

TWENTY-FIRST ORDINARY SUNDAY, 23rd AUGUST 2026

“OH, THE DEPTH OF THE RICHES AND WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD!” (Romans 11:33)

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

Psalm Response: O Lord, your merciful love is eternal;
discard not the work of your hands.

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.

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

Tel: 01475 740019
Mobile: 07592 059069

Website: rclargsandmillport.com

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

Parishes' Emails: largs@rcdg.org.uk
millport@rcdg.org.uk

Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Canon Magee
PP's email: peter.magee@rcdg.org.uk

Parishes' Secretary: Ruth Gillen
Email: ruth.gillen@rcdg.org.uk

St. Mary's Parish Buildings & Grounds Caretaker:
Robert Bell: 07981 027497
Email: bellr1965@gmail.com

Our Lady's Parish Buildings & Grounds Caretaker:
Luigi Giorgetti, 07941 222303
Email: 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 2nd Thursdays) & Fri.
8am Mass on Wednesdays.

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

Millport: Sunday, 12.15pm; 2nd 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 2nd Thursday.

Eucharistic Adoration & Prayers for Vocations to the Priesthood
on Mondays at 2pm, Largs (Hall).

Legion of Mary: Wednesdays at 10.30am, sacristy meeting room.

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: Liz Breslin, John Hamilton. **Anniversary of Death:** Lidia Tracey, Russell King, Linda Fraser. **Sick:** John McKenna, Alison Doherty, Angela McNulty, 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

WEEKLY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY, Year A COMMEMORATION	WEEKDAY, Year II READINGS & MASS INTENTION
23/8: Twenty-First Ordinary Sunday – green	Hannah Crossey, RD (6pm Vigil) All Parishioners (10am) In Thanksgiving (TC) (12.15pm)
24/8: Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle – red	Proper Linda Fraser, A
25/8: St. Louis, layman & King (d. 1270) - white	Ordinary Week 21, Tue Philomena Cunningham, A
26/8: Mass of Our Lady – blue	Ordinary Week 21, Wed Mgr. Dan Hart, RD
27/8: St. Monica, lay woman (d. 387) – white	Ordinary Week 21, Thu Special Intention (WM)
28/8: St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor (d. 430) – white	Ordinary Week 21, Fri Sally Hampson, A
29/8: Beheading of St. John the Baptist	---
30/8: Twenty-Second Ordinary Sunday – green	Rachel McGunn, D (6pm Vigil) All Parishioners (10am) May Docherty, RD (12.15pm)

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

NOTICES

LITURGY THIS WEEK: In a world often so preoccupied with being “modern”, the fact that the saints we remember this week are from the 1st, 3rd, 4th and 13th centuries tells us that the Church's first preoccupation is not modernity but holiness of life. Holiness is neither modern nor ancient, but eternal. Saints like St. Augustine still have something to say to modernity and to all ages (Pope Leo is an Augustinian!). They bring and keep alive the source of all youthfulness and maturity which is the love of Christ – in itself and in us. St. Louis, King of France for over 40 years, shows us that absolute power need not corrupt absolutely. When it is at the service of holiness, it can do great things for civilization. St. Monica reminds us that persistent prayer, even in the pain of tears and sorrow, can open the hearts of the most stubborn resistance and opposition to the Gospel and to the Church. May the example and prayers of these saints whom Providence puts before our eyes and hearts this week inspire us to seek out that holiness of life which God wants for each of us.

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Recommences this Sunday at the 10am Mass. The adults who run the liturgy would welcome any new volunteers to join their “happy little gang.” Any parents that would like to get involved are welcome. It will require, though, that the appropriate safeguarding checks be completed. Assistance will be provided on that score.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: The time is drawing near (**Tuesday 1st September at 7pm in St. Mary's Hall**), when we will recommence our RCIA programme for anyone over 18 within our parishes' boundaries who wishes to be baptized into the

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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 invite 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!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: The Diocese has produced an impressive list of resources for Adult Faith Formation. I encourage parishioners to consult it to see if there's anything which might help you. There is much you can do on your own, but also with other people. Here is the link: <https://www.rclargsandmillport.com/2026/06/05/adult-faith-formation-resources-05-06-26/>

A YOUTUBE CHANNEL has been created by parishioner Reg Phipps with some short Narrative Videos for the Bible study group. He coined the name for them as "BibleBuddies." The channel is called "LargsBibleBuddies." The Bible videos contain short one-minute famous stories that teach core moral and spiritual lessons. You can check this out at <https://www.youtube.com/@largsbiblebuddies>

VISITS TO THE SICK: While I am truly grateful for all of the hard and invaluable work of the Legion of Mary and of our Eucharistic Ministers (who serve both in the church and in bringing Communion to the housebound), I want to advise that any sick or housebound parishioner who would like a visit from me need only make that known to me, directly or indirectly. It is always a privilege and a joy to see you and minister to you. You and the children are top of my list when I pray.

NEW PARISHIONERS: If you are a new or relatively recent arrival in either Largs or Millport, may I encourage you to fill out and return one of the parish census forms, which can be found at the back of the church? Thank you!

PARISH FESTIVAL PROGRAMME: The full programme for this year's St. Mary's Parish Festival is now available at the back of our churches. Please take one home and begin to plan which events you will attend!

We have decided to assign a theme to each festival and have chosen the theme of **Peace** for this year's. I don't think any explanation is needed as to why. Next Sunday, a Festival Prayer Card will be made available, inviting everyone to pray for peace. The children of St. Mary's Primary composed a beautiful prayer for peace which will also appear in the prayer card. **The FestCom26 next meets on Friday 28th August after the 10am Mass.**

THE PARISH FESTIVAL GARDEN FETE: I appeal to parishioners to donate bottles for the bottle stall at the Fete as well as raffle prizes. **Please hand them to the parish caretaker, Robert Bell**

who will now be available on **Mon & Tues, from 10am-1.30pm and Thurs & Fri from 12 Noon-3.30pm.**

PARISH FESTIVAL DINNER-DANCE: Saturday 19th September from 7-11pm in the parish hall. Tickets on sale from the weekend beginning 29/30 August, either at the back of the church after Masses, or by calling Celia Lewis on 077930 81044 but not before 29th August. Cost: £20 per ticket. Only 60 tickets available. Music by Ebb & Flow.

PARISH FESTIVAL TEA-DANCE: Tuesday 22nd September at 2pm. Tickets on sale from the weekend beginning 29/30 August, either at the back of the church after Masses, or by calling Celia Lewis on 077930 81044 but not before 29th August. Cost: £5 per ticket. Only 50 tickets available. Music by DJ Matt.

PARISH FESTIVAL SONGS OF PRAISE: Sunday, 20th Sept. at 5pm in St. Mary's Church. Tea and coffee in the hall and a **Biblical Quiz!** Please vote for your favourite three hymns on the voting slips at the back of the church and pop it into the box provided!

VOLUNTEERS: We need more volunteers for the role of pass keeper and "welcome ministry." Please contact Fr. Peter if interested. It's good for visitors, and also parishioners, to see a friendly face welcome them to the church and to answer any practical questions they have as they enter.

ECUMENICAL SONGS OF PRAISE: 5.00pm at Brisbane Evangelical Church on Sunday 30th August.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: Aid to the Church in Need.

PLEASE CONTACT YOUR MP TODAY and urge them in your own words to vote no to assisted suicide in the UK Parliament. Vulnerable people must be protected, proper care strengthened, and compassion, dignity and support prioritised over assisted suicide. Find your MP at: <https://members.parliament.uk/members/commons>

BE PART OF THE NATIONAL CONVERSATION: The National Conversation is a unique opportunity for people across the UK to share, in their own words, what is working well in their communities, the challenges they face, and their hopes for the future. As Catholics, our faith calls us to be active participants in society, working for the common good and ensuring that every person is heard. This is an opportunity for us to share the positive impact of our parishes, schools, charities and communities, as well as the values that inspire us to build a more compassionate and united society.

The Bishops of Scotland encourage Catholics across Scotland to make their voices heard so that our experiences, perspectives and hopes are reflected in this once-in-a-generation listening exercise.

How to take part: Complete the National Conversation survey: <https://www.national-conversation.ox.ac.uk/>

The survey has been independently designed and is run by Nuffield College, University of Oxford. It takes around eight minutes to complete, is anonymous, and includes the option to submit a 60-second voice note if you wish. Together, we can help ensure that the life of our Catholic communities and the values we seek to live each day are part of the conversation about the future of our country.

Closing date is Monday 31st August 2026.

"Bury my body wherever you will; let not care of it cause you any concern. One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be."

St. Monica, mother of St. Augustine of Hippo