



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

## THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

First Sunday of Lent  
Sunday 18th February 2024

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

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

St Joseph's Presbytery, 15a Hill Street, Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB

Telephone: 01563 521832 • Web: [www.rckilmarnock.org.uk](http://www.rckilmarnock.org.uk)

Facebook: St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock • Twitter: @RCStJosephs

Parish office email and for newsletter items (by 10 am Thursday): [kilmarnock.stjoseph@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:kilmarnock.stjoseph@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

**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  
Telephone: 01563 523822 • Email: [ihmsisters@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:ihmsisters@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

A parish of the R C Diocese of Galloway ([www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk](http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk)). Charity number SC010576.

### LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 18th – 25th FEBRUARY 2024

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 17th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sunday 18th	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Michael & Theresa Corry (RIP) /
	11.00 am	Mass	Peter & Janette Campbell (Ann) / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	6.00 pm	Choir Practice	
	6.00 pm	Diocesan Youth Evening in St Matthew's Church	
Monday 19th	10.00 am	Mass	Neil Murphy (RIP) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Reception of Remains for Irene McDonnell, RIP	
	6.30 – 7.00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 20th	7.00 – 8.00 pm	Lenten Discussion Series on Baptism and Confirmation in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Irene McDonnell, RIP	Irene McDonnell (RIP) / Irene McDonnell (RIP)
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 21st	7.30 pm	Composition Concert with St Joseph's Academy and the Cumnock Tryst	
	10.00 am	Mass	John Farren (Ann) / Isabella McAvoy (RIP)
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 22nd	6.00 pm	Mass	Mary Gallagher (Ann) / Special Intention
Friday 23rd	10.00 am	Mass	Francis Farren (Ann) / Connor Middleton (RIP)
	10.30 – 10.50 am	Station of the Cross	
	10.50 – 4.00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Saturday 24th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Catherine Heron (Ann)
Sunday 25th	11.00 am	Mass	For the Parish / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	6.00 pm	Choir Practice	

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

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE:** With sadness we inform you that our parishioner Irene McDonnell has died. May she rest in peace. Our condolences and prayers are extended to Irene's family. Irene's mortal remains will be received into the Church on Monday 19th February at 6 pm, her Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 20th February at 10 am.

**LENTEN DISCUSSION SERIES:** On Mondays 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

follows 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:

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.

**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](mailto:stephen.mcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk) or 01563 521832)

*Ayr Hospital:* Fr Benjamin Mkeri ([benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto: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:** £683.31. **Weekly collection:** £1,106.60. **Building Fund:** £781.18.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.



*Congratulations to the young people of St Joseph's Deanery who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday 15th February  
in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Kilmarnock. May the Holy Spirit strengthen them to be faithful disciples of Jesus.*

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

**DIOCESAN YOUTH EVENING:** The next Diocesan Youth Evening will take place tonight in St Matthew's Church, Kilmarnock. Starting with Mass at 6.00 pm followed by games and pizza, and concluding at 8.30 pm. This event is open to young people of all ages and is free of charge.

**CHOIR PRACTICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER:** Choir Practices for Holy Week and Easter began last Sunday at 6 pm and will continue each Sunday until 24 March (inclusive). Please note: there will be a final additional practice on **Wednesday 27 March** at 7 pm. The choir will sing at the liturgies of: Holy Thursday (28 March); Easter Vigil (30 March); 11 am Mass on Easter Sunday (31 March).

**ORDINATION OF BISHOP-ELECT FRANK DOUGAN:** On the weekend of 9th-10th March there will be two celebrations associated with the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Elect Frank Dougan.



The Ordination Mass takes place in the Church of St-Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan at 11 am on Saturday 9th March. On Sunday 10th March, Bishop Dougan will be received into St Margaret's Cathedral at a Mass beginning at 3 pm.

Admission is by ticket only, and St Joseph's has an allocation of 16 tickets for each Mass. If you would like to represent the parish at either or both Masses, please add your name to the list in the porch.

**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 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 7.30 pm. £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!

**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 at 7.30 pm here in St Joseph's, performing pieces composed by students from St Joseph's Academy in collaboration with the Cumnock Tryst. Tickets are available from the stall in the porch and are free of charge.

**APPEAL FOR HELP TO CLEAN THE CHURCH:** If you are able to spend an hour helping to clean the church on a Friday morning after Mass we would be pleased to hear from you. Please speak to Anne Gorman, Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin if you can help. The commitment need not be for every week.

**MINIBUS TRIP:** Following the success of our 2023 minibus trips, the first minibus trip of 2024 will take place on Friday 15th March to New Abbey. Full details and registration will be available from next weekend.



*Group photo from Mount Stuart – last minibus trip of 2023.*

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

- Diocesan Youth Evening – Sun 18th Feb, 6.00 pm (*St Matthew's, Kilmarnock*)
- Composition Concert by St Joseph's Academy and the Cumnock Tryst – Tue 20th Feb
- Sacramental Preparation Mass – Sun 3rd Mar, 11.00 pm
- Parish Minibus Trip – Fri 15th Mar
- Kilmarnock Churches Penance Service – Tue 19th Mar, 7.00 pm (*St Matthew's, Kilmarnock*)
- First Reconciliation – Mon 25th Mar, 7.00 pm

#### MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
<b>Saturday 17 February 6 pm</b>	M McGrath, K McGhee, M Kirk	G Rankin, E Rankin, Sr Mabel, D Casey, F Donachie	Joseph, Lexi, Maia, Antoni, Ravindu			Claire, Margaret	H Matthews
<b>Sunday 18 February 11 am</b>	M Andrew, F McCann, E Bohan	L Dorrian, I Love, H Matthews, P Dorrian	Luca, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Ryan	Anne & Gerry Smith	Pauline Ferguson, Sophie Crawford	Theresa, Alan	H Matthews
<b>Saturday 24 February 6 pm</b>	H Rameckers, G McIntyre, A Davidson	J Lennon, C McGowan, K McGhee, C Power, A Gorman	Joseph, Lexi, Maia, Antoni, Ravindu			Anne, Michael	IHM Sisters
<b>Sunday 25 February 11 am</b>	M Cunningham, R Doak, L Hand	M Andrew, F McCann, R Murphy, A Neil	Luca, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Ryan	E Cunningham, Liz Heron	Emma Boyd, Karen Cassidy	Paul, Libby	IHM Sisters