

SUNDAY BULLETIN



Sunday 24th December, 2023

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL & ST MATTHEW'S

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Jim Hayes

Fr Jim's Telephone: 01563 533587 or 01563 523822

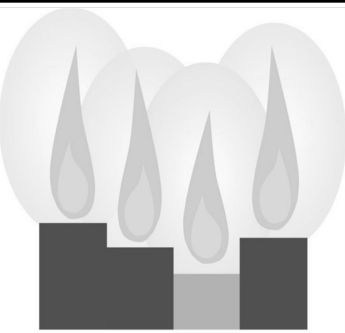
Address: The Parish Office, St Matthew's, Grassyards Road, Kilmarnock. KA3 7SH

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	Fourth 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
Psalm Response:	<i>I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.</i>
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia! I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me. Alleluia!

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 24th December	9.30am Mass at St. Matthew's Intention: Hugh Coulter (15th Ann)	11.30am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: Mary Hasson (RecDec) and Alex McGarry (RecDec)	Luke 1:26-38	
Sunday CHRISTMAS EVE 24th December	5pm Vigil Mass of Christmas at St Matthew's Intention: For Christmas Mass Bouquets on the Altar List	7pm Vigil Mass of Christmas at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: For Christmas Mass Bouquets on the Altar List	John 1:1-18	
Monday CHRISTMAS DAY 25th December	Mass of Christmas Day at St Matthew's	Intention: For the Parish	John 1:1-18	
Tuesday 26th December	9.30am Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at Our Lady of Mount Carmel	10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Intention: Mass Bouquet for Christmas (N.Mc.A).	Matthew 10:17-22	
Wednesday 27th December	10.00am Mass at St Matthew's	Intention: Breda & Seamus Moloney RIP (C'mas Rem.)	John 20:2-8	
Thursday 28th December	9.30am Rosary at St Matthew's	10.00am Mass at St Matthew's. Intention: McHugh Family (Ireland-Sp.Int-B.D)	Matthew 2:13-18	
Friday 29th December	9.30am Rosary at Our Lady of Mount Carmel	10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: Mass Bouquet for Christmas (N.Mc.A).	Luke 2:22-35	
Saturday 30th December	9.30am Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at St Matthew's	10.00am Mass at St. Matthew's Intention: Ken Hargreaves (RecDec)	6.00pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph's	Luke 2:36-40
Sunday 31st December	9.30am Mass at St. Matthew's Intention: Gerry Kelly (RecDec) and Ros MacDonald (RecDec)	11.30am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: For Peace in the world	Luke 2:22-40	

Please remember the following in your prayers:

We remember all those who are in need of our prayers:

Recently Deceased: Mary Hasson, Alex McGarry, Ken Hargreaves and all victims of war and violence.

Anniversaries: Hugh Coulter.

People who are ill: Kathleen Chambers, 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).



WE HAVE A NEW BISHOP.....


At 12 noon on Thursday 22 December 2023 in Rome it was announced, that Pope Francis had nominated Fr. Frank Dougan, a priest of the Diocese of Motherwell, as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Galloway. He will succeed Archbishop William Nolan who was Bishop of Galloway from 2014 to 2022 when he became Archbishop of Glasgow, since when it has been administered by Fr. William McFadden.

Reacting to his appointment, Fr. Frank said;

"I am humbled and more than a little bit nervous that Pope Francis has asked me to take on this office. I feel confident however that I will not be alone in spreading the joy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I will be joining with every single person in Galloway Diocese all of whom have a role to play, my role being just one of them. With God's grace and the deep faith of the Church in Galloway we can continue to build on the solid foundations left by those who have come before us, stretching back to St. Ninian who first planted the seeds of the Christian faith in Scotland here in Galloway." Fr. Frank added; "My mother was from Ayr, and I spent many childhood summers here, so you could say there is a little bit of coming home for me! But most importantly, we must proclaim a Church where everyone can feel at home and welcomed."

Responding to the news Diocesan Administrator Fr. William McFadden said: "On behalf of the community in the Diocese of Galloway, I am delighted to warmly welcome Fr Dougan as our new bishop. I can assure him of an enthusiastic welcome as he comes among us bringing his unique pastoral leadership and skills. I look forward to working with him, and in continuing the implementation in the diocese of the pastoral and prophetic vision offered by Pope Francis for the Church today. "

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 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: £249.91 and 2nd: £198.70. Carols by Candlelight to support the Foodbanks: 190.00-thank you so much!
ST MATTHEW'S	1st: £241.29 and 2nd: £189.42 with the Community Box: £461.60.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE/EMAIL ADDRESSES

KILMARNOCK RC CHURCHES: www.rckilmarnock.org.uk	
FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/OurLadyOfMountCarmelKilmarnock / https://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	Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16	Psalms 88	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
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 Rannochan.			

Ministry Rota for 25th December– Christmas Masses

Scripture	Isaiah 52:7-10.	Psalms 97	Hebrews 1:1-6	John 1:1-18
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

Ordination of our new Bishop	Details of when Bishop-elect Dougan will be Ordained will be worked out over the next few weeks and early in the new year announcements will be made. In the meantime let us keep Fr Dougan in our prayers as he makes this move to come and lead and live among us.
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
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!
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.
Altar Servers Christmas Treat.	Our wonderful Servers will join other Servers from across the deanery this coming Friday (29th) for pizza and Panto as a thank you for all their dedicated service to our parishes over the year. We look forward to seeing them at 12.30pm in St Joseph's Hall for pizza then off to the Palace for the Panto!
St Andrew's Primary School p.1 Registration.	Registration week for new P1s (August 2024) will take place from Monday 8 January 2024 until Friday 12 January 2024 for children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2024 and 28 February 2025, and whose parents/carers wish them to attend school. Registration forms should be completed online on East Ayrshire Council website and submitted no later than Friday 12 January 2024. Further details will follow after the Christmas holidays. Placing requests for P1's should be completed and submitted no later than 31 January 2024. If you wish to have a look at the P1 classrooms in St Andrew's Primary then please contact the school, all places on the walk round must be booked in advance. Tel: 01563 549549.
Mount Carmel Primary School Survey.	At Mount Carmel Primary School we are keen to refresh the Vision, Values and Aims of our school. We are looking for the opinion of the local community on what these could evolve to become. If Parishioners could take a copy of our survey from the back of Church and either return them to the school directly or to the parish by Friday 19 th January we'd be very grateful.
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	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.
Children's Liturgy Christmas prep	We look forward to the children presenting the Christmas Nativity story for us at our Christmas Masses. Thanks to the CL teams in both our parishes for their great work with the children.
St Matthew's Foodbank	The Foodbank is closed now 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.
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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