



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

5th Sunday of Easter
Sunday 28th April 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
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A parish of the R C Diocese of Galloway (www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 28th APRIL – 5th MAY 2024

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 27th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sunday 28th	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Lexi Alexander Campbell (Ann)
	11.00 am	Mass	Christopher Saukury (Ann)
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 29th	6.00 pm	Vigil Reception of Fr Martin Chambers, RIP in Our Lady and St Meddan's, Troon	
	No Mass in Kilmarnock today		
	12.00 pm	Requiem Mass for Fr Martin Chambers, RIP in Our Lady and St Meddan's, Troon	
Tuesday 30th	10.00 am	Mass	Peter Murphy (Ann)
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Wednesday 1st	10.00 am	Mass	Murdoch McGuire (RIP)/Therese Prior (RIP)
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 2nd	6.00 pm	Mass	Catherine Heron (Ann)/Neil Laird (RIP)
Friday 3rd	10.00 am	Mass	John Murphy (Ann) / Peter Howie (RIP)
Saturday 4th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Mary McGowne (RIP)
Sunday 5th	11.00 am	Mass	Neil Laird (RIP) / For the Parish
	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.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FR MARTIN CHAMBERS, RIP:

Fr Martin's funeral will take place in Our Lady of the Assumption and St Meddan's, Troon. He will be received into the church on Sunday 28th April at 6.00 pm. Following his reception, the church will remain open for private prayer until 8.00 pm. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Monday 29th April at 12.00 noon, following which his mortal remains will be interred at Knadgerhill Cemetery, Irvine.



We are anticipating that both the Vigil Reception and Requiem Mass will be very busy however large amounts of additional seating have been made available in the church hall and grounds (under cover) – the liturgies will be relayed to

these over speakers and, in the hall, shown on a screen to allow all those who wish to attend to do so. On Sunday, it will be possible to access the Church and grounds from 5.00 pm, and on Monday from 10.30 am. If you wish to attend in person, please do so – there is plenty seating capacity available.

We would encourage you to arrive early for both services to ensure that you can be seated in good time. There is no parking available at the church however there is plenty of free on-street parking available as well as a number of car parks a short walk from the church. If you are able to travel by public transport or to car share we would encourage you to do so.

If you intend to join for either or both liturgies please plan accordingly and arrive in good time, we would also suggest that you bring bottled water with you in case you are seated in the grounds. Both liturgies will be livestreamed through the Diocesan Facebook (Galloway Diocese) and YouTube (@RCGalloway) channels.

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: £683.31. **Weekly collection:** £1197.69. **Building Fund:** £155.00.

Ecclesiastical Students Fund: £800.39.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

RETREAT DAY FOR PRIMARY 4 CHILDREN: For the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion there will be a retreat in St Matthew's Church, Kilmarnock on **Saturday 11th May**, 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.

Please note the change of date from the one originally advertised at the start of the year owing to Fr Martin's funeral arrangements.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ: The Community cafe will NOT run on 30th April nor 7th May as many volunteers are not available.

ASSISTED SUICIDE - CALLED TO CARE, NOT TO KILL: You will find enclosed with your bulletin a copy of a Pastoral Letter given by the Scottish Bishops to be distributed to all the faithful at Masses this weekend. The letter addresses the church's stance on assisted suicide and our responsibility as Catholics to respond to it.



Please contact your MSPs today to stop assisted suicide becoming legal in Scotland. Use the QR code to access an online resource created by the Catholic Parliamentary Office, including guidance on contacting your MSPs. You can also visit rcpolitics.org/assistedsuicide or email us at office@rcpolitics.org for more information.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday 13th May at 6.30 pm in the church hall. There will be a time of Eucharistic Adoration from 6.00 pm in the church for those who can manage. Should parishioners wish an item to be discussed, please email kilmarnock.stjoseph@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or pass the item to the parish house.

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 program for next year.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION: Thursday 9th May is the Solemnity of the Ascension. The Ascension falls 40 days after Christ's Resurrection at Easter and is the day on which he ascended into heaven following the resurrection encounters. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, and as such we are expected to attend Mass on it. Masses in St Joseph's will be celebrated at 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm.

MINIBUS TRIP TO ST ANDREWS: On Friday 17th May the next Parish Minibus trip will take place to St Andrews. We will leave from St Joseph's at 9.00 am. On arrival in St Andrews we will celebrate Mass in St James' Church. Following Mass, there will be the opportunity for lunch and time to explore the fascinating surroundings of St Andrews. Please note that, owing to limited venues, lunch is not provided on this trip. We will return to St Joseph's for approximately 6.00 pm. The cost per person is £10, payable on the day. Please sign up in the porch if you're interested. If the trip is oversubscribed, those on the waiting list will receive first preference for the next minibus trip in June.

HALL HIRE: Did you know that our parish hall is available for hire for occasional events? If you've a big event coming up – whether it's a significant birthday or a big family gathering – the hall is available for rent at competitive rates. By hiring the hall, you're able to support the continuing mission of St Joseph's, and in particular the ongoing works and maintenance of the hall. Most recently, the funds raised through the café and hall hire have enabled us to renew all of the lighting in the main hall area, making it brighter and more energy efficient.

If you're interested in finding out more, please speak to Margaret McGrath.

CHRISTIAN AID CONCERT: The New Laigh Kirk invites you to join them on Thursday 2nd May at 7.30 pm for their Christian Aid Concert. Learn more about the work of the charity from their guest speaker, Charlie Meiklejohn, from Christian Aid and enjoy the singing from the Crossroads Community Choir. There is no charge for the concert but a retiral collection in aid of Christian Aid will be taken.

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.

- 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 Andrews – Fri 17th May
- First Communion – Sun 2nd Jan

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 27 April 6pm	E Heron, M Kirk, K McGhee	C Power, Sr Mabel, Sr Juliet, D Casey, F Donachie	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Claire, Margaret	M McGrath
Sunday 28 April 11am	H Matthews, G McGee, M Andrew	F McCann, P Dorrian, P Chigbo, D Custodio	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca	Anne & Gerry Smith	Emma Boyd, Karen Cassidy	Paul, Libby	M McGrath
Saturday 4 May 6pm	A Davidson, H Rameckers, M McGrath	A Gorman, J Lennon, C McGowan, C Power, M Steele	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Anne, Michael	H Matthews
Sunday 5 May 11am	F McCann, E Bohan, M Cunningham	M Andrew, L Dorrian, I Love, H Matthews	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca	E Cunningham, Liz Heron	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Eileen, Dennis	H Matthews