



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

# THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

3rd Sunday of Easter  
Sunday 14th April 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

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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](http://www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk)). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

## LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 14th – 21st APRIL 2024

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 13th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sunday 14th	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	John Casey (RIP) / For the Parish / Mary McGowne (RIP)
	11.00 am	Mass	
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Reception for Neil Laird, RIP	
	6.00 pm	Diocesan Youth Evening in St Matthew's Church	
Monday 15th	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Neil Laird, RIP	Neil Laird (RIP)
Tuesday 16th	10.00 am	Mass	Hugh Gallacher (Ann.)
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 17th	10.00 am	Mass	Special Intention
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 18th	6.00 pm	Mass	Stephen McLinn (Ann.)
Friday 19th	10.00 am	Mass	Isabel Hanlon (Ann.)
Saturday 20th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	For the Parish
Sunday 21st	11.00 am	Mass	Betty McCann (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.

### FR MARTIN CHAMBERS, RIP:

It was with great sadness that we discovered that Fr Martin Chambers, Bishop-elect for Dunkeld Diocese and former parish priest of St Matthew's and Our Lady of Mount Carmel parishes had died in his sleep on Wednesday morning.

We were all deeply saddened to hear of his death and mourn not only as individuals but as a whole parish community, as well as part of the wider Kilmarnock and Diocesan communities. I am sure that we all will have fond memories of Fr Martin's time in Kilmarnock as well as through his other projects, in particular his Ecuadorian ministry, the work of the Ecuador Trust and



HCPT. Fr Martin's funeral arrangements will be announced in due course. We join with the Diocese in prayer as we pray for his eternal repose and the comfort and consolation of his family and friends at this time.

**Announcing the death of his friend, Bishop Frank Dougan shared the following message:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As with many of you I am mourning the loss of our own Fr Martin Chambers. This is a personal loss to so many across the Diocese and beyond (right across the Atlantic to Ecuador).

We think in particular of his family whom he loved so much.

He was a man of great love, enthusiasm and faith. He gave everything for the People of God, and so many have been

**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:** £1,429.88. **Building Fund:** £708.39.

**Holy Places:** £60. **Church Students Fund:** £20. **SCIAF:** £5. **Organ Fund:** £235.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

touched by him. We only learn to love if we have been loved first: Fr Martin was one of the finest teachers in how to love, and so was a true instrument of God.

As he looked forward to his new role as Bishop, he spoke often as being a missionary disciple and he certainly was that.

Can I ask that in a special way, you take care of your priests more than ever in the days that follow? They have lost a brother and need your love.

We continue to pray for each other, for his family and for the repose of his soul.

+Frank Dougan, Bishop of Galloway

*P.S. From Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin: please pray for Bishop Frank as you are doing for us, and thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your loving care and concern over these last sad days.*

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE:** With sadness we inform you of the death of Neil Laird. May he rest in peace. Our condolences and prayers are extended to his family and friends. Neil's Requiem Mass will take place at St Joseph's at 10.00 am on Monday 15th April, with a Vigil Reception on Sunday 14th April at 6 pm.

**DO THIS IN MEMORY:** Today our young parishioners continue their preparation for the sacrament of Holy Communion with another of the special "Do this in Memory" Sundays. Children are asked to please bring your candles and gather in the sacristy a few minutes before Mass to walk in the procession.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?:** As a parish community, we were delighted to welcome Jasmin Bobko into the Church at the Easter Vigil. If you're thinking of becoming Catholic, or know someone who is, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin to register your interest in the RCIA programme for next year.

**RE-POINTING WORKS:** Over the next two months, the re-pointing works will continue, this year working on part of the house which has been identified as requiring urgent intervention. Please take extra care in the car park to the rear of the Church where scaffolding has been erected and the builders will be working.

**PIPE ORGAN:** The keyboards of the organ have been taken to Durham for some remedial work after the restoration. The organ should be in use again by the end of May.

**NEW LAIGH KIRK'S "MUSIC FOR ALL":** New Laigh Kirk invites everyone who loves good music to come to a free concert at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 20 April, when the guest artist will be Alastair McDonald, a well-known folk singer, who has been described as "Scotland's leading musical minstrel". This is the first afternoon concert in New Laigh Kirk's Music for All series.

**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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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

- Solemnity of the Ascension (Holy day of obligation) – Thu 9th May
- Children's Retreat for First Communion – Sat 11th May, 10.00 am (*St Matthew's, Kilmarnock*)
- Parish Minibus Trip to St Andrew's – Fri 17th May
- First Communion – Sun 2nd June

**THE YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE**  
INVITES YOU TO OUR  
**EASTER YOUTH EVENING**  
**WITH BISHOP FRANK**

Come and meet our new Bishop, chat with him and celebrate Easter with him.

**WHEN:** Sunday 14th April 2024  
**BEGINS WITH MASS AT:** 6pm  
followed by pizza and activities  
finishing with Night Prayer at 8.30pm.

**WHERE:** St Matthew's,  
Grassyards Road, Kilmarnock. (KA3 7SH)

**YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ACROSS THE DIOCESE**  
**JOIN US TO REFLECT, SUPPORT AND PRAY TOGETHER.**

For more info email us at: [youth@gallowaydiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)  
Tel: 01563 533587

The Youth Ministry Office is a Ministry of the RC Diocese of Galloway.  
Charity Number: SC 010076. Director: Fr Jim Hayes.

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK							
	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
<b>Saturday 13 April</b> 6pm	K McGhee, E Heron, H Rameckers	Sr Mabel, D Casey, F Donachie, A Gorman, J Lennon	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Claire, Margaret	IHM Sisters
<b>Sunday 14 April</b> 11am	L Hand, E Maxwell, T Murphy	E Cunningham, L Dorrian, I Love, H Matthews	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca	Anne and Mike Timmons	-	Eileen, Dennis	IHM Sisters
<b>Saturday 20 April</b> 6pm	M McGrath, F Donachie, A Davidson	G Rankin, E Rankin, M Steele, K McGhee, C McGowan	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Anne, Michael	H Rameckers
<b>Sunday 21 April</b> 11am	P Nicholson, G Smith, B Shepherd	R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, A Smith	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca	Anne Mackie, Alice Murphy	Pauline Ferguson, Caitlin Mulhern	Theresa, Alan	H Rameckers