



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Feast of the Epiphany
Sunday 5th January 2025

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

Assistant Priest: Reverend Kevin J A Rennie (kevin.rennie@rcdg.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.rcdg.org.uk). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 5th – 12th JANUARY 2025

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 4th | 10.00 am | Mass in St Matthew's Church | |
| | 5.30 – 5.45 pm | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) | |
| | 6.00 pm | Vigil Mass | <i>Hugh & Moira McCluskey (RIP) and Maria Bordone & Daniel Alonzi (Ann) / Marie McCarron (Ann) Frances Neil (Ann) / Kevin Ginnity (RIP)</i> |
| Sunday 5th | 11.00 am | Mass | |
| | 12.30 – 3.00 pm | Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner in St Joseph's Hall | |
| | 6.00 pm | Galloway Young Adults Mass | <i>/ Special Intention</i> |
| Monday 6th | 6.30 pm | Galloway Young Adults Christmas Dinner in St Joseph's Hall | |
| | 10.00 am | Mass | <i>Agnes Lennon (RIP) / For the Parish</i> |
| | 10.30 – 10.45 am | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) | |
| Tuesday 7th | 10.00 am | Mass | <i>Cyril Dorrian (RIP) / Margaret Cairns (RIP)</i> |
| | 10.30 – 11.00 am | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament | |
| | 11.00 – 1.00 pm | Community Café in St Joseph's Hall | |
| Wednesday 8th | 10.00 am | Mass | <i>Peter Mason (Ann) / Thanksgiving</i> |
| | After Mass | Recitation of the Holy Rosary | |
| | 11.00 am | Parish Finance Committee Meeting in St Joseph's Church House | |
| Thursday 9th | 6.00 pm | Mass | <i>Anne Duggan (RIP) /</i> |
| | 6.30 pm | RCIA in St Joseph's Church | |
| | 10.00 am | Mass | <i>Michael Sweeney (RIP) /</i> |
| Friday 10th | 10.00 am | Mass in St Matthew's Church | |
| | 5.30 – 5.45 pm | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) | |
| | 6.00 pm | Vigil Mass | <i>/ Bob Bordone (RIP)</i> |
| Saturday 11th | 11.00 am | Mass | <i>Patricia Dougan (RIP) / Morag Rae (RIP)</i> |
| | | P4 Sacramental Preparation Mass | |
| | After Mass | Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall | |

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

COMMUNITY CAFÉ: The Community Café returns this week from 11.00 am – 1.00 pm on Tuesday in the Church Hall. Come along and join us for a delicious bowl of fresh, homemade soup, and a selection of sandwiches and cakes! There's no charge but donations are welcome.

We are extremely grateful to the team of volunteers who run the café for their hard work. Through their efforts last year, the café raised sufficient funds to renew the hall lighting in its entirety.

DO THIS IN MEMORY: Next Sunday (12th January) our young parishioners continue their preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion with another

of the special "Do this in Memory" Sundays. Children, please bring your candles and gather in the sacristy a few minutes before Mass to walk in the procession.

BURNS' SUPPER 2025: The popular parish Burns' Supper will return on Saturday 25th January, starting at 7.00 pm in the Hall. Come and join us for a delicious meal of Haggis, Neeps, and Tatties, and some entertainment afterwards too! Tickets on sale from next weekend.

PRIMARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION: If your child will be starting primary school in August 2025 you must register them through the East Ayrshire Council website by Friday (17th January).

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@rcdg.org.uk or 01563 521832)

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

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

Standing orders: £608.46. **Weekly collection:** £1,014.11. **Building Fund:** £15. **Christmas Collection:** £1,592.10.

Crib Collection: £217.36. **Contactless & Online Donations:** November – £294.00, December - £399.00.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

As a parish, we have close ties with St Andrew's Primary and Mount Carmel Primary for both Sacramental preparation and Catholic education and would encourage you to strongly consider sending your child there. If you wish to have a look at the P1 classrooms in the school or to speak to a member of staff, please contact the school office on 01563 549549 (St Andrew's) or 01563 525897 (Mount Carmel).

DAY OF PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE: This Sunday we will reflect on the justice as an imperative for peace in the world. There will be a special collection for the work of the Justice and Peace Commission of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland. Please use the gift aid envelopes in your box as appropriate. Thank you for your generosity.

SUNDAY COFFEES AND CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sunday coffees will resume next Sunday (12th January) and Children's Liturgy will resume the following Sunday (19th January).

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR SENIOR PARISHIONERS: For those who have signed up already, a Christmas lunch will take place for the senior parishioners today, Sunday 5th January gathering at 12 noon for a 12.30 pm start.

CRIB APPEAL: The Crib Appeal supports the St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society. The pressure of the pandemic led to an increase in need for their services and, at the same time, the restrictions left them facing major funding gaps which threaten their ability to continue to offer these much-needed services. Donations may be left at the crib.

CHURCH CLEANING: We are grateful to the team of cleaners who work extremely hard to keep our church looking its best and making St Joseph's a pleasant and welcoming place to come to worship. We are looking to recruit more cleaners to make this job easier for everyone. The cleaners ordinarily work on the first Friday of each month, starting after 10.00 am Mass. If you would be able to spare an hour or two to help, please speak to Francis Donachie (07568562100) for more information.

DIOCESAN WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA: As part of Bishop Frank's work on communications the Diocese has launched a new Diocesan website: www.rcdg.org.uk where you can find lots of useful information and news from the Diocese. To keep up to date with the latest from across the Diocese be sure and follow us on Facebook, X, or Instagram: RC Diocese of Galloway - @rcdgalloway.



ALTAR SERVERS' CHRISTMAS PANTO: We're extremely grateful to our wonderful team of altar servers who assist at liturgies throughout the year. In recognition of and gratitude for their work we were delighted to be able to take them to see 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' at the Kilmarnock Big Top last Saturday alongside the other Deanery Parishes. Everyone had a great time and we can't wait to return next year.

Have you made your First Communion and would like to join our team of altar servers? Speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin for more information.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday 27th January 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@rcdg.org.uk or pass the item to the parish house.

THANK YOU: Fr Stephen, Fr Kevin, and Canon Jack thank you for your greetings cards and gifts at this time. Mass was offered on New Year's Day for your intentions.

MINIBUS DRIVERS: We are looking to recruit additional drivers for the minibus to allow us to run the minibus for the housebound more frequently. This would require the driver to drive around pre-arranged houses to collect the housebound and bring them to Mass before returning them again afterwards. Typically, this means collecting persons from 9.30 am and finishing drop offs around 1.30 pm. If you would be interested, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin for more information.

SAVE THE DATE – ASSISTED DYING LEGISLATION AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH: Please save the date of Saturday, 8th February 2025 when an event will be held to help us understand how, as Catholics, we are asked to respond to proposals to legalise assisted dying. Fr Dan Fitzpatrick (Diocese of Paisley) will explain what the Church teaches, Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Dougan, lunch will be provided, and there will be workshops and opportunities for discussion. The event will be held in St. Joseph's, Kilmarnock, however there will also be the option to attend online for interested people who are unable to attend in person. Further details, including how to sign up to attend online, will follow, but in the meantime please contact Helena at prolife@rcdg.org.uk or on 07961 130493 for more information.

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@rcdg.org.uk) or phone 01563 521832 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@rcdg.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 over the next few weeks, so save the date and join us for what you can:

- Sacramental Preparation Mass – Sunday 11th January, 11.00 am
- Burns' Night – Saturday 25th January, 7.00 pm
- PPC Meeting – Monday 27th January, 6.30 pm
- DPC Meeting – Tuesday 28th January, 7.00 pm
- Diocesan Day for Life – Saturday 8th February
- Bishop Frank's Pastoral Visit – Saturday 8th – Sunday 9th February



CONTACTLESS DONATIONS:

The Diocese has teamed up with Give A Little to make contactless donations available in parishes. You can now support St Joseph's by contactless donation using the machine in the porch, or online through our website, just:

- 1) Select the Collection, 2) Choose the amount, 3) Tap your card, 4) (If you're a taxpayer) Enter your email address to register for Gift Aid.

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

| | Readers | Ministers of Communion | Altar Servers | Sunday Teas | Children's Liturgy | Welcomers | Bidding Prayers |
|--------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Saturday 4 January 6pm | F Donachie, M McGrath, Amélie Davidson | K McGhee, M Steele, Sr Mabel, D Casey, C McGowan | Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia | | | Clare, Margaret | M McGrath |
| Sunday 5 January 11am | Annette Davidson, E Bohan, M Cunningham | H Matthews, I Love, R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields | Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo | - | - | Paul, Libby | M McGrath |
| Saturday 11 January 6pm | E Heron, M Kirk, K McGhee | C Power, A Gorman, M McGrath, G Rankin, L Rankin | Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia | | | Anne, Michael | H Matthews |
| Sunday 12 January 11am | R Doak, L Hand, T Murphy | M Andrew, P Dorrian, D Custodio, M Walker, P Chigbo | Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo | A Mackie, A Murphy | - | Eileen, Dennis | H Matthews |