



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 16th February 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

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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 16th – 23rd FEBRUARY 2025

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 15th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Special Intention
Sunday 16th	11.00 am	Mass	Marcus McGarvey (RIP) / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	5.00 pm	Youth Mass (followed by evening in the Hall)	/ Galloway Youth
Monday 17th	6.15 pm	Choir Practices Commence (New members welcome)	
	10.00 am	Mass	Lorna Ware (RIP) /
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 18th	10.00 am	Mass	Hugh McKee (RIP) /
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 19th	10.00 am	Mass	Margaret Scott (RIP) /
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 20th	6.00 pm	Mass	Zlato Kesic (RIP) /
	6.30 pm	RCIA in St Joseph's Church	
Friday 21st	10.00 am	Mass	Isobel McAvoy & Jessie McWhinnie (Ann) /
Saturday 22nd	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Robert Freel (RIP) /
Sunday 23rd	11.00 am	Mass	Elizabeth Farren (RIP) /
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	6.15 pm	Choir Practice for Easter (New members welcome)	

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

BISHOP FRANK'S PASTORAL VISIT: Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin extend their thanks to everyone involved in last weekend's pastoral visit and to all of those who came along to meet the Bishop after both Masses. Bishop Frank was very appreciative of the welcome he received and passes his thanks on to the parish.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: We were sorry to hear of the death of our parishioner Maureen Baird who died recently. Maureen's Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 6th March at 10 am in St Joseph's. We offer condolences and prayers to her family.

CHOIR PRACTICES: Practices for Holy Week, Easter and the Solemn Dedication of St Joseph's in May **begin tonight** and continue weekly. 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.

GALLOWAY YOUTH (P7-S6) NIGHTS: Launches tonight! 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 for details.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO PRIESTHOOD? If you sense a vocation to be a Priest and would like support to discern this call, please contact Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Stephen McGrattan, at vocations@rcdg.org.uk or 01563 521832.

SANTIAGO CEILIDH FUNDRAISER: A ceilidh for all ages, young and old! Let your hair down and join us for a Ceilidh on Friday 28th February at St Joseph's, Kilmarnock (KA3 1HB) from 7pm. Tickets are available on the door for £5 and include a buffet.

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: £686.69. **Weekly collection:** £1,478.45. **Building Fund:** £1,020. **Justice & Peace:** £5. **Ecuador Trust:** £100.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

raffle and a great evening of ceilidh dancing and entertainment. BYOB. All funds raised are in support of the Galloway Young Adults pilgrimage to Santiago in October of this year.

MINUTES OF PPC: The minutes of the Parish Pastoral Council of 27th January are available on the parish website and on the noticeboard.

BUILDING FUND: At Masses this weekend there will be a special collection for the Building Fund.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: At the start of February, Fr Stephen issued a booklet about Income/Expenditure for 2024 with an analysis of stewardship and proposals to increase weekly income by £500 per week. An increase in income will be necessary to continue the repair and maintenance work scheduled from previous years (mainly re-pointing of the church and presbytery). The booklet is available from the porch if you didn't get one.

To increase weekly income by £500 (by £25,000 per year) we invite 100 people to increase their weekly donation by £5. Standing Order forms are available from the stall in the porch, or a change can be made using internet banking.

If you have paid tax on your donations, please consider completing a gift aid form whereby the parish can reclaim the tax paid on your donation (a further 25%).

NEW DONATION ENVELOPES: Weekly collection envelopes for use from 6th April 2025 will be distributed from this weekend. Please collect them as you enter the church to reduce queues at the end of Mass. If your address details or tax status have changed, please inform the church secretary in order to update our records. Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish. If you pay by standing order, you will still receive an envelope set which will only include envelopes for special collections for your convenience and to allow a gift aid claim to be made where applicable.

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.

GALLOWAY DIOCESE LOURDES HOSPITALITE RAFFLE: Raffle tickets are on sale from today in the stall in aid of Galloway Diocese Lourdes Hospitalite fund raising. The tickets are £1 each and the 1st prize is £200 - 2nd prize £100 with a further 3 prizes. The draw will take place in St Joseph's Hall on Sunday 1st June so get your tickets fast. Our pilgrimage this year is from 7th-14th July 2025 and our fund raising will help to give our pilgrims a wonderful time in Lourdes. Thank you.

RETREAT FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION: Those who exercise this ministry are invited to a retreat evening on Tuesday 11th March in the church at 7 pm to finish by 8.30 pm.

YOUNG ADULTS (18-30) PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA: Limited places remain. 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). Email youth@rcdg.org.uk to register, or speak to Fr Kevin.

UNDERSTANDING THE MASS (18-30): Aged 18-30? Join us Galloway Young Adults (18-30) for our next evening on

Sunday 2nd March, starting with Mass at 5.45 pm. Fr Stephen McGrattan will be speaking on understanding the Mass: its mystery, roots, history and the parts of the Mass to enable us to better appreciate the beauty and meaning of it. For more info, search @rcdgyouth online.

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 Jubilee Year.

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT: The next parish social will be St Patrick's Night on Friday 21st March, 7.00 - 10.30 pm (with a bar and light supper). Tickets on sale soon.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: This year takes place from the 7th to the 14th July and will be led by Bishop Frank. The pilgrimage costs £1,045 based on two people sharing, and includes all flights, transfers, food and accommodation. For more details see the poster in the porch, or collect a booking form from the stall.

YOUTH FOR LOURDES: Is recruiting young people aged 14-23 who would like to volunteer in Lourdes this summer. Their next meeting takes place on Sunday 2nd March at St Matthew's Church, beginning at 3.00 pm. For more information, see the poster in the porch.

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.



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

- Choir Practices commence - Sunday 16th February, 6.15 pm
- Santiago Ceilidh Fundraiser - Friday 28th February, 7.00 pm
- Ash Wednesday - Wednesday 5th March
- Sacramental Preparation Mass - Sunday 16th March, 11.00 am
- St Patrick's Dinner & Ceilidh - Friday 21st March,
- 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
Saturday 15 February 6pm	A Davidson, E Heron, M Kirk	F Donachie, Sr Mabel, M McGrath, C Power, M Steele	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Claire, Margaret	IHM Sisters
Sunday 16 February 11am	L Hand, T Murphy, P Nicholson	M Andrew, P Dorrian, D Custodio, M Walker, P Chigbo	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	Anne & Gerry Smith	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Paul, Libby	IHM Sisters
Saturday 22 February 6pm	K McGhee, G McIntyre, H Rameckers	G Rankin, L Rankin, F Donachie, A Gorman, Sr Juliet	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Anne, Michael	H Rameckers
Sunday 23 February 11am	G Smith, H Matthews, G McGee	E Cunningham, L Dorrian, I Love, R Murphy, A Neil	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	E Cunningham, Liz Heron	IHM Sisters	Eileen, Dennis	H Rameckers