



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

# THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

6th Sunday of Easter  
Sunday 25th May 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](http://www.rcdg.org.uk)). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

## LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 25th MAY – 1st JUNE 2025

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 24th	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sunday 25th	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Helen Thomas (RIP) / For the Parish /
	11.00 am	Mass	
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 26th	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Dorothy Ainsworth, RIP	Dorothy Ainsworth (RIP) /
Tuesday 27th	10.00 am	Mass	Patricia & Finlay Carson (Ann) /
	11.00 – 1.00 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
	12.00 pm	Organ Recital by Hans Uwe Hielscher	
Wednesday 28th	10.00 am	Mass	Rosemary Smith (RIP) /
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 29th	12.30 pm	Mass for the Solemnity of the Ascension	James Murphy (RIP) /
	7.00 pm	Mass for the Solemnity of the Ascension	Fr Donald Ewan Campbell (RIP) /
Friday 30th	10.00 am	Mass	Jim Donnelly (RIP) /
Saturday 31st	10.00 am	Mass in St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	
Sunday 1st	11.00 am	Mass	John McGee (Ann) / People of the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	6.00 pm	Young Adults (S5-30) Mass	/ Galloway Young Adults followed by talk in the Hall by Msgr. Peter Magee

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



Please switch mobile phones to silent when in the church and especially during Mass.

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE:** With sadness we announce the deaths of our parishioner Dorothy Ainsworth. We offer our condolences to her family and friends and assure them of our prayers at this time. Dorothy's Requiem Mass will be offered on Monday 26th April at 10.00 am.

**THANKYOU:** Thank you to everyone who contributed to the dignity and beauty of last week's Dedication celebrations.

**SUNDAY TEAS TODAY:** Cake and scones will be served at this weekend's Sunday tea after Mass in the hall. All are welcome.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION:** Thursday 29th May is the Solemnity of the Ascension. The Ascension falls 40 days after Christ's Resurrection at Easter and is the day on

which he ascended into heaven following the resurrection encounters. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, and as such we are expected to attend Mass on it. Masses in St Joseph's will be celebrated at 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm.

**MINIBUS TRIPS:** Due to driver availability, we've no trips in May, but in June we've got two! If you'd like to take part in either (or both) please sign up in the porch.

**Monday 2nd June – Culzean Castle:** We will leave St Joseph's after morning Mass and travel to Culzean Castle. On arrival in there we will have time to explore the Castle and Gardens, as well as to get lunch (not included). We will then return to St Joseph's for approximately 5.00 pm. The cost per person, payable

**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:** £841.00. **Weekly collection:** £1,586.94. **Building Fund:** £33.

**Church Students Fund:** £53.

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

on the day, is £15 (National Trust Members) or £25 (Non-Members).

**Friday 13th June – Cowden Japanese Gardens:** We leave St Joseph's after morning Mass and travel to Cowden Japanese Gardens near Dollar. On arrival, there is a guided tour of the grounds followed by an opportunity for lunch (not included) in the tearoom. We will return to St Joseph's for approximately 5.00 pm. The cost per person, payable on the day, is £25.

**ST JOSEPH'S, KILMARNOCK—THE RESTORED  
HARRISON & HARRISON ORGAN (1903, 2023)**



*Recitalist:*  
**Hans Uwe Hielscher**  
*(Wiesbaden Marktkirche  
Lutheran Cathedral, Germany)*

Tuesday 27 May at 12 noon  
St Joseph's Church, 15a Hill Street,  
Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB

A one hour organ recital featuring a programme of music on the church's recently restored 1903 Harrison & Harrison pipe organ.

**Admission Free**  
*Retiral Collection*

No booking required - Just come along

**APPEAL FOR CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS:** We are grateful to the committed team of children's liturgy leaders who facilitate children's liturgy each week. As several leaders have had to step back in recent months we are looking to recruit more leaders to help us continue providing this invaluable ministry to the young people of our parish. If you would be interested in becoming part of this highly rewarding ministry, please speak to Margaret McGrath for more information.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday 2nd June at 6.30 pm in the church hall. There will be Eucharistic Adoration from 6.00 pm in the church for those who can manage. Should parishioners wish an item to be discussed, please pass the item to the parish house or email [kilmarnock.stjoseph@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:kilmarnock.stjoseph@rcdg.org.uk).

**SILVER WOLF AWARD:** Dennis Graham, Scoutmaster of the 91st Ayrshire Scouts was recently honoured with the highest award in Scouting, received at Windsor Castle in April. We will mark this achievement during Mass on 11 am Mass on Sunday 1st June.

**ST JOSEPH'S ACADEMY PRESENTS...SISTER ACT JR:** *Sister Act* is the feel-amazing musical comedy smash based on the hit 1992 film that will have you jumping to your feet! Join the St Joseph's Academy Performing Arts department on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th June, for a night of fun and laughter as we follow Deloris in running for her life. Curtain up 7.00 pm, tickets £10 (adults) or £8 (children) – scan the QR code on the poster for details.

**YOUNG ADULTS (18-30) EVENING:** Aged 18-30? Join us in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock (KA3 1HB) for our next evening on Sunday 1st June, starting with Mass at 6.00 pm. Msgr: Peter Magee will be speaking on Blessed Carlo Acutis: his life and inspiration. For more info, search @rcdgyouth online.

**GALLOWAY YOUTH (P7-S4) EVENING:** The next Galloway Youth evening takes place on **Sunday 15th June**, beginning with Mass at 5pm. This month we'll be reflecting on the Holy Spirit: who the Holy Spirit is and how he helps us in our 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.

**RACE NIGHT FUNDRAISER:** Our Young Adults who are walking the Camino de Santiago in October are organising a Race Night on Friday 6th June at 7.30 pm in St Joseph's Hall to raise funds towards their fare. Tickets £5, Horses £10, on sale from the porch after Mass.

Are you a local business owner? Could you like to sponsor a race? Speak to Fr Kevin or email [youth@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdg.org.uk) for details.

**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](mailto:youth@rcdg.org.uk) to register or speak to Fr Kevin.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** There will be an appeal for new SSVp members at Masses this weekend.

**COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY:** There will be a special collection at Masses next weekend for the work of communications in the Church in Scotland.

**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.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- Young Adults (S5-30) Evening – Sunday 1st June, 6.00 pm
- Minibus Trip to Culzean Castle – Monday 2nd June
- Race Night – Friday 6th June, 7.30 pm
- Minibus Trip to Cowden Japanese Gardens – Friday 13th June
- Youth (P6-S4) Evening – Sunday 15th June, 5.00 pm

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK							
	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
<b>Saturday 24 May</b> 6pm	F Donachie, A Davidson, E Heron	Sr Mabel, C McGowan, K McGhee, J Lennon, A Gorman	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Anne, Michael	IHM Sisters
<b>Sunday 25 May</b> 11am	M Andrew, An Davidson, R Doak	P Dorrian, D Custodio, M Walker, P Chigbo, E Cunningham	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	Anne & Gerry Smith	M McGrath, E O'Connell	Paul, Libby	IHM Sisters
<b>Saturday 31 May</b> 6pm	H Rameckers, M Kirk, M McGrath	C Power, F Donachie, Sr Juliet, M McGrath, M Steele	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	M McGrath
<b>Sunday 1 June</b> 11am	L Hand, T Murphy, P Nicholson	L Dorrian, I Love, H Matthews, R Murphy, A Neil	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	E Cunningham, L Heron	IHM Sisters	Eileen, Devlin	M McGrath