

SUNDAY BULLETIN



Sunday 17th December, 2023

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL & ST MATTHEW'S

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Jim Hayes

Fr Jim's Telephone: 01563 533587 or 01563 523822

Address: The Parish Office, St Matthew's, Grassyards Road, Kilmarnock. KA3 7SH

Fr. Jim's Email: kilmarnock.stmatthew@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or kilmarnock.olmc@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

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

Contact Details: 01563 523822 Email: ihmsisters@gallowaydiocese.org.uk



Liturgy	Third Sunday of Advent. Year - B
Sunday Masses	9.30am at St Matthew's, Grassyards Road 11.30am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kirkton Road
9.30am Response: 11.30am Response:	<i>My soul rejoices in my God. My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices. My God forever he will be, bless his holy name.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. 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

Sunday 17th December	9.30am Mass at St. Matthew's Intention: Ian McAlear (RecDec)	11.30am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intentions: John McKee (43rd Ann), Margaret Cassidy (22nd Ann) and May Mackin (9th Ann).	<i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>
Monday 18th December	Our Parish Office is closed on Mondays.	10.00 Mass at St. Joseph's	<i>Matthew 1:18-24</i>
Tuesday 19th December	10am Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Mr William (Billy) McGregor McGowan RIP	<i>Luke 1:5-25</i>
Wednesday 20th December	7pm Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel followed by Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament till 8pm (Confession available too)	Intention: Jimmy Boyle (21st Ann).	<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>
Thursday 21st December	9.30am Rosary at St Matthew's	10.00am Mass at St Matthew's . Intention: Murdoch McGuire (Sp.Int)	<i>Luke 1:39-45</i>
Friday 22nd December	9.30am Rosary at Our Lady of Mount Carmel	10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel- Intention: Jim McCutcheon (Ann)	<i>Luke 1:46-56</i>
Saturday 23rd December	9.30am Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at St Matthew's	10.00am Mass at St. Matthew's Intention: Edward O'Neil (Ann)	6.00pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph's <i>Luke 1:57-66</i>
Sunday 24th December	9.30am Mass at St. Matthew's Intention: For the Parish	11.30am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: For Peace in the world	<i>Luke 1:26-38</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: Billy McGowan, Ian McAlear and all victims of war and violence.

Anniversaries: John McKee, Jean Kenney, Margaret Cassidy, May Mackin, Jimmy Boyle, Jim McCutcheon, Edward O'Neil.

May all our departed loved ones rest in peace.

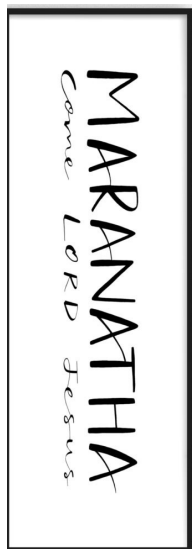
People who are ill: Eimear Callaghan, David O'Callaghan, Michelle Hanlon, Michelle Dunne, Leona McAllister, Mary Hasson, Donald Gibon, Frank Mullen, Helen O'Donnell., Mary McLaughlin, May Hollywood, Frances O'Neill, Helen McClure, James Hughes, Max McLean, Mary Rea, Stuart Mason Carolanne Gallagher,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

(Please let us know if any circumstances change).


REFLECTION

During Advent...

Trust-That God is always listening
Search-For God in others and in your day to day life
Be generous-Share your time and your joy
Reconcile-With God and others-go to Confession
Be coherent-Match your actions to your beliefs
Love-Others through simple and kind gestures
Be grateful-To God for all your blessings
Speak-About God. Don't be ashamed of him.
Illuminate-Others with joy. Be a light to the world.
Pray-Dedicating some special time to God.



SACRAMENTS

Marriage	By arrangement with Fr. Jim. The Diocese of Galloway requires that couples give a minimum of six months' notice of their intention to marry
Baptism	By arrangement with Fr. Jim.
Reconciliation	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: £176.56 and 2nd: £134.05. Ecuador Box: £64.30
ST MATTHEW'S	1st: £378.59 and 2nd: £251.81 with the Community Box: £103.90

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE/EMAIL ADDRESSES

KILMARNOCK RC CHURCHES: www.rckilmarnock.org.uk FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/OurLadyOfMountCarmelKilmarnock / https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewschurchkilmarnock	
OLMC Society of Saint Vincent de Paul: olmc_ssvp@icloud.com	Mount Carmel Primary School: 01563 525897
St. Andrew's Primary School & Early Childhood Centre: 01563 549549	St. Joseph's Academy: 01563 526144
Diocese of Galloway: 01292 266750 www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk	SPRED: 01292 738068 / Annie.Steven@spredgalloway.org.uk
HOSPITAL VISITING: Crosshouse Hospital: Fr Stephen McGrattan - 01563 521832	Ayr Hospital: Fr. Benjamin Mkeri – 01655 882145
St Matthew's Hall Bookings: Margaret Merrick - 07765715798 or Email: margaret.merrick@btinternet.com	
ITEMS FOR THE SUNDAY BULLETIN: 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: kilmarnock.olmc@gallowaydiocese.org.uk OR kilmarnock.stmatthew@gallowaydiocese.org.uk . Deadline: Thursdays 10am.	

Ministry Rota for 24th December– The Fourth Sunday of Advent. Year B

Scripture	Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11	Canticle: Luke 1:46-50	I Thessalonians 5:16-24	<i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>
St. Matthew's	Readers: Dawn Bias, Brian Gilhooley, Fran Boyle. Euch.Ministers: Catherine Brown (L), Philip Brown (L), Cherry Stacey (L), Stephen Duff (R), Louise Johnston (R).			
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Readers: Marie Wilkie, Marion Smith. Euch.Ministers: Sr Juliet, Donna Shearer, Graham Rannoohan.			

Ministry Rota for 25th December– Christmas Masses

Scripture	Isaiah 52:7-10.	Psalm 97	Hebrews 1:1-6	<i>John 1:1-18</i>
St. Matthew's 5pm Vigil	Readers: Margaret Merrick, Dawn Bias and Caron Bias. Euch.Ministers: Maureen Thomson (L), Stephen Duff (L), Larrie Tommie (L), Sr Juliet (R), Louise Johnston (R).			
Our Lady of Mount Carmel 7pm Vigil	Readers: Charlie Harper, Donna Shearer and Sr Juliet Euch.Ministers: Suzy Hollywood, Josephine McCrossan and Sr Mabel			
St. Matthew's 10am Christmas Morning	Readers: Fran Boyle, Michael Thomson and Madaline Musilli. Euch.Ministers: Martin Dempster(L), Clare Gordon (L), Fred Stacey (L), Maureen Walsh (R), Ann Marie Gilmour (R).			

NOTICES

Mr William McGregor McGowan RIP (ka: Billy)	Please pray for the repose of the soul of Billy McGowan who has sadly passed away. We send our prayers and condolences to his family at this difficult time for them all. Billy will be received into OLMC on Monday evening (18th) at 6pm. His Requiem Mass will be at 10am on Tuesday 19th December, thereafter to Stewarton Cemetery. May he rest in peace, Amen.
Carols by Candlelight	This joint service of light and Carols takes place in OLMC this evening (17th) at 7pm, preceded by a period of Advent Quiet time from 4.30pm. It is a wonderful occasion to which all are welcome. A re-tiral collection to support our Foodbanks will be taken.
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 this afternoon-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 come along and enjoy the fun and games.
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.
End of Term School Masses	Our schools are marking the last week of term with the celebration of the Eucharist, you are welcome to attend any of these occasions (these are extra celebrations-the usual parish masses at 10am will also be celebrated). Tuesday (19th) at 1.40pm in St Matthew's we welcome St Andrew's Primary School Thursday (21st) at 11.30am in OLMC we welcome Mount Carmel Primary School. Thursday (21st) at 2.30pm in St Matthew's we welcome St Jospeh's Academy.
Christmas Dates	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. Please access rcpolitics.org/buffer-zones for more information about these important legal changes being consulted on by the Scottish Government.
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.
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.
Diocesan Youth Gathering	The diocesan Youth Ministry Team invite our young people to join them in St Matthew's Hall for a Christmas Gathering of fun and games on Thursday 28th December from 12noon till 3pm. It's free!
RCIA Rite of Presentation	Today in OLMC we welcome and present to the parish community three members of the RCIA programme as a step on their journey into the Catholic faith. It is wonderful for us to see!
Used Stamps Wanted!	Don't throw out your used stamps as they can be collected to benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society. It just takes a minute to tear your stamp off all the Christmas mail you are receiving-please leave a wee border round them-bring them to Church and Kathleen Jones will collect them, sort them and send them off with your good wishes.
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 Carols for Christmas. All welcome.
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.



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