



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

# THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

6th Sunday of Easter  
Sunday 5th May 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 5th – 12th MAY 2024

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 4th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</b>	
Sunday 5th	6.00 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>	/ Mary McGowne (RIP)
	11.00 am	<b>Mass</b>	Neil Laird (RIP) / Special Intention
Monday 6th	After Mass	<b>Tea and Coffee</b> in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	<b>Mass</b>	Mary McGowne (RIP) / Special Intention
Tuesday 7th	10.30 – 10.45 am	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</b>	
	10.00 am	<b>Mass</b>	/ Sarah Hall (RIP)
Wednesday 8th	10.30 – 11.00 am	<b>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	
	10.00 am	<b>Mass</b>	Fr Martin Chambers (RIP) / Gerry Considine (RIP)
Thursday 9th	After Mass	<b>Recitation of the Holy Rosary</b>	
	12.30 pm	<b>Mass for the Solemnity of the Ascension</b>	Sarah Hall (RIP) /
Friday 10th	7.00 pm	<b>Mass for the Solemnity of the Ascension</b>	/ Eddie Johnston (Ann)
	10.00 am	<b>Mass</b>	Agnes Lennon (Ann) / Vincent Cygan (RIP)
Saturday 11th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	Harry Sammons (RIP) / Patrick McGuire (Ann)
	10.30 – 2.00 pm	<b>First Holy Communion Retreat Day</b> in St Matthew's Church	
Sunday 12th	5.30 – 5.45 pm	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)</b>	
	6.00 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>	For the Parish /
	11.00 am	<b>Mass</b>	Catherine Gallagher (RIP) / For the Parish
	After Mass	<b>Tea and Coffee</b> 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.

**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. Masses in St Joseph's will be celebrated at 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm.

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE:** With sadness we inform you that our parishioner Robert Lobban has died. Our condolences and prayers are extended to his family and friends. His Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 14th May at 10 am. May he rest in peace.

**COMMUNITY CAFÉ:** The Community café is not on this week but will return as normal on Tuesday 14th May.

**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.*

**APPEAL FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL:** Demand for the Parish foodbank has been increasingly notably over recent weeks at a time when donations of food have also been decreasing. This puts increasing pressure on the society to try and fund purchases of food in order to keep

**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:** £1,000.32. **SCIAF:** £120. **Retired Priests Fund:** £5.

**Ecclesiastical Students Fund:** £50. **Communications:** £10.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

producing food bags for those in need in our community. They ask that, if possible, you please consider donating either full food bags, or individual items. Any donations are greatly appreciated and can be left in the box in the church porch. The contents requested for a food bag are:

- 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.

**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](mailto:kilmarnock.stjoseph@gallowaydiocese.org.uk) or pass the item to the parish house.

**COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY:** Next Sunday is the World Day of Prayer for Communications. There will be a special collection taken to support the work of communications for the Church in Scotland. Please use the gift aid envelope in your set as appropriate.

**ASSISTED SUICIDE – CALLED TO CARE, NOT TO KILL:**

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](http://rcpolitics.org/assistedsuicide) or email us at [office@rcpolitics.org](mailto:office@rcpolitics.org) for more information.



**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.

**MINIBUS TRIP TO ST ANDREWS: THIS TRIP IS NOW FULL**, if you are still interested, please sign up on the waiting list and we'll let you know if a place opens up. Friday 17th May, leaving St Joseph's at 9 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.

**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 or call 01563 542130.

**ORGAN RECITALS:** The next organ recital in St Joseph's will be performed by Alessandro Bianchi (who has played here twice before) on Tuesday 18th June at 12 noon.

In the meantime, Ciaran Walker, who played the St Joseph's Day recital this year, will perform his final music degree recital in Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh on Tuesday 14th May at 12 noon. Ciaran has extended a warm invitation to anyone from St Joseph's to join him in Edinburgh that day.

**AYRSHIRE FIDDLE ORCHESTRA:** At New Laigh Kirk, Kilmarnock on Friday 17th May. Doors open at 7 pm. Entrance free with retiral collection for church restoration. All welcome.

**ST SOPHIA'S, GALSTON:** Beetle Drive on Friday 31st May at 7 pm in St Sophia's Church Hall. All welcome.

**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, 12.30 pm, 7 pm Mass
- 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 Jun, 11 am Mass

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK							
	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
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
Saturday 11 May 6pm	F Donachie, A Davidson, E Heron	M McGrath, K McGhee, G Rankin, E Rankin	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Claire, Margaret	H Rameckers
Sunday 12 May 11am	R Doak, L Hand, E Maxwell	R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, A Smith	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca	Anne & Mike Timmons	IHM Sisters, Sophie Crawford	Theresa, Alan	H Rameckers