

# SUNDAY BULLETIN



Sunday 10th December, 2023

## OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL & ST MATTHEW'S

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Jim Hayes

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Parishes of the RC Diocese of Galloway. Charity Number: SC 010576

PASTORAL ASSISTANTS: Sr. Mary Rose Confidence Maduka IHM, Sr. Mary Mabel Chukwu IHM & Sr. Marilyn Juliet Obiorah IHM

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Liturgy	<b>Second Sunday of Advent. Year - B</b>
Sunday Masses	9.30am at St Matthew's, Grassyards Road 11.30am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kirkton Road
Psalm 84 Response	<i>Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!</i>

Please, ask your child(ren) to return to you immediately after the Children's Liturgy if you do not wish them to be captured on the live-stream recording.

LIVESTREAM MASSES: [YouTube Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Matthew's Kilmarnock](#) and [YouTube St Joseph's Church Kilmarnock](#)

## Service Schedule for the Forthcoming Week

<b>Sunday 10th December</b>	9.30am Mass at <b>St. Matthew's</b> Intention: Tommie Thomson (Ann)	11.30am Mass at <b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b> Intention: For the Parish	<i>Mark 1:1-8</i>	
<b>Monday 11th December</b>	Our Parish Office is closed on Mondays.	10.00 Mass at <b>St. Joseph's</b>	<i>Luke 5:17-26</i>	
<b>Tuesday 12th December</b>	9.30am Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at <b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b>	10.00am Mass at <b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel.</b> Intention: John McKenna (RecDec).	<i>Matthew 18:12-14</i>	
<b>Wednesday 13th December</b>	7pm Mass at <b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b> followed by Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament till 8pm (Confession available too)	Intention: Sp.Int	<i>Matthew 11:28-30</i>	
<b>Thursday 14th December</b>	9.30am Rosary at <b>St Matthew's</b>	10.00am Mass at <b>St Matthew's.</b> Intention: John McSpagin (RecDec).	<i>Matthew 11:11-15</i>	
<b>Friday 15th December</b>	9.30am Rosary at <b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b>	10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel- Intention: Sp.Int	<i>Matthew 11:16-19</i>	
<b>Saturday 16th December</b>	9.30am Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at <b>St Matthew's</b>	10.00am Mass at <b>St. Matthew's</b> Intention: Edward O'Neil (Ann)	6.00pm Vigil Mass at <b>St. Joseph's</b>	<i>Matthew 17:10-13</i>
<b>Sunday 17th December</b>	9.30am Mass at <b>St. Matthew's</b> Intention: For the Parish	11.30am Mass at <b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b> Intention: May Mackin (9th Ann)	<i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>	

*Please remember the following in your prayers:*

**We remember all those on the Altar Lists of the Dead in this month of Remembrance.**

**Recently Deceased:** Tommy Surgenor, John McKenna, John McSpagin and all victims of war and violence.

**Anniversaries:** Tommie Thomson, Edward O'Neil, May Mackin.

**May all our departed loved ones rest in peace.**

**People who are ill:** Eimear Callaghan, David O'Callaghan, Michelle Hanlon, Michelle Dunne, Leona McAllister, Mary Hasson, Donald Gibon, Frank Mullen, Helen O'Donnell., Mary McLaughlin, May Hollywood, Frances O'Neill, Helen McClure, James Hughes, Max McLean, Mary Rea, Stuart Mason Carolanne Gallagher, Charlie Smith, Gerda Devlin and Margaret Gay.

*(Please let us know if any circumstances change).*

## REFLECTION

### HOME COMING

Advent is a time of waiting, a time of yearning for light to dispel the darkness. The Advent atmosphere is rooted in the experiences of the exiles described in Hebrew scripture. The people were far from home, crying out for a Saviour who would light their way home, where they would find peace and security. Their longing for home reminds us of our own inner places of exile, which also cry for a place of inner peace.


Our exile can be spiritual or psychological separation which keeps us from being at home with our true selves. Many are exiled from their own bodies because of eating disorders or child abuse. Families are in exile from one another – runaway children, parents disowning children, siblings denying one another a welcome, peoples who live in fear of drug misuse/ violence, people excluded because of sexual preference, skin colour or marital status.....

Many of the readings in Advent are from Isaiah and remind us of a God who always offers hope . We are exiled from our true selves as we are torn between the values of greed, consumerism, ego-centredness and apathy, while another part of us feels out of place in a materialistic and power-centred system.

Something in us always needs to be called home. We need to see who or what we lack inside. Advent is a time to reclaim what we have lost in our hearts.

*Joyce Rupp*

## SACRAMENTS

<b>Marriage</b>	By arrangement with Fr. Jim. The Diocese of Galloway requires that couples give a minimum of six months' notice of their intention to marry
<b>Baptism</b>	By arrangement with Fr. Jim.
<b>Reconciliation</b>	Tuesdays, Wednesdays (during Advent) and Saturdays during Exposition and at any other time on request at suitable times.
	Community Support. A Donation's box is located at the Church entrance. Thank you for your continuing generosity. 'Bags for Life' are always welcome.
	OLMC SSVP Conference. All donations are most welcome and needed. Please use the Donations Box as you leave the church. Email: olmc_ssvp@icloud.com

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS. With grateful thanks we acknowledge the following generosity

OLMC	1st: £252.78 and 2nd: £179.16.
ST MATTHEW'S	1st: £283.36 and 2nd: £165.62 with the Community Box: £110.40

## IMPORTANT TELEPHONE/EMAIL ADDRESSES

<b>KILMARNOCK RC CHURCHES:</b> <a href="http://www.rckilmarnock.org.uk">www.rckilmarnock.org.uk</a>	
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<b>OLMC Society of Saint Vincent de Paul:</b> <a href="mailto:olmc_ssvp@icloud.com">olmc_ssvp@icloud.com</a>	<b>Mount Carmel Primary School:</b> 01563 525897
<b>St. Andrew's Primary School &amp; Early Childhood Centre:</b> 01563 549549	<b>St. Joseph's Academy:</b> 01563 526144
<b>Diocese of Galloway:</b> 01292 266750 <a href="http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk">www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk</a>	<b>SPRED:</b> 01292 738068 / <a href="mailto:Annie.Steven@spredgalloway.org.uk">Annie.Steven@spredgalloway.org.uk</a>
<b>HOSPITAL VISITING: Crosshouse Hospital:</b> Fr Stephen McGrattan - 01563 521832	<b>Ayr Hospital:</b> Fr. Benjamin Mkeri – 01655 882145
<b>St Matthew's Hall Bookings:</b> Margaret Merrick - 07765715798 or Email: <a href="mailto:margaret.merrick@btinternet.com">margaret.merrick@btinternet.com</a>	
<b>ITEMS FOR THE SUNDAY BULLETIN:</b> Parish/Diocesan based info/news will be given priority. If room allows we will gladly include items from other organisations. Please Email the Parish Office on either: <a href="mailto:kilmarnock.olmc@gallowaydiocese.org.uk">kilmarnock.olmc@gallowaydiocese.org.uk</a> OR <a href="mailto:kilmarnock.stmatthew@gallowaydiocese.org.uk">kilmarnock.stmatthew@gallowaydiocese.org.uk</a> . Deadline: Thursdays 10am.	

## Ministry Rota for Today. Year B

Scripture	Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11	Psalm 84	II Peter 3:8-14	Mark 1:1-8
<b>St. Matthew's</b>	<b>Readers:</b> Orla Duff, Michael Thomson, Madaline Musilli <b>Euch.Ministers:</b> Maureen Thomson (L), Larry Tommie (L), Clare Gordon (L), Louise Johnston (R), Stephen Duff (R).			
<b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b>	<b>Readers:</b> Joan Summer, Charlie Harper <b>Euch.Ministers:</b> Josephine McCrossan, Suzy Hollywood, Marie Urquhart.			

## Ministry Rota for 17th December– The Third Sunday of Advent. Year B

Scripture	Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11	Canticle: Luke 1:46-50	I Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
<b>St. Matthew's</b>	<b>Readers:</b> Veronica Kelly, Gerry Coyle, Cherry Stacey. <b>Euch.Ministers:</b> Maureen Thomson (L), Maureen Bradley (L), Fred Stacey (L), Sr Juliet (R), Anne Gillion (R).			
<b>Our Lady of Mount Carmel</b>	<b>Readers:</b> Gretta McNeil, Helen Kennedy. <b>Euch.Ministers:</b> Sr Mabel, Linda Hefron, John Hefron.			

# NOTICES

Community Lunch At St Matthew's	Our Christmas Lunch will be served today (10th) from 12.45pm. All are welcome to join us and enjoy the atmosphere and delicious traditional food.
Advent Penance Service	On Monday 18th December a joint Penance Service will take place at 7pm in St Joseph's Church, Hill Street, where 3 priests will be available for Sacramental Confession. This is a wonderful way to prepare for the great Feast of Christmas-celebrating God's wonderful love and mercy for us all.
Advent/Christmas Dates to help you plan	17 December: 4.30pm-6.30pm Advent Quiet Time in OLMC 17 December: 7pm Joint service of Carols by Candlelight in OLMC 24 December: 5pm Vigil Mass of Christmas in St Matthew's 24 December: 7pm Vigil Mass of Christmas in OLMC 25 December: 10am Christmas Day Mass in St Matthew's 01 January 2024: 10am Mass at OLMC 01 January 2024: 12 noon Mass at St Matthew's
Pro-Life news	The Diocese of Galloway has begun a new Pro-Life initiative supported by the Marriage, Family & Life Office of the Bishops' Conference. Our own lead in this is Helena Rameckers. As diocesan coordinator she highlights a number of serious issues for us to consider and calls us to action. She is looking for volunteers to join the diocesan group. Please call her on 07961130493 or email prolife@gallowaydiocese.org.uk. Join the online rosary each Wednesday evening during Advent. Please access rcpolitics.org/buffer-zones for more information about these important legal changes being consulted on by the Scottish Government. Please get in touch with Helena for more information.
First Communion Registration	We welcome the 1st Holy Communion children to our morning masses today as they continue their preparation for the celebration of this wonderful Sacrament in May. Parents of children in p.4 should register with the parish to begin their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion. Please contact Fr Jim.
St Joseph's Academy Christmas Raffle	Thank you to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Matthew's parishes for supporting Olivia and Orla when selling raffle tickets recently. The raffle was drawn on 1st December and raised a wonderful £1,200 to be used to buy Christmas gifts for families in need within the school community. <b>CHRISTMAS FAYRE.</b> You are invited to come along to the School on Saturday 16th December from 10am till 1pm for our wonderful Christmas Fayre-full of a variety of stalls, arts, crafts, homebaking, Tombola and of course Santa!
Fabric & Finance Committee Members	Thank you to all those who have volunteered their services to forming these new important groups in the life of our parishes. They will have oversight, with Fr Jim, over the parish finances as well as responsibility for the material well-being of our properties.
Youth Hub	All our young people in Secondary School are invited to join us for the Youth Hub meetings. The next takes place in St Matthew's Hall on Thursday 11th January from 6.30pm till 8.30pm-it is free!
St Andrew's Primary "Junior Vinnies"	This group of children from the primary school are known as junior Vinnies as they work as a junior SSVP group. They invite you to join them after 10am Mass in St Matthew's this coming Thursday (14th) for a cuppa and a wee piece of Christmas cheer-in song!
Sick/Housebound	Could those parishioners who visit the sick or housebound with holy communion please pick up a wee form from the church porch to let Fr Jim know who they are and whom they visit. Thank you.
SCIAF Water for a Village	Clean water is a most basic need, but it is so scarce amongst some of the poorest people in the world. By donating to SCIAF's "Water for a Village" campaign this Christmas you will bring fresh water to villages and towns where it is most needed by enabling SCIAF and its' partners to sink a well or build irrigation systems to sustain life. To make a donation contact SCIAF at: 7 West Nile Street, Glasgow. G1 2PR or telephone: 0141 354 5555 or go online: sciaf.org.uk/waterforavillage. See the SCIAF Christmas Real Gifts catalogue at sciaf.org.uk/realgifts.
Christmas Card Delivery	The 91st Ayrshire (St Joseph's) Scout Group will be around after our Masses today to take from you your Christmas Card delivery requests. Only 40p a delivery to the town and local villages!
Children's Party	The senior Caritas students at St Joseph's Academy have organised a Children's Party in St Matthew's Church Hall for Sunday 17th December from 1pm till 2.30pm-all free! It is for the children of Primary School age. All you have to do is sign-up on the list in the Church porch and then come along!
Children's Liturgy Christmas prep	Our CL teams will work with the children over Advent to prepare their contribution to our Christmas Eve Masses. At OLMC the children are asked to volunteer to the leaders who will help them prepare.
St Matthew's Foodbank	The Foodbank will now open from 3.30pm till 5.30pm. It will close after service on the 21st December till the 4th January for the Christmas break. In need of support from the Foodbank? Telephone 01563 574000 to book an appointment (call before 3pm). Donations are always needed.
Hillhouse Christmas PJ Campaign	They are really struggling with all sizes of PJ's-Josephine has left a list of the sizes they are looking for at the back of church-have a wee look. They can be left (unwrapped please) in the donation box in our Church porch. Tel: 01563 523362 for more info.
Carol Concert	Join the Diocesan Choir at St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on Wednesday 20th December at 7.30pm for an evening of Readings and Craols for Christmas. All welcome.



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