



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 28th January 2024

Parish Priest: Reverend Stephen G McGrattan (stephen.mcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

Assistant Priest: Reverend Kevin J A Rennie (kevin.rennie@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

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Pastoral Assistants: Sister Mary Rose Confidence, Sister Mary Mabel, Sister Marilyn Juliet
Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mount Carmel Convent, 14 Kirkton Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 2DF
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A parish of the R C Diocese of Galloway (www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk). Charity number SC010576.

LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 28th JANUARY – 4th FEBRUARY 2024

Mass is livestreamed on the "St Joseph's, Kilmarnock" YouTube channel.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Gathering</i>	<i>Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)</i>
Saturday 27th	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Daniel Cannon (RIP)
	7.00 pm	Burns Night in St Joseph's Hall	
Sunday 28th	11.00 am	Mass	Kathleen Woods (RIP) / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 29th	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Agnes Colgan, RIP	Agnes Colgan (RIP) /
Tuesday 30th	10.00 am	Mass	Sandra Niven (Ann) /
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Wednesday 31st	11.00 – 1.00 pm.	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
	7.00 pm	Parents' Meeting for First Reconciliation in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	Mass	Margaret & Thomas McKinstery (Ann) /
Thursday 1st	After Mass	Recitation of the Rosary	
	6.00 pm	Mass	Special Intention /
Friday 2nd	6.30 pm	RCIA in the Parish House	
	10.00 am	Mass	Jessie Flynn & Patrick McCluskey (Ann) /
Saturday 3rd	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Special Intention /
Sunday 4th	11.00 am	Mass	Robert Kerr (Ann) /
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	

The church will be open for prayer Monday to Friday from 9.30 am until 4 pm. Enter through small side door.

LENTEN DISCUSSION SERIES: Ash Wednesday falls of 14th February this year. Starting on Monday 12th February and running Mondays thereafter throughout Lent we will be having a Lenten Discussion Series in the Hall. This will run from 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm. These meetings will be preceded by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6.30 pm – 7.00 pm in the Church for those who are able. The series will follow the popular Sycamore catechetical programme and is an opportunity to grow in Faith and knowledge of God during Lent. Sycamore uses video presentation to share content on a particular theme and then breaks to invite small group discussion. The topics are:

- 12th February – The Community of the Church
- 19th February – Baptism and Confirmation
- 26th February – The Holy Eucharist
- 4th March – Forgiveness, Healing and Mission
- 11th March – The Christian Vocations
- 18th March – The Social Teaching of the Church

All are welcome to come along and take part.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DURING LENT: The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after morning Mass on Fridays during Lent until 4 pm. A list will be on the notice board inviting people to watch for half-hour long periods during the day. People are also welcome to drop in for quiet prayer during the day.

REGISTRATION FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION: If you have a child in primary three and would like for them to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion during 2024 and 2025 please register with the parish by email. When emailing, please include the name of your child, where you would like your child to receive First Holy Communion, and a statement of commitment to attend Sunday Mass with your child during the time of preparation and also after First Communion is received. Please do so as soon as possible.

On Tuesday 30th January there will be a parents' meeting here in St Joseph's at 7.00 pm to explain more about the sacraments

Hall bookings: Margaret McGrath (01563 542130). **Safeguarding co-ordinator:** Margaret McGrath (01563 542130)

Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals: In emergencies ask hospital staff to page on-call priest chaplain. For regular visiting:

Crosshouse Hospital: Fr Stephen McGrattan (stephen.mcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01563 521832)

Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

St Andrew's Primary: 01563 549549 **Mount Carmel Primary:** 01563 525897 **St Joseph's Academy:** 01563 526144

Standing orders: £674.08. **Weekly collection:** £1,197.51. **Building Fund:** £787.78. **Justice & Peace:** £55. **SCES:** £5.

Xaverian Fathers: £5. **Mission Sunday:** £5. Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

and the process of preparation. Attendance at this meeting is very important. If you have any questions, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin.

ORDINATION OF BISHOP-ELECT FRANK DOUGAN: This will take place in St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan on Saturday 9th March at 11 am. More details regarding tickets will be available through the parish early in February. For those unable to attend the Ordination, there will be a ceremony in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on Sunday 10th March at 3 pm, and, again, more details to follow.

DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD: Are you thinking about becoming a Priest in the Diocese of Galloway? The Diocese is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information please contact Fr Martin Chambers at: martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS: The Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick Mass will be held on Sunday 11th of February at 4 pm in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr. The Hospitalité looks forward to welcoming you, and if you wish to be anointed please make yourself known to a member of the Hospitalité team on arrival. Following Mass there will be refreshments in the hall and the AGM of Galloway Lourdes Hospitalité.

CHOIR PRACTICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER: Choir Practices for Holy Week and Easter will commence at 6 p.m. in the church on **Sunday 11 February** and continue thereafter each Sunday until 24 March (inclusive). Please note: there will be a final additional practice on **Wednesday 27 March** at 7 pm. New members welcome. The ability to read music, while helpful, is not a requirement of joining the choir. The choir will sing at the liturgies of: Holy Thursday (28 March); Easter Vigil (30 March); 11 am Mass on Easter Sunday (31 March); 11 am Mass on Second Sunday of Easter (7 April).

RETREAT DAY FOR PRIMARY 4 CHILDREN: For the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation there will be a retreat in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock on Saturday 10th February beginning with Mass at 10.00 am and lasting until 2.00 pm. Children should bring a packed lunch. Attendance at the retreat is an important part of preparation to receive the Sacrament. At the end of the retreat, from 2.00 pm, there will be a short parents' meeting to discuss arrangements for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, to take place in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Kilmarnock on Thursday 15th February at 7.00 pm.

COMPOSITION CONCERT: We are very excited to welcome St Joseph's Academy and the Cumnock Tryst to St Joseph's along with members of the Scottish National Orchestra. Together they will perform an evening concert on Tuesday 20th February here in St Joseph's, performing pieces composed by students from St Joseph's Academy in collaboration with the Cumnock Tryst. Information about tickets will be provided soon.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ: Come along for homemade soup, sandwich and cakes on Tuesdays between 11 am and 1 pm. **With a busier Café, we appeal for some more home baking to be donated on a weekly basis.** If anyone can help please contact Margaret McGrath on 01563 542130.

LOURDES QUIZ NIGHT AND RAFFLE: During the Easter week, parishioners Mark and Kieran O'Neill will be travelling to Lourdes as part of the HCPT Easter pilgrimage with

Group 138 led by Fr Martin Chambers. They are fundraising to help take disabled and disadvantaged children and young people from Ayrshire.

In order to do so they are running a quiz night on 24th February in St Joseph's Church hall. Please come along for 7:30pm. £3 per person. No sign up needed, pay on the night. Teams of up to a maximum of 6 people. Raffle donations welcome. Cash prize to be won. BYOB and snacks!

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY: Fr Stephen, Fr Kevin, and the Sisters visit Catholic patients in Crosshouse Hospital typically twice weekly. If you know of anyone in the hospital, please let us know by email (stephen.mcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk) or phone and they will be visited during our routine visiting. We are not automatically notified when a Catholic patient is admitted to hospital and so we rely on receiving the information from family and friends.

For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri at benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01655 882145.

For **urgent or emergency assistance from a chaplain** please ask the hospital staff to page the priest on call.

APPEAL FOR FOOD PARCELS: We have seen a notable uptake in demand and are grateful for any and all support received. We would ask you to donate some of the following items which go into food parcels and enable us to continue providing this vital service:

- Cans of soup
- Canned meals, e.g. beef bolognese, chilli con carne, chicken supreme, Fray Bentos style pie
- Pasta / tinned potatoes / rice
- Tinned fruit / vegetables / beans
- Cartons of long-life milk (UHT)
- Tinned hotdog sausages
- Tinned sardines / mackerel fillets / tuna
- Biscuits
- Toilet roll / bars of soap.

Please ensure canned foods **have a ring pull** for opening. Please also note that tea, coffee and sugar are **not required**. Any donations are gratefully received and can be dropped off in the Church Porch / Church Hall (Wednesday 10.30 – 11.30) / Church House.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY There's lots coming up in the coming weeks, so save the date and join us when you can.

- First Reconciliation Parents' Meeting – Tue 30th Jan, 7.00 pm
- Children's Confirmation Retreat – Sat 10 Feb, 10.00 am
- Sacramental Preparation Mass – Sun 11 Feb, 11.00 pm
- Choir Practices begin – Sun 11 Feb, 6.00 pm
- Ash Wednesday – Wed 14 Feb, Masses in St Joseph's will be at 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm.
- Confirmation Service – Thu 15 Feb, 7.00 pm (*Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kilmarnock*)
- Diocesan Youth Evening – Sun 18 Feb, 6.00 pm (*St Matthew's, Kilmarnock*)
- Composition Concert by St Joseph's Academy and the Cumnock Tryst – Tue 20 Feb

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK							
	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 27 January 6 pm	F Donachie, H Rameckers, A Davidson	C Power, K McGhee, J Lennon, C McGowan, A Gorman	Joseph, Lexi, Maia, Antoni, Ravindu			Anne, Michael	H Matthews
Sunday 28 January 11 am	R Doak, L Hand, E Maxwell	R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, A Smith	Luca, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Ryan	E Cunningham, L Heron	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Theresa, Alan	H Matthews
Saturday 3 February 6 pm	E Heron, M Kirk, H Rameckers	D Casey, F Donachie, K McGhee, C McGowan, C Power	Joseph, Lexi, Maia, Antoni, Ravindu			Claire, Margaret	IHM Sisters
Sunday 4 February 11 am	T Murphy, P Nicholson, G Smith	M Andrew, F McCann, R Murphy, A Neil	Luca, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Ryan	Anna Mackie, Alice Murphy	IHM Sisters, Emma King	Paul, Libby	IHM Sisters