



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

# THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Presentation of the Lord  
Sunday 2nd February 2025

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**Assistant Priest:** Reverend Kevin J A Rennie ([kevin.rennie@rcdg.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.rcdg.org.uk)). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

## LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 2nd – 9th 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 1st	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	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Ennis McHugh (RIP) / For the Parish
Sunday 2nd	11.00 am	Mass	Francis James McNally (RIP) / Patrick & Margaret McCluskey (Ann)
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 3rd	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass (followed by talk in the Hall)	Galloway Young Adults
	10.00 am	Mass	William McCurry (RIP) / Special Intention
Tuesday 4th	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	10.00 am	Mass	John McCluskey & Frank McCann (Ann) / Angelo Bordone (RIP)
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 5th	7.00 – 8.00 pm	Parents' Meeting for First Reconciliation in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	Mass	Margaret Jamieson (RIP) / Special Intention
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 6th	6.00 pm	Mass	Alan McKinnon (RIP) / Special Intention
	6.30 pm	RCIA in St Joseph's Church	
Friday 7th	10.00 am	Mass	Sandra Dearie (RIP) / Gary Dawson (RIP)
	After Mass	Church Cleaning (New volunteers welcome)	
Saturday 8th	10.30 – 3.45 pm	BISHOP FRANK'S PASTORAL VISIT Assisted Dying Study Day in St Joseph's Hall	
	12.30 pm	Mass in St Joseph's Church (This week only)	Canon Bernard Devine (RIP) / Special Intention
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Molly Ferguson (RIP) / For the Parish
Sunday 9th	After Mass	Meet the Bishop – Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	11.00 am	Mass with Confirmation	People of the parishes / Jessie & Francis Flynn (Ann)
	After Mass	Meet the Bishop – Tea, Coffee and Bacon Rolls 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.

**WALKING THE CAMINO WITH CANON PATRICK KEEGANS:** The next Galloway Young Adults (18-30) evening takes place tonight, beginning with Mass at 6.00 pm. We'll be joined by Canon Keegans who'll be speaking on his experiences of walking the Camino de Santiago. Aged 18-30? Come along and join us and meet other Young Adults from across the Diocese.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENTS' MEETING:** If you have a child in primary three whom you would like to receive

the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent this year, please register them with the parish by email now. A parents' meeting will take place on Tuesday 4th February at 7.00 pm in the Hall to explain more about the sacraments and the process of preparation. Attendance at this meeting is very important.

**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

**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:** £940.50. **Building Fund:** £755.54. **SCIAF:** £140.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

and Fr Kevin invite 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 upbuilt by him. At the Sunday 11 am Mass, Bishop Frank will confirm the children receiving the Sacraments of Initiation this year.

After both Masses there will be an opportunity to meet the Bishop in the Hall over tea and coffee, and Bacon rolls (Sunday morning only). Please join us in welcoming the Bishop and taking this opportunity to meet him.

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2024:** The accounts from 2024 are available in the leaflet inside the newsletter. An effort has been made to express the detail of the stewardship of the parish. Some proposals have being made, endorsed by the Parish Finance Committee, about the future financial requirements for the parish. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

**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.

**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 details.

**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.

**DAMAGE TO THE SACRED HEART WINDOW:** You may have noticed that we sadly incurred some damage to the Sacred Heart stained glass window by the side door during the recent storm. The good news is that all of the ornate features of the window were saved, and whilst it will require extensive reconstruction it will be fully restored. This process will likely take several months as we work with our insurers and contractors to complete the restoration.

**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.

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

**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 07961 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.



**BURNS' NIGHT:** Thank you to everyone who organised and came along to support our annual parish Burns' Night last Saturday. Everyone had a great evening and a total of £1,051.53 was raised for the hall fund. **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.

**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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Choir Practices commence – Sunday 16th February, 6.15 pm
- 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 1 February 6pm	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
Sunday 2 February 11am	M Andrew, M Walker, Annette Davidson	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
Saturday 8 February 6pm	H Rameckers, M McGrath, F Donachie	K McGhee, Sr Juliet, A Gorman, J Lennon, C McGowan	Joseph, Lexi, Antoni, Ravindu, Maia			Anne, Michael	H Matthews
Sunday 9 February 11am	E Bohan, M Cunningham, R Doak	H Matthews, R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, F McCann	Ryan, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	Anne & Mike Timmons	-	Theresa, Alan	H Matthews