayerfully whom you might ask to consider becoming Catholic.** This is part of our own baptismal and confirmation vocation that we would speak of our faith with love and intelligence so that others may be drawn to the fullness of faith and sacramental life which Christ desires for all people. It is their God-given right!

Forms for anyone wishing to participate in the course are available at the back of our churches. One form is for those wishing to become Catholic. A second form is for any parishioner who would like to volunteer to come along and share their faith with the new candidates or would like to be a sponsor or offer to pray for the candidates.

Please also remember to reach out to lapsed Catholics in your own family or neighbourhood. If they have not abandoned their faith then, they, too, may just be waiting to be asked and would be glad to join the RCIA course to renew and refresh their faith and membership of the Church.

We are not Catholics for ourselves but to share God's gifts and open them up to others! True faith means eternal life!

WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY: This lovely recurrence will be next weekend. Let's all try to show some concrete sign of love, gratitude and celebration of our cherished grandparents and elderly in the parish!

Moreover, everyone is warmly invited to Carfin Grotto on Sunday 26 July 2026. Bishop John Keenan will celebrate Holy Mass at 3:00pm to mark the occasion. All are welcome.

PILGRIMAGE FOR LIFE 2026: The annual Pilgrimage for Life will take place at Carfin Grotto on Saturday 1 August 2026. Led by Bishop John Keenan, the day offers an opportunity for prayer, reflection and witness to the dignity and sanctity of every human life. The programme includes: 12:00 noon – Holy Mass; 2:00pm – Eucharistic Adoration; 2:15pm – Stations of the Cross; 2:45pm – Divine Mercy Chaplet; 3:30pm – Holy Rosary. Families are especially encouraged to attend. All are welcome.

LAUREN EDWARDS MP HAS PUBLISHED HER ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL. To oppose this, you can go to the **RIGHT TO LIFE WEBSITE** and use its updated “Support Not Suicide” campaign email tool. The email that your MP will receive as a result includes important new information that MPs need to see. Assisted suicide pressure group “Dignity in Dying” is carrying out a major push this week to get their supporters to email MPs. Your MP urgently needs to hear from you too.

THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE CARE OF CREATION OFFICE invites you to the Season of Creation Conference 2026 on Saturday, 5th September 2026, 10am – 3pm, in Eyre Hall, Archdiocese of Glasgow Offices, Clyde Street, Glasgow, G1 4JY. Our guest speaker will be Lorna Gold, Executive Director of Laudato Si' Movement, and there will be workshops on how to engage young people and parish groups. Please register here: bit.ly/SeasonofCreation26

PARISH FESTIVAL DATES: St. Mary's Parish Festival begins on Thursday 18th September and ends on Sunday 27th September. The full programme will be issued in early August.

DO YOU WANT A TABLE AT THE PARISH FESTIVAL GARDEN FETE? Please contact Celia Lewis directly on cecilylewislarges17@gmail.com Also, I appeal to parishioners to donate bottles for the bottle stall at the Fete as well as raffle prizes. It's time enough to hand these in for mid-August. **Please hand them to the parish caretaker, Robert Bell** who will be available on Mon, Tues, Wed and Fridays from 10 to 1.30.

MILLPORT GARDEN PARTY: Our Lady's parish in Millport will be hosting a Garden Party on Sunday 2nd August. That Sunday, Mass will be at 11am and the celebrations will begin afterwards.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: **Stella Maris** (formerly the Apostleship of the Sea), this weekend, 18-19 July.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB DATES: Largs Parish Church - Family Drop-in Time: Dunn Memorial Hall: 27th – 31st July. Brisbane Evangelical Church – 10th - 14th August.

SCIAF SHIELD RETURNS ON SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST 2026: Football. Faith. Fundraising. Put your faith into action and take part in the SCIAF Shield – our knock-out tournament that uses football to raise money for the world's poorest people. Get ready for a day of fun, football, and fundraising. The SCIAF Shield is a 5-a-side tournament that brings together 16 teams for an exciting afternoon of community and sport - all in support of SCIAF's life-changing work overseas. This year, funds raised by the SCIAF Shield will go towards our Emergency Hunger Appeal, to provide emergency food packages and help people grow more food in places devastated by floods and droughts in Africa. Sign your parish team up here: www.sciaf.org.uk/sciafshield

BENEDICTINE MONASTERY STRAWBERRY FAYRE: Saturday 25th July. Come along and enjoy all the fun of the various stalls, Tombola, Home baking, Jewellery, knitting and so on and especially TEA and STRAWBERRY TARTS! Doors open 1pm - 4pm. Entrance £3. Children free. Raffle prizes most welcome. Helpers meeting on Tuesday 21st July at 3pm in tea room.

GALLOWAY'S SEOUL: In 2027, Pope Leo will join young people from across the world in Seoul, South Korea. While it is not possible for us to travel to Seoul, the Diocesan Youth Office will be running a parallel event in our Diocese at Gowanbank SU Centre (near Darvel). Join young people (current P5-S4) from across the Diocese as we gather for the week to follow the World Youth Day programme, hear inspiring Catechetical talks from local priests, take part in a range of different outdoor activities, and have a fantastic week of faith and friendship. Galloway's Seoul runs from 7th – 11th August 2027 and costs £400 per person (grants are available for those in need and if more than one child in a household is taking part), but we'll be supporting young people in fundraising to reduce the cost. For full details pick up a flyer or go to our website: youth.rcdg.org.uk