



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

# THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 26th 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)

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

## LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 26th JANUARY – 2nd FEBRUARY 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 25th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Sandra Niven (Ann)
	7.00 pm	Burns' Supper in St Joseph's Hall	
Sunday 26th	11.00 am	Mass	Lizzie Johnston (Ann) / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 27th	10.00 am	Mass	Catherine Colman (Ann) / Angelo Bordone (RIP)
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 – 6.30 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 28th	6.30 – 7.30 pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	Mass	Rena Rosemary McCann (RIP) / John McCann (Ann)
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 29th	7.00 – 9.00 pm	Deanery Pastoral Council Meeting in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	Mass	Janette Millar (RIP) / Special Intention
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 30th	6.00 pm	Mass	Anthony Quigley (RIP) / Nancy McCloskey (RIP)
	6.30 pm	RCIA in St Joseph's Church	
Friday 31st	10.00 am	Mass	Harry Sammons (RIP) / John McCluskey (RIP)
Saturday 1st	<i>Registration deadline for children to receive First Reconciliation in Lent 2025.</i>		
	10.00 am	Mass in St Joseph's Church (This week only)	
	10.30 – 2.00 pm	Children's Retreat for Confirmation	
	2.00 – 2.30 pm	Confirmation Parents' Meeting	
Sunday 2nd	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Special Intention
	11.00 am	Mass	Francis James McNally (RIP) / Patrick & Margaret McCluskey (Ann)
	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass (followed by talk in the Hall)	/ Galloway Young Adults
	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.

**CHILDRENS' RETREAT FOR CONFIRMATION:** The retreat for the children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in February will take place on **Saturday 1st February from 10.00 – 2.00 pm** (followed by a short parents' meeting from 2.00 – 2.30 pm) in St Joseph's Hall. All children due to receive the sacrament in February are expected to attend this important part of their preparations.

**REGISTRATION FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION:** If you have a child in primary three and would like for them to receive

the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion during 2024 and 2025 please register with the parish by email. When emailing, please include the name of your child, where you would like your child to receive First Holy Communion, and a statement of commitment to attend Sunday Mass with your child during the time of preparation and also after First Communion is received. Please do so no later than Friday 31st 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](mailto:stephen.mcgrattan@rcdg.org.uk) or 01563 521832)

*Ayr Hospital:* Fr Benjamin Mkeri ([benjamin.mkeri@rcdg.org.uk](mailto: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:** £635.69. **Weekly collection:** £1,387.67. **Building Fund:** £10.

**Justice & Peace:** £11. **Ecuador Trust:** £120.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

On Tuesday 4th February there will be a parents' meeting here in St Joseph's at 7.00 pm to explain more about the sacraments and the process of preparation. Attendance at this meeting is very important.

If you have any questions, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin.

**YOUNG ADULTS (18-30) PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA: Register by Tuesday 4th February to secure your place at £700.** Join Young Adults from across the Diocese for the experience of a lifetime and spend 5 days walking the last 108km of the Camino de Santiago, followed by 2 days in Santiago. The pilgrimage runs from 12th - 19th October and costs £700 per person (we will support you in fundraising to reduce this). The first meeting takes place in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock and online on Sunday 2nd February from 6.00 – 8.00 pm. Register by scanning the QR code on the poster, or by searching for @rcdgyouth on social media.

**GALLOWAY YOUTH (P7-S6) NIGHTS:** The Galloway Youth nights begin on Sunday 16th from 5–7 PM here in St Joseph's and continue on the third Sunday of each month during term time. The evening begins with Mass, followed by a short talk, activities, pizza and time to socialise, all led by S3 students from St Joseph's Academy. Interested? Collect a parental consent form from the porch or email [youth@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdg.org.uk) for more details.

**BISHOP FRANK DOUGAN WILL MAKE A PASTORAL VISIT TO ST JOSEPH'S:** Bishop Frank will make a pastoral visit to St Joseph's on the weekend of 8th-9th February and will be the main celebrant at the Vigil and Sunday Masses. Fr Stephen invites you to make a special effort to be at one of these Masses so the bishop can experience the best of this faith community at worship, and the faith community has the opportunity to be encouraged and uplifted by him. At the Sunday 11 am Mass, Bishop Frank will confirm the children receiving the Sacraments of Initiation this year.

**CHOIR PRACTICES:** Practices for Holy Week, Easter and the Solemn Dedication of St Joseph's in May **will begin on Sunday 16 February** and continue weekly thereafter. All Sunday practices are in the church, **6.15 - 8.15 pm**. There will also be a practice on 16 April at 7 pm. After Easter, the Choir will continue preparations for the Solemn Dedication with practices on 4, 11 (both 6.15 pm) and 15 May (7 pm). New members are welcome.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** The next Church cleaning morning will be on Friday 7th February after 10.00 am Mass. New volunteers are welcome.

**HCPT GROUP 138 QUIZ NIGHT AND RAFFLE:** Saturday 22nd February in St Joseph's church hall at 7 pm for a 7.30 pm start. £3 per person and under 16s free entry. Pay at the door. Maximum team size of 6 with cash prizes to be won. BYOB and snacks. Raffle donations welcomed. Benefitting children and young people from across Ayrshire and Glasgow on pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter. Organised and supported by parishioners Mark and Kieran O'Neill.



**DAY SEMINAR ON ASSISTED DYING LEGISLATION AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:**

An event will be held on Saturday 8th February, starting at 10.30 am at St. Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock. Fr Dan Fitzpatrick (Diocese of Paisley) will speak in the morning about what the Catholic Church teaches. This

will be followed by Mass and lunch. The afternoon session will be structured to allow people to discuss the issue in more detail, and to learn more about how we can respond to the proposed legislation. Please sign up to attend by using the form at <https://forms.office.com/e/zQkEtN9nr2> or by scanning the QR code. Alternatively, please contact Helena at [prolife@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:prolife@rcdg.org.uk)

or 0796 130493. It is important that everyone who wishes to attend signs up, so that online attendees receive their link to attend in good time, and so that those attending in person receive lunch and refreshments.

**SOLEMN DEDICATION (CONSECRATION) OF ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH IN 2025:** Bishop Frank Dougan will preside over the Mass of Dedication of St Joseph's Church and Altar on Sunday 18th May at 11 am. This is a moment of joy and celebration for St Joseph's parish, especially in the context of the Jubilee Year.

**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 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:

- Can of soup
- Canned meal, e.g. beef stew, chilli con carne, curry
- Pasta or rice (only small bags)
- Tinned fruit / vegetables / beans
- Cartons of long-life milk (UHT)
- Tin of tuna
- Packet of biscuits
- Toilet roll.

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.

SSVP FINANCES	September	October	November	December
Box collections	£910.75	£751.99	£829.04	£1,328.68
Purchase of Food bags	£1,275.71	£1,069.56	£473.09	£848.24
Surplus/Deficit	-£364.96	-£317.57	£355.95	£480.44

The SSVP are grateful for the recent uptake in donations of foodbags from parishioners, these, combined with donations from St Joseph's Academy and the Christmas holidays, resulted in significantly lower running costs for the Foodbank in November and December.



**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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Diocesan Day for Life – Saturday 8th February
- Bishop Frank's Pastoral Visit – Saturday 8th – Sunday 9th February
- Confirmation Mass – Sunday 9th February, 11.00 am
- Choir Practices commence – Sunday 16th February, 6.15 pm
- Sacramental Preparation Mass – Sunday 16th March, 11.00 am
- Solemn Dedication of St Joseph's – Sunday 18th May, 11.00 am

**MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK**

	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
<b>Saturday 25 January 6pm</b>	F Donachie, A Davidson, E Heron	M Steele, Sr Juliet, K McGhee, M McGrath, A Gorman	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Anne, Michael	H Rameckers
<b>Sunday 26 January 11am</b>	H Matthews, G McGee, F McCann	A Neil, J Shields, M Andrew, P Dorrian, D Custodio	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	E Cunningham, Liz Heron	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Paul, Libby	H Rameckers
<b>Saturday 1 February 6pm</b>	M Kirk, K McGhee, G McIntyre	J Lennon, C McGowan, M McGrath, C Power, M Steele	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Claire, Margaret	M McGrath
<b>Sunday 2 February 11am</b>	M Andrew, M Walker, An Davidson	M Walker, P Chigbo, E Cunningham, L Dorrian, I Love	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	Anna Mackie, Alice Murphy	IHM Sisters	Eileen, Dennis	M McGrath