



HEARTBEAT

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH MAGAZINE

ISSUE 125

29 MARCH 2026



**The collection on Good Friday will be
to support Holy Places**

PALM SUNDAY

'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'



Pastoral letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the 2026 Scottish Parliament Election approaches, we find ourselves at another important moment in our nation's life. Elections are not only political events but opportunities to reflect prayerfully on our responsibilities as citizens and disciples of Jesus Christ. Our participation in public life expresses our love of neighbour and our desire to build a society that honours God through truth, justice, and charity.

The Church and the political community have distinct roles, yet both serve the good of every person. The Church forms consciences through the light of the Gospel, while politics shapes society's structures. When these work together respectfully, society flourishes, especially in its care for the weakest. It is therefore vital that Catholics approach this election with faith-formed minds and hearts moved by charity.

Many in Scotland today face deep vulnerability: unborn children; the elderly; families in poverty; the disabled; those with poor mental health; people suffering addiction; victims of modern slavery; migrants seeking safety; people considering suicide; and victims of crime. They deserve not only compassion but public policies that protect their dignity. We need representatives who act with integrity, value every human life, and prioritise the poorest. Public service is noble when rooted in humility and the common good.

Our elected officials must also defend fundamental freedoms—thought, conscience, and religion—so Scotland remains a place where people can express beliefs openly and respectfully. Public discourse thrives when diverse voices can speak without fear and disagreements are handled with civility. Silencing religious expression deprives society of moral and spiritual richness.

We affirm the rights of parents, who have the God-given responsibility to educate their children, including choosing schools that reflect their convictions. Authorities must safeguard this right and protect Catholic schools, which serve families of all backgrounds and help form young people in faith, virtue, and service. Attempts to marginalise, or remove, these schools would weaken Scotland's educational diversity.

As you prepare to vote, reflect on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching—human dignity, the common good, solidarity, and subsidiarity—which illuminate the key moral issues of our time:

- the protection of life from conception to natural death;
- care for the poor and vulnerable;
- fair and sustainable economic conditions;
- accessible healthcare;
- the elimination of modern slavery;
- the strengthening of marriage and family life;
- care for creation;
- the promotion of peace and support for poorer nations; and
- the defence of religious freedom and conscience.

These are not merely political issues, but moral ones rooted in the Gospel and the Church's commitment to every person's dignity. Study and pray with these principles as you discern your vote. Resources from the Scottish Catholic Parliamentary Office (rcpolitics.org) can help form your conscience, enabling you to seek truth, weigh moral implications, and consider the impact on the vulnerable. Above all, we urge you to use your right to vote.

We pray for respectful and honest conversation throughout this election. Political life must not be poisoned by anger, division, or populist rhetoric. May all debates reflect concern for human dignity and the common good.

We entrust Scotland—its people, leaders, and future—to the care of Our Lady, Queen of Peace. May her intercession guide us toward justice, compassion, and unity. May the Holy Spirit inspire candidates with integrity and humility, and voters with responsibility, prayerfulness, and love of neighbour.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ **John Keenan, President, Bishop of Paisley**
+ **Brian McGee, Vice President, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles**
+ **Andrew McKenzie, Episcopal Secretary, Bishop of Dunkeld**
+ **Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh**
+ **William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow**
+ **Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell**
+ **Hugh Gilbert, Bishop of Aberdeen**
+ **Francis Dougan, Bishop of Galloway**



S1 LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026

aswell as serving in ministries at the 12pm Mass. These moments of prayer, reflection and service form an important part of their preparation.

During their time in Lourdes, they will learn about the life of Saint Bernadette Soubirous, visit the places where she lived, and pray at the Grotto of Massabielle, where Our Lady appeared to her in 1858.

This April, the young people of St Augustine's will travel to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes on pilgrimage, joining thousands from around the world who come seeking faith, hope and renewal.

In the months leading up to their journey, the young people are taking part in a spiritual programme to prepare their hearts for pilgrimage. This includes a retreat day at Carfin Grotto on Sunday, 8th March,

How You Can Support

To help make this pilgrimage possible, a number of fundraising events are taking place in the coming weeks:



Weekly Online Raffle



Each week you could win fantastic prizes, so far we have had:

- £150 Six by Nico vouchers
- Family day out packages with dinner included
- Overnight stays at top hotels
- And other amazing experiences

Every ticket purchased and every event attended helps bring our young people one step closer to Lourdes.

Raffles go live every Monday at 7.00pm. Go to:
santaugustines.org.uk/lourdesraffle



Family Fun Day

Date: Saturday, 18th April

Time: 11am - 2pm

Bring the whole family along for a fun-filled day of facepainting, bouncy castles, and plenty of fun!

Entry is completely free, with all activities just £1 each or 12 for £10, so there's something for everyone to enjoy. All money raised will go towards supporting our children travelling to Lourdes in April.

EASTER COLLECTION



Please return your Easter Collection envelope next weekend. All envelopes should be placed into the second collection plate at the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Mass.

Envelopes are attached to this bulletin.

Please complete the Gift Aid section only if you are a UK taxpayer.

Thank you for so generously supporting your parish.

CONFESSION
Saturday: 9.00am – 9.50am

MONTHLY MEDJUGORJE EVENING

The next Medjugorje Evening takes place **Monday, 30th March**

The parish hosts an evening of prayer, replicating the prayer schedule of the Marian Shrine in Medjugorje. Please join us if you are able at the next evening.

The evening format is as follows:

7.00pm *Holy Rosary*

7.30pm *Holy Mass*

Followed by Adoration

Refreshments afterwards in the Parish Centre.



SUNDAY COLLECTION

The Parish collection for the last weekend is as follows:

- Collection: £1,280
- Gift Aid: £1,475
- Tax Reclaimed: £343
- SCIAF: £2,540
- Total: £5,638

*Through Gift Aid we can claim back 25p from every £1 paid of taxpayer donations.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



PEACE HOUR OF PRAYER

Every Wednesday we will dedicate the hours of 1pm-2pm to pray for peace in our world. Come along at this time and pray before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for peace in our world, seeking God's guidance and healing for those affected by conflict and division. All are welcome.

PARISH NOTICES



Easter Remembrances

If you wish to have a name added to the Easter Sunday bulletin, please post this through the door of the Parish house by Wednesday at 1.00pm.

When handing in to the Parish office, please ensure it has marked on it "Easter Remembrance"

Chrism Mass

The Diocesan Chrism Mass will take place in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell, on Holy Thursday, 2nd April at 11.00am. All are welcome.



Sacraments 2026

Please keep our children and young people in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacraments this year. Their preparation has taken place both in school and through our parish Ignite Club sessions, where they have gathered in prayer, reflection and learning together. We look forward to celebrating these joyful occasions as a parish family.

First Holy Communion: Sunday, 10th May at 10.00am
Sunday, 17th May at 12noon

Confirmation: Tuesday, 26th May at 7.00pm



Kiltwalk for the People's Pantry

My name is Florence Hagerty, and on the 26th of April I will be taking part in this year's Glasgow Kiltwalk, walking 22.6 miles in support of The People's Pantry. I also took part in the Kiltwalk last year, and I was very grateful for all the encouragement and support I received. The People's Pantry provides vital help to many individuals and families in our community, and any funds raised will be greatly appreciated by all those who use the service.

If you can, please support Florence on this challenge and help make a real difference in our community.

Donate here: <https://saintaugustines.org.uk/kiltwalk/>



A Warm Meal and a Warm Welcome

In partnership with the Celtic Foundation, we are offering a free hot meal to anyone who needs one. A warm welcome is always assured.

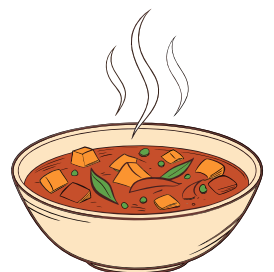
To access the meal, please go first to the Parish Office (front door of the Parish House) to register.

Office hours: Monday–Thursday, 9am–2pm.

After registering, visit Kairos Café to receive your hot meal.

Café open: 10am–2pm.

Please share with anyone who may benefit.



—DIOCESAN NOTICES—

Festival of Synodality Saturday 6 June 2026



We invite YOU to the National Festival of Synodality at Glasgow Caledonian University, a day inspired by Pope Francis' call to be "witnesses to synodality".

The Festival will focus on Conversation in the Spirit, a simple and powerful way of communal discernment rooted in listening, conversion and mission.

The day will celebrate the fruits already flourishing in the Church in Scotland and include input from Bishop Alan McGuckian SJ, Fr David McCallum SJ and Sandra Chaoul. Participants will also have the opportunity to experience Conversation in the Spirit firsthand. Lunch is included.

All are welcome, especially those involved in parish and diocesan life, pastoral councils, schools and faith organisations.

**I am looking for 4 parish reps from St Augustine's to attend the day. If you are interested, please email: staugustine@rcdom.org.uk
The parish will cover the cost.**

Walking Pilgrimage from Motherwell to St Andrews

You are warmly invited to take part in a Diocesan walking pilgrimage from Motherwell Cathedral to St Andrews. Beginning on Tuesday 7th April and continuing each Tuesday until 9th June, we will walk approximately 10–12 miles each week as we journey together in prayer and fellowship.

There is no charge to take part; the only cost will be transport back to the starting point each week.

For more information or to register your interest, please contact Jim McKelvie at pilgrimage@rcdom.org.uk or call 07957 847290.

Buddies Spring Fayre 30th March 10.00am-12noon at Kairos Cafe

The Albion Rovers Buddies are a group of 10–12 neurodiverse adults who meet on Monday mornings at West End Bowling Club.

They engage with a set course of activities, including crafting.



We will be selling some of our ceramic and glass-decorated craftware with a spring and Easter theme on Monday, the 30th of March, between 10.00am and 12.00 noon at the Kairos Cafe.

Please come along to find out more about the group and see or buy some of our handcrafted items.



*working in collaboration with
the Knights of Malta*



**ORDER OF MALTA
COMPANIONS**



THE PEOPLE'S PANTRY

**Open: Mon 6.00pm - 7.30pm /
Thurs 12.00pm - 3.00pm**

No referral is required. Simply show-up and we will give you a free bag of food for you and your household. Please make only one visit per week.

We have also linked with the local Citizens Advice Bureau who offer advocacy services via our Pantry.

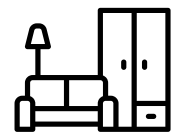


CLOTHING BANK

Open: Thurs 10.30am - 12.30pm

Need assistance with clothing?
We can support you. New and good quality pre-loved clothing is available for all ages. **Please donate clothing only.**

Thank you for your continued support to the clothing bank. It is greatly appreciated.



FURNITURE PROJECT

If you or someone you know is in need of furniture or household essentials, our parish Furniture Project is here to help. We provide good-quality items to anyone needing support. If you need support or know someone who does, please get in touch—we're here to help!



CONTACT US

If you require support or have donations you need to drop off, please contact us on the following email and someone will be in touch: outreach@saintaugustines.org.uk

PARISH INFORMATION

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

If you or a loved one, neighbour or friend would like a home visit from Fr. Kane please complete and return the following form to the Parish House. The office will then be in touch to arrange a suitable time for Fr. Kane to visit, as well as a more long-term arrangement for the housebound person to receive Holy Communion and the Sacrament of the Sick at home. Please use the form printed below. Simply cut out and return completed to the Parish House.

REMEMBERING YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL

You might consider leaving your parish a personal legacy gift in your will. Such gifts help the parish in its Gospel mission into the future. Contact the Parish Office for more details.

300 CLUB

The 300 Club is one of the ways we raise vital funds to help with the upkeep of our church buildings and grounds.

It's £5 per week, and every month there are five cash prizes, including a first prize of £700.

To sign up or find out more, visit:
www.saintaugustines.org.uk/300-club

PARISH GIVING

St. Augustine's depends on the generosity of our parishioners and visitors to continue our mission and maintain our historic buildings. There are lots of ways to support your parish:

- You can donate via the regular collection baskets at the weekend Mass you attend.
- You can set-up a regular standing order which you can also Giftaid. The online form is available on the Donate page of our site.

SCAN TO DONATE



- You can donate using the secure online donation feature on our website. Visit saintaugustines.org.uk/donate for more information.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASSES

The meeting takes place on the last Tuesday of every month at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Parents and Godparents of children due to be baptised are asked to attend this single meeting. Please call the Parish Office or speak to the clergy.

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Holy Places: 3rd April

PARISH CENTRE

Saint Augustine's Parish Centre Booking our function suites is great way to support your Parish! Our two Function Suites available for:

Wedding Receptions / Funeral Breakfasts / Baptism / Receptions / Birthday Parties / Anniversary Parties / Charity Events etc.



For booking enquiries email Chris at the Parish Hall on staugustine@rcdom.org.uk.

Weekend dates are still available for 2026.

Function Suite Hire from £80



KAIROS CAFE

Please support your parish café which is open Monday – Friday from 10.00am - 2.00pm.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you spare a couple of hours a week to help in our café? Kairos Café is looking for some new volunteers. Please email: staugustine@rcdom.org.uk.

St. Augustine's Parish - Pastoral Visit Request Form

Name of Sick or housebound person: _____

Contact Number: _____

Address for visitation: _____

* Please return this completed form to the Parish House. The office will be in touch to make arrangements.

**For urgent sick calls please make direct contact with the Parish House and leave a message on the answer phone if necessary.

PARISH NOTICES

SICK

Jim Allan; Billy Bannan; Patricia Bannan; Veronica Bannan; Florence Bark; Marie Boswell; Bill Bothwell; Billy & Molly Bothwell; John O'Brien; Maureen O'Brien; Catherine Brown; Craig Cameron; John Caufield; Allan Clark; Anne Clarke; Rose Connell; Desmond Coyle; Mary Coyle; Theresa Coyle; Irene Crawley; Rab Cullen; John Currie; Louie James Currens; Caroline Dawson; Anne Donnelly; Frank Donnelly; Michael Donnelly; Teresa Donnelly; Rosy Dovey; Sharon Dunn; Catherine Graham; Betty Green; Frank Hamill; Christine Hamilton; Eddie Heron; Simon Howard; Stephen Jamison; Ann Patricia Kane; Andy Kelly; Hugh Kelly; Morag & Rowan Lennen; Agnes Logan; Sophia Loughran; Sophia MacCallum; Madge Mallon; Barbara Martin; Frank Martin; Josephine Martin; Paul McCormack; Ann McDonald; Mhairi McGlone; Andre McGuinness; Ellen McKinnon; Joe McLaughlin; Margaret McLelland; Marianne McMillan; Betty McNamee; Anna McPherson; Ann McShane; John McShane; Caroline Mitchell; Marion Moran; Margaret More; Luke Morton; Paul Morton; Eileen O'Kane; Sadie Parr; Mary Paton; Margaret Ralston; Sue Rawlings; Bernd Reimann; Anne Roche; Thomas Robertson; Aileen Scott; Helen Sloan; Pat Sludden; Ian Smillie; Bernard Smith; Brian Sneddon; Raymond Sneddon; Tony Stafford; Betty Stillie; Linda Tayler; James Trower; Helen Watmore; Alison Wilson; Bobby Winslow; Kathleen Wynn

RECENTLY DECEASED

Alphonsus Sludden; Jim McDonald; Bobby Shaw; Thomas Lindsay

ANNIVERSARIES / MONTHS MINDS / BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCES

Helen Mearns; Margaret McLuskie; Grace & Janette Clark; Peter Armstrong; Robert Henderson; Annie and David Trower (Snr); David Trower (Jnr); Theresa & Harry White; Ellen and Billy White; Mary & John Brennan; Patsy McGrady; Christopher Dunn; John Dunn; Desmond Dunn; Lilly Dunn; Ian & Theresa Ferrie; Denis & Jeanie McCall; Anne & Ciaran McHugh; Tony Boon; Carol Tennent; Jenna Doig; Ann Agnew; Clare Fox; John Conaghan

SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Marie Hanlon

We kindly ask that all notices for the bulletin are handed into the Parish Office by Wednesday at 12noon. Please write all notices clearly.



CAN YOU HELP?

Assistance required with keeping the gardens and grounds clean and tidy.

If you can help, please contact Bob on 07729913537.

First Communion Dresses Sunday, 29th March

*After 10.00am Mass
Upstairs of the Parish Centre*

We understand that preparing for First Holy Communion can bring extra costs for families. If you, or anyone you know, may need a little support with a First Communion dress this year, please know that help is available.

A selection of dresses will be available in the upstairs Parish Centre on Sunday 29th March after the 10am Mass. You are very welcome to come along.



PARISH DIARY

Sunday, 29 March <i>Palm Sunday</i> Clocks go forward	10.00am: Holy Mass <i>Sunday brunch is served in the lower hall after 10.00am Mass</i> 12.00 noon: Holy Mass 5.00pm: Holy Mass
Monday, 30 March <i>Monday of Holy Week</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 9.30am: The Holy Rosary (Church) 10.00am: Holy Mass 11.00am - 12.00pm: Church Cleaning 12noon - 7.00pm: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00pm - 7.30pm: People's Pantry (Blairgrove Shopping Precinct) 7.30pm: Medjugorje Mass (<i>Holy Rosary begins at 7.00pm</i>)
Tuesday, 31 March <i>Tuesday of Holy Week</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 9.30am: The Holy Rosary (<i>Church</i>) 10.00am: Holy Mass <i>Devotion to Holy Face of Jesus after 10.00am Mass</i> 10.30am - 5.00pm: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6.30pm: S6 Graduation Mass (<i>Church</i>) 7.00pm: Baptism Class
Wednesday, 1 April <i>Wednesday of Holy Week</i>	7.00am: Holy Mass 9.30am: The Holy Rosary (<i>Church</i>) 10.00am: Holy Mass with Primary School for End of Term 10.30am - 7.00pm: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00pm: Lectio Divina
Thursday, 2 April <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	9.30am: The Holy Rosary (<i>Church</i>) 10.00am: Morning Prayer of the Church 11.00am: Mass of Chrism (<i>Motherwell Cathedral</i>) 12.00noon - 3.00pm: People's Pantry (<i>Blairgrove Shopping Precinct</i>) 7.00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper 9.30pm: Night Prayer of the Church
Friday, 3 April <i>Good Friday</i> Day of Fast and Abstinence	9.30am: The Holy Rosary (<i>Church</i>) 10.00am: Morning Prayer of the Church 3.00pm: Solemn Passion Service with Veneration of the Cross 7.00pm: Passion Service with Veneration of the Cross
Saturday, 4 April <i>Holy Saturday</i>	10.00am: Morning Prayer of the Church 11.00am: Rehearsal with RCIA Group 8.00pm: Easter Vigil
Sunday, 5 April <i>Easter Sunday</i>	10.00am: Holy Mass Easter Family Fun Day after 10.00am Easter Sunday Mass <i>Sunday brunch is served in the lower hall after 10.00am Mass</i> 12.00 noon: Holy Mass No 5.00pm Mass

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

PARISH CLERGY



PARISH PRIEST

REV. FR. MICHAEL KANE

FRKANE@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK



PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

REV. FR. DOMINIC TOWEY

FRDOMINIC@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK

PARISH STAFF



PARISH SECRETARY

MARGARET HAGGARTY

STAUGUSTINE@RCDOM.ORG.UK



PARISH CENTRE MANAGER

CHRIS HAMILL

STAUGUSTINE@RCDOM.ORG.UK



COMMUNICATIONS

ELAINE FURMAGE

ELAINE@BEINGCATHOLIC.ORG



SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

ANTOINETTE PARR MBE

STAUGUSTINE@RCDOM.ORG.UK



DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

GREG MCHUGH

07561 310114

MUSIC@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK



CHOIR DIRECTOR

MARIA MADDEN

MUSIC@SAINTAUGUSTINES.ORG.UK

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / HOSPITAL VISITATIONS

Those who require the Sacrament of the Sick at home should contact the Chapel House to arrange for a visit from Fr. Kane. This should ordinarily be arranged prior to any prolonged hospital visit. In cases of emergency where you or a family member require the pastoral assistance of the Chaplain, please request this from the hospital nursing staff. The family should make this request clearly to nursing staff.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in the Catholic sector are reminded that it is first necessary to obtain approval from your parish priest to show that you accept and live the Catholic faith. For those living within the parish of St. Augustine's this means approval from Fr. Kane. This applies to those about to enrol for the teaching course, those starting out as probationary teachers, and all those applying for new posts (promoted or otherwise) within a Catholic school. Please contact Fr. Kane if you have any questions about this process.

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS

www.saintaugustines.org.uk

Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/saintaugustines

Follow us on X: @FrKane

Watch us on: www.beingcatholic.org

or Freeview, Channel 279

Contact Us:

Saint Augustine's RC Church,
12 Dundyvan Road, Coatbridge, ML5 1DQ

t: 01236 423044

e: staugustine@rcdom.org.uk

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Easter 2026

at Saint Augustine's, Coatbridge

Easter is the most significant time in the Church's calendar. It is a time we celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord, which marks the birth of our eternal hope. I invite you to join us for the for our 10am Family Mass this Easter Sunday. There are lots of activities for our young people to take part in on this day. All information can be found below.

God Bless,

Fr. Michael Kane

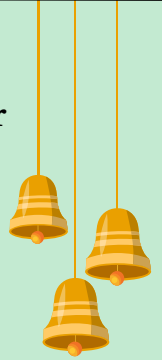


HOLY WATER

Collect your newly blessed Easter water at the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Masses. These are free to everyone. Please take this and bring Easter into your homes this year.

CHILDREN'S BELLS

Children are invited to bring their own bell or pick up a bell as they enter the Church at the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Masses. They will be invited to ring their bell as we sing the Gloria for the first time in weeks.



EASTER SUNDAY FAMILY CRAFT AND SUNDAY BRUNCH

All families are invited to take part in our free family craft after 10.00 Holy Mass on Easter Sunday. Children will have the opportunity to decorate their own egg.



DIGGING UP ALLELUIAS

After 10am Holy Mass on Easter Sunday, we will dig up the Alleluias that we buried the First Week of Lent.



EASTER BONNETS

Children are invited to collect their free Easter bonnet at any Palm Sunday Mass. Over the next week you can decorate your Easter bonnet and bring it to the Mass you attend for Easter.

EASTER SUNDAY EASTER EGG HUNT

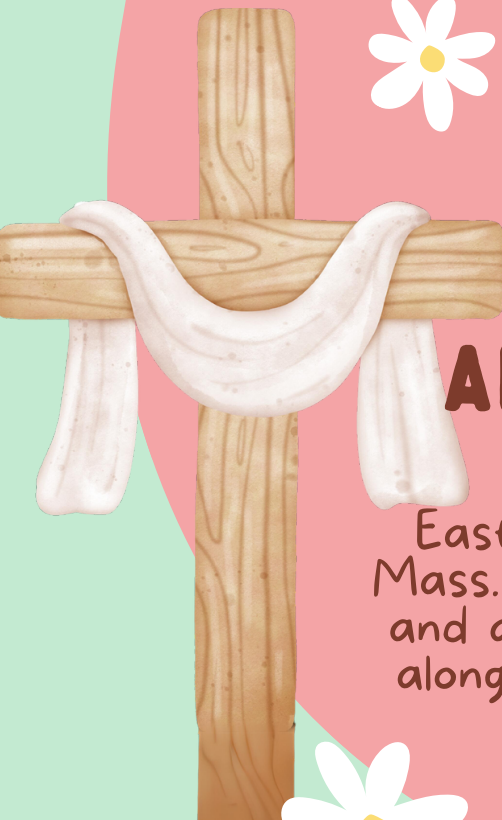
Fr Towey has been busy hiding all the eggs from Fr Kane! Can you help Fr Kane find the eggs on Easter Sunday in the Church gardens? We will start hunting for the eggs after the 10am Easter Sunday Mass. All children will receive an Easter egg for helping Fr Kane. Don't forget your Easter bonnet!!





EASTER SUNDAY

**FAMILY FUN
DAY**



**SUNDAY
5 APRIL
AFTER 10AM MASS**

**FAMILY
CRAFT**

Easter Egg Hunt after 10.00am
Mass. The Sunday Brunch will be on
and all families are invited to come
along and take part in our Easter
egg painting craft.



THE PARISH OF
SAINT AUGUSTINE
COATBRIDGE - SCOTLAND

