



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

## THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 23rd February 2025

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

**Assistant Priest:** Reverend Kevin J A Rennie ([kevin.rennie@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:kevin.rennie@rcdg.org.uk))

St Joseph's Presbytery, 15a Hill Street, Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB

Telephone: 01563 521832 • Web: [www.rckilmarnock.org.uk](http://www.rckilmarnock.org.uk)

Facebook: St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock • Twitter: @RCStJosephs

Parish office email and for newsletter items (by 10 am Thursday): [kilmarnock.stjoseph@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:kilmarnock.stjoseph@rcdg.org.uk)

**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

Telephone: 01563 523822 • Email: [ihmsisters@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:ihmsisters@rcdg.org.uk)

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 23rd FEBRUARY – 2nd MARCH 2025

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
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 Freal (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)	
Monday 24th	10.00 am	Mass	Catherine Heron (Ann) /
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 25th	10.00 am	Mass	Clare Farrel (RIP) /
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 26th	10.00 am	Mass	Elizabeth Farren (RIP) /
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 27th	6.00 pm	Mass	Patricia Dourish (Ann) / Special Intention
	6.30 pm	RCIA in St Joseph's Church	
Friday 28th	10.00 am	Mass	Robert Dourish (Ann) / Special Intention
	7.00 pm	Ceilidh Fundraiser in St Joseph's Hall	
Saturday 1st	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Jan Ocwieja (RIP) /
Sunday 2nd	11.00 am	Mass	For the Parish / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	5.45 pm	Young Adults Mass (followed by talk in the 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.

**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 extend our condolences and prayers to her family and friends.

**CHOIR PRACTICES:** Practices for Holy Week, Easter and the Solemn Dedication of St Joseph's in May have now begun and continue weekly on Sundays. 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.

**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](mailto:vocations@rcdg.org.uk) or 01563 521832.

**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.

**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

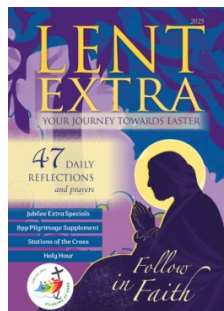
**Standing orders:** £691.31. **Weekly collection:** £2,228.91. **Building Fund:** £1,167.20.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

**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.



**LENT EXTRA MAGAZINE:** In this year's *Lent Extra* magazine you will find: 47 daily reflections to help you get ready, remain hopeful and faithful this Lent; discussion points that pose practical guidance for thoughtful prayer; and engaging articles. You will be offered a magazine as you leave church today anticipating Lent which begins with Ash Wednesday on 5th March.

### STEWARDSHIP AND FUNDRAISING

**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%).

Thank you for the generous response to the recent appeal to increase weekly donations.

**NEW DONATION ENVELOPES:** Weekly collection envelopes for use from 6th April 2025 are being distributed at this time. 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.

**GALLOWAY DIOCESE LOURDES HOSPITALITE RAFFLE:** Raffle tickets are on sale from today in the stall in aid of Galloway Diocese Lourdes Hospitalité 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.

**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, 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.



### 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 TO YOUNG PEOPLE

**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 @rcdyouth online.

**LENTEN RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS:** Aged 16-30? Join Galloway Young Adults for our online Lenten retreat, meeting Tuesdays during Lent from 7-8pm on Microsoft Teams. We'll be reflecting on the call of Christ to all of us to follow him in our own lives: how do we do this, and what tools does Christ give us to help us on our journey. For more information or to join the group, search for @rcdyouth online or speak to Fr Kevin.

### 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.

**GALLOWAY YOUTH (P7-S6) NIGHTS:** Following a very successful first youth evening, the next Galloway Youth evening takes place on Sunday 16th March. At our next meeting we'll be reflecting on Lent and how we're called to live it in our own lives. The evening begins with Mass at 5.00 pm, and is 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.

**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.

## OUTREACH AND CHAPLAINCY

**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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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

- 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,
- Organ Recital by Raymond McCluskey – Tuesday 25th March, 12 noon
- 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 22 February 6pm</b>	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
<b>Sunday 23 February 11am</b>	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
<b>Saturday 1 March 6pm</b>	F Donachie, A Davidson, M McGrath	Sr Mabel, G Rankin, L Rankin, M Steele, K McGhee	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Claire, Margaret	M McGrath
<b>Sunday 2 March 11am</b>	F McCann, M Andrew, M Walker	H Matthews, J Shields, P Dorrian, D Custodio, M Walker	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	Anna Mackie, Alice Murphy	M McGrath, E O'Connell	Theresa, Alan	M McGrath

## GLORY TO GOD (GALLOWAY MASS 2024)

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to pe-ople of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. **Refrain.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. **Refrain.**

you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. **Refrain.**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to pe-ople of good will.



A - men, a - men, a - men.



# ORGAN RECITALS 2025

THE RESTORED 1903 HARRISON & HARRISON PIPE ORGAN

TUESDAY 25 MARCH - 12 NOON

RAYMOND McCLUSKEY

*St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock*

TUESDAY 27 MAY - 12 NOON

HANS UWE HIELSCHER

*Wiesbaden Marktkirche Lutheran Cathedral, Germany*

TUESDAY 24 JUNE - 12 NOON

TIFFANY VONG

*Jordanhill Parish Church, Glasgow*

TUESDAY 29 JULY - 12 NOON

ALESSANDRO BIANCHI

*St Edward's Anglican Church, Lugano, Switzerland*

TUESDAY 5 AUGUST - 12 NOON

DAMIN SPRITZER

*University of Oklahoma, USA*

TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER - 12 NOON

RONAN McQUADE

*Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Glasgow*

TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER - 12 NOON

CHRIS NICKOL

*New Kilpatrick Parish Church, Glasgow*

TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER - 12 NOON

ANDREW FORBES

*Glasgow Cathedral*

FREE ADMISSION

RETIRAL COLLECTION

**ST JOSEPH'S RC CHURCH**

HILL STREET, KILMARNOCK, KA3 1HB

TEL: 01563 521832

WEB: [www.rckilmarnock.org.uk](http://www.rckilmarnock.org.uk)

EMAIL: [kilmarnock.stjoseph@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:kilmarnock.stjoseph@rcdg.org.uk)

FACEBOOK: St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

ST JOSEPH'S IS A PARISH OF THE RC DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY. CHARITY NO. SC010576