



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 20th July 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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Parish office email and for newsletter items (by 10 am Thursday): 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

A parish of the R C Diocese of Galloway (www.rcdg.org.uk). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 20th – 27th JULY 2025

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 19th	5.30 – 5.45 pm....	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Daniel Geelan (Ann) /
Sunday 20th	11.00 am	Mass	For the Parish / For the Parish
Monday 21st	10.00 am	Mass	Canon Denis Quinlan (Ann) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 22nd	10.00 am	Mass	Phyllis Sutherland (RIP) / Wedding Intention
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Wednesday 23rd	10.00 am	Mass	Harry Nelson (RIP) / Eileen Copolla (RIP)
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 24th	6.00 pm	Mass	Special Intention / Sybil McCarthy (RIP)
Friday 25th	10.00 am	Mass	Joan Reily (RIP) / Michael Gallagher (RIP)
Saturday 26th	5.30 – 5.45 pm....	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Peter Maxwell (RIP)
Sunday 27th	11.00 am	Mass	Special Intention / For the Parish

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.

WELCOME: Christopher Clements is a seminarian who has completed his first year of formation in the Scots College, Rome. He will be on a pastoral placement in St Joseph's from 19th July until 3rd August.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: We were sorry to hear of the recent death of our parishioners Nichola O'Brien and Vera Burns. We offer our condolences and prayers to their families and friends. Funeral arrangements have yet to be finalised in both cases.

DEANERY MASS FOR VOCATIONS: We are encouraged to pray regularly for those discerning their vocation, and in a particular way for those Christ is calling to be priests in his Church: that they may have the faith, trust, and confidence to give their 'yes' to the Lord. As part of our Diocesan prayer for vocations each deanery is to offer a quarterly Mass for Vocations.

The first of these will be celebrated here in **St Joseph's Church on Thursday 31st July** at 6.00 pm. All are welcome.

PARISH FUN DAY: On **Sunday 10th August** there will be a Parish Fun Day after 11 am Mass with a bouncy castle and games for the children, face-painting, home baking, hot rolls and more. All welcome. **Donations for the bottle stall will be welcomed. Please hand into the stall in the porch. Volunteers are requested to help with the various activities on the day. Please speak to one of the priests or to Margaret McGrath.**

YOUNG ADULTS (S5-30) BBQ: Regular or first timer? You're invited to join Young Adults from across the Diocese as we gather for our Summer Social – a BBQ in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock, on **Saturday 2nd August**. The **BBQ will follow the regular Vigil Mass at 6.00 pm** in the Church Garden.

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)

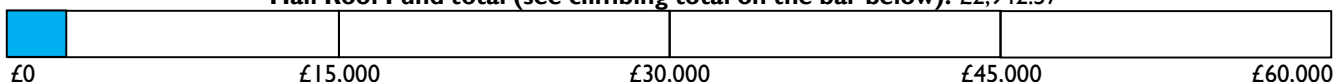
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@rcdg.org.uk or 01655 882145)

St Andrew's Primary: 01563 549549 **Mount Carmel Primary:** 01563 525897 **St Joseph's Academy:** 01563 526144

Standing orders: £841.00. **Weekly collection:** £1,310.48. **Apostolate of Life:** £20. **Peter's Pence:** £30.

SCIAF: £200. **Building (Hall Roof) fund:** £862.82. **Communications:** £20.

Hall Roof Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £2,942.57



Thank you for generously supporting our parish, and for the individual donation of £1,000 towards the Hall Roof Fund.

Free transport is available from Dumfries. There's no charge to take part, but please register by scanning the QR code on the poster or searching @rcdgyouth on social media so we know that you're coming.

GALLOWAY YOUTH (P6-S4) SUMMER GATHERING: Are you in P6-S4? Come and join us on **Saturday 9th August from 11.00 – 4.00 pm** in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock for our Summer Youth Gathering! (free transport available from Saltcoats, Ayr, and Dumfries) Join with young people from across the Diocese as we gather to celebrate the theme of Hope with games, activities, talks, Mass – and of course pizza and a BBQ – all led by our fantastic S3 Junior Leaders! The day is free for all, but please register in advance by scanning the QR code on the poster or searching for @rcdgyouth on social media.

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO BIRNIEKNOWE: Following the Deanery Pastoral Council it was suggested that it would be good to have a Deanery pilgrimage to bring together parishioners from across all eight parishes of our deanery. This will take place on **Sunday 17th August** to Birnie Knowe, just outside Auchinleck, and be followed by a reception in the church hall. Birnie Knowe was the location of the former St Patrick's Church, school and convent until the mid 1960s. Please save the date and keep an eye out for more details.

YOUTH (P6-S4) PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN: As part of the annual National Pilgrimage to Whithorn on Sunday 31st August the Youth Office will be running a Youth Pilgrimage. Join with young people from across the Diocese as we gather to learn more about the life and witness of St Ninian. In the morning we'll have games, activities, lunch (please bring a packed lunch) and a talk at the Isle of Whithorn, before walking to the beach for Mass with Bishop Frank. Free transport available, please register by scanning the QR code on the poster or searching for @rcdgyouth on social media.

WHITHORN PILGRIMAGE: The annual National Pilgrimage to Whithorn will take place on Sunday 31st August. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Frank on the beach at 4 pm, and at the church in Whithorn at 4.45 pm for those unable to walk to the beach. A coach will travel from St Joseph's for those who wish to take part, although you can also travel independently if you prefer.

We're keen to have as many pilgrims as possible at the beach this year and so, if you're free, please do join us – it will be possible to sign up for the coach shortly.

MINIBUS TRIPS: The next Parish Minibus Trip will take place on Friday 1st August when we will travel to Culross in Fife for the day, leaving after morning Mass in St Joseph's. On arrival, there will be an opportunity to spend some time exploring the village which is Scotland's most complete example of a burgh of the 17th and 18th century. For those who wish, there'll also be time to visit Culross Palace which is run by the National Trust.

The cost for the day is £10 per person. All are welcome, whether you're a regular or it's your first time taking part in one of our Minibus Trips.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO SALAMANCA, SPAIN (SAVE THE DATES): A parish pilgrimage will be organised from Monday 28th September until Monday 5 October 2026, to be resident in the Royal Scots College, Salamanca, Spain. This provides a good base to visit places like Avila, Segovia and Valladolid. The itinerary, cost and details of how to apply will be available in due course. For the moment, those interested in taking part may wish to "save the dates".

EVERY LIFE MATTERS. JOIN THE FIGHTBACK: In the space of one week in June 2025, MPs voted to allow women to abort their baby up to birth for any reason, and to legalise assisted suicide. **Life is under attack at every stage.** This is a dark time for our country. **But we must not give up.** This is a rallying call to rise up and fight for a culture of life, because every life matters. **Will you join us?** Join the fightback today: spuc.org.uk/join-the-fightback or pick up a postcard in the porch.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday 28th July 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.

NO TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS – FASLANE CHRISTIAN PEACE VIGIL: Saturday 2nd August, 10.30am to 12 noon, HM Naval Base Clyde, South Gate. In the week of the 80th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki join Justice & Peace Scotland president Archbishop William Nolan; the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Rt. Rev Rosemary Frew; Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, Most Rev Mark Strange; and members of the Iona Community for an ecumenical service of prayer, reflection and hymns. All are welcome as we raise our voices for a world without nuclear weapons on the site where these affronts to humanity are housed. A free bus will be provided from Edinburgh and Glasgow. The Lothian Buses coach will arrive at Waterloo Place (beside Waverley Station) in Edinburgh at 7.30am and depart at 7.45am, then pick up in Gordon Street, Glasgow (at the front of Central Station), leaving here at 9.15am. For any queries contact: office@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Organ Recital by Alessandro Bianchi – Tuesday 29th July, 12.00 noon
- Deanery Vocations Mass – Thursday 31st July, 6.00 pm
- Minibus Trip to Culross – Friday 1st August
- Young Adults' Summer BBQ – Saturday 2nd August, 7.00 pm
- Organ Recital by Damin Spritzer – Tuesday 5th August, 12.00 noon
- Galloway Youth Summer Gathering – Saturday 9th August, 11.00 am
- Parish Fun Day – Sunday 10th August, 12 noon
- Deanery Pilgrimage to Birnie Knowe – Sunday 17th August

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 19 July 6pm	H Rameckers, A Davidson, M Kirk	C McGowan, F Donachie, K McGhee, M McGrath, A Gorman	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Anne, Michael	H Rameckers
Sunday 20 July 11am	M Walker, M Cunningham, T Murphy	J Shields, F McCann, M Andrew, P Dorrian, D Custodio	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	-	-	Theresa, Alan	H Rameckers
Saturday 26 July 6pm	F Donachie, K McGhee, E Heron	J Lennon, M Steele, Sr Mabel, Sr Juliet, C Power	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	M McGrath
Sunday 27 July 11am	H Matthews, P Nicholson, L Hand	M Walker, P Chigbo, E Cunningham, L Dorrian, I Love	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	-	-	Paul, Libby	M McGrath

THE DIOCESE
of GALLOWAY

**THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
GENERAL SUPERIOR VISIT**



MONDAY | **7.00 PM**
21ST JULY

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church,
Onthank, Kilmarnock

A CELEBRATION OF MASS TO WELCOME
MOTHER MAUREEN AKABOGU IHM
(SISTER IN CHARGE OF THE IHM SISTERS
WORLDWIDE) FOLLOWED BY TEA AND
CAKES. ALL ARE WELCOME.

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IHM SISTERS WELCOME MOTHER GENERAL: Sr Rose, Sr Mabel and Sr Juliet have received news that the Sister in Charge of their International Congregation (known as the General Superior) is making an official visit to them from 21-23 July. To welcome Mother Maureen Akabogu IHM, you are invited to gather in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church for 7.00 pm Mass on Monday 21st July followed by tea and cake. Come along and welcome Mother Maureen among us. All welcome.



ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL: We will welcome Fr Patrick McCallion who will make a Mission Appeal at the weekend Masses on July 26th and 27th on behalf of the St Patrick's Missionary Society, better known as the Kiltegan Fathers. Fr Patrick who has ministered in Malawi for 19 years, will invite us to mission awareness and solidarity through spiritual and material support of the missionary work of the Lord. A special collection will be taken at Masses next weekend for the Kiltegan Mission. Gift Aid envelopes can be found in your box set for this purpose – please complete name and address details as specified.



WHITHORN PILGRIMAGE: The annual National Pilgrimage to Whithorn will take place on Sunday 31st August.

Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Frank Dougan on the beach at 4 pm, and at the church in Whithorn at 4.45 pm. A coach will travel from St Joseph's for those who wish to take part, although you can also travel independently if you prefer. We're keen to have as many pilgrims as possible at the beach this year and so, if you're free, please do join us – a sign-up sheet is on the noticeboard in the porch. Cost £10 for adults to pay on the day, children free. Stop for fish and chips on journey home – paid separately. Please bring a packed lunch.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN: The National Pilgrimage to Scotland's Marian Shrine will take place on Sunday 7th September with Mass at 3 pm. The principal celebrant will be Archbishop Leo Cushley of St Andrews and Edinburgh. A coach will run from St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock for anyone wishing to participate, leaving at 1 pm. Please add your name to the list in the porch if you wish a place on the coach. Cost £10 for adults to pay on the day, children free.



TUESDAY 29 JULY, 12 noon



Recitalist:
ALESSANDRO BIANCHI
(Lugano, Switzerland)

TUESDAY 5 AUGUST, 12 noon



Recitalist:
DAMIN SPRITZER
(University of Oklahoma, USA)

**ST JOSEPH'S, KILMARNOCK
ORGAN RECITAL SERIES 2025**

15a Hill Street,
Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB

A one hour organ recital
featuring a programme of music
on the church's recently restored
Harrison & Harrison (1903, 2023) pipe
organ.

Admission free - Retiral collection

No booking required - just come along

www.rckilmarnock.org.uk/outreach/organ-recitals

AYRSHIRE INTERNATIONAL ORGAN RECITALS: In addition to the Kilmarnock recitals, there will be recitals as follows:
Alessandro Bianchi: Sunday 27th July at 7 pm: St Columba's Church, Ayr
Monday 28th July at 12 noon: Ayr Town Hall
Wednesday 30th July at 12 noon: St John's Church, Cumnock
Wednesday 30th July at 7 pm: St Brigid's Church, Toryglen, Glasgow
Damin Spritzer: Monday 4th August at 12 noon: Ayr Town Hall