



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

## THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 28th September 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

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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 28th SEPTEMBER – 5th OCTOBER 2025

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 27th	1.00 – 3.00 pm ...	Afternoon Tea in aid of the church roof fund	in St Joseph's hall
	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm .....	Vigil Mass .....	
Sunday 28th	11.00 am .....	Mass .....	The people of the parish / The people of the parish
	After Mass .....	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall (until 12.30 pm)	
	12.30 pm .....	Sacramental Preparation for P4 children and their parents	
	5.00 pm .....	Youth Mass followed by evening in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 29th	10.00 am .....	Mass .....	Catherine Murdoch (RIP) /
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 30th	10.00 am .....	Mass .....	Peter Mason (RIP) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11.00 – 1.00 pm.	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 1st	10.00 am .....	Requiem Mass for Robert Elliot, RIP .....	Robert Elliot (RIP) / Robert Elliot (RIP)
Thursday 2nd	6.00 pm .....	Mass .....	Special Intention / Archie Price (RIP)
	6.30 pm .....	RCIA in the parish house	
Friday 3rd	10.00 am .....	Mass .....	Francis James McNally (RIP) / Gallacher family (RIP)
	After Mass .....	Church Cleaning (New volunteers welcome)	
Saturday 4th	10.00 am .....	Mass in St Matthew's Church	/ Graham McLintock (RIP)
	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm .....	Vigil Mass .....	
Sunday 5th	11.00 am .....	Mass .....	/ The people of the parish
		With the commissioning of the Young Adults walking the Camino de Santiago	
	After Mass .....	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	

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



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

**REQUIESCAT IN PACE:** With sadness we grieve the loss of our parishioner Robert Elliot, and with hope we pray for his eternal repose and for his family. Robert's Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 1st October at 10 am in St Joseph's.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION OF CHILDREN:** On Sunday 28th September, parents/carers and their children will

gather in the church hall after Mass, and at 12.30 pm the catechesis groups will begin. This will finish at 1.45 pm and lunch snacks will be provided for all those participating.

Because of the need to use different areas of the hall, those taking part in the Sunday teas are kindly asked to make the hall available by 12.30 pm this Sunday.

**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)

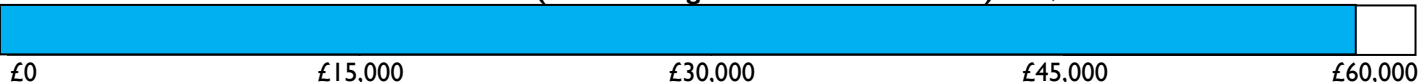
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri ([benjamin.mkeri@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:benjamin.mkeri@rcdg.org.uk) or 01655 882145)

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

**Standing orders:** £845.62. **Weekly collection:** £1,625.83. **Building (Hall Roof) Fund:** £110 and a £1,000 donation.

**Retired Priests Fund:** £60. **Ecuador Trust:** £100. **Annual Mission Appeal:** £15. **Mission Sunday:** £10.

**Hall Roof Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below):** £57,442.16.



Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

**HALL ROOF FUNDING:** The parish has received grant funding from the East Ayrshire Council Renewable Energy Fund of £50,000 towards the replacement of the hall roof and windows. This is most welcome news and pushes us close to the required target of £60,000 and the parish is grateful to the Grants Committee of EAC for their support. Other donations will be gratefully received to help reach the target. Thank you.

**HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT WORK:** Fabulous progress has been made on the hall roof replacement in such a short time. Thank you to Michael Maughan (MM Roofing) and his team for their professionalism, availability and hard work. The roof replacement is completed and the soffits will be installed during the coming days. The windows will be replaced before Christmas. Thank you, also, for all the fundraising efforts including those of the afternoon tea.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** The next church cleaning will take place after 10 am Mass on Friday 3rd October. Thanks to everyone who can attend.

**RCIA PROGRAMME:** RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and is the path followed by adults wishing to become full members of the Catholic Church. The next meeting is after the 6 pm Mass on Thursday 2nd October, i.e. at 6.30 pm in the parish house.

**WEEKDAY MISSAL NOW AVAILABLE:** A people's Weekday Missal with the new translation of the Lectionary has now been published. There are two versions: a Daily Missal with all the Sunday and weekday readings (£70), and a Weekday Missal with the weekday readings only (£55). Enquire at the stall to order either of these books.

**CHOIR PRACTICES.** Choir Practices for Christmas will commence on Sunday 19th October, 6.15 - 8.15 p.m. This is an opportunity to contribute to the longstanding choral tradition in our parish. New members in all voice parts are welcome. The ability to read music is helpful but is not an essential requirement.

**SPRED KILMARNOCK PARISHES GROUP:** Meetings have now recommenced for the new session of SPRED which supports adults with Special Needs in their faith journey and personal development. The fun, friendly, small group meetings are held fortnightly on Tuesday evenings during term time. If you or someone you know would like to come along, please, in the first instance, contact Kathleen Jones (07513048722).

**CONFLICT IN THE HOLY LAND:** What do we need to know and what can we do? Public Meeting in St Mary's Hall, Saltcoats, KA21 5BW on Sunday 5th October at 3 pm. Guest Speakers - Philippa Whitford, a breast cancer surgeon who has worked in Gaza and the West Bank and Anne Marie Clements, Justice and Peace Scotland, who visited the Holy Land earlier this year with a delegation of European Bishops.

**YOUNG ADULTS SANTIAGO COMMISSIONING MASS:** On Sunday 5th October we'll be joined at 11.00 am Mass by all of the Diocesan Young Adults who are walking the Camino de Santiago from the 12th - 19th October. During the Mass, they will be commissioned as they prepare to set out on their journey. All are invited to join them in this wonderful celebration, and then afterwards in the Hall to meet the group.

*Camino Prayer Intentions:* Fr Kevin, Fr Stephen, and Margaret McGrath will be leading the group in pilgrimage. If you have any intentions that you would like them to carry with them on pilgrimage, please write these and leave them in the stall.

**YOUTH OFFICE 200 CLUB:** Are you passionate about supporting our young people, the people of the church of the

future? Why not join the Youth Office's new 200 Club and help support their work in organising and running events for young people across the Diocese, as well as providing support for young people who otherwise would struggle to participate in events? Membership is £5 per month, with a monthly draw giving you the chance to win cash prizes. **Pick up a form in the stall to register, or go to their website: [youth.rcdg.org.uk](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk).**



## CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF ST JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, GRASSYARDS ROAD:

We invite you to join us for a celebration Mass in St Joseph's Academy Assembly Hall on Saturday 22nd November at 11am. We are honoured to have Bishop Dougan presiding over Mass to mark this special occasion. Please use the link (<https://forms.office.com/e/08LyWEVDy8>) or QR code below to register your attendance. We look forward to seeing you then. Donna Shearer, Depute Head Teacher.

## 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".

**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.

**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. 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.**

**TEAM JONES MS WALK:** Owen and Kathleen Jones and the family would like to thank all those who supported their recent fundraising walk. The fantastic sum of over £2,600 has been raised which will go towards the work of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Youth Evenings resume - Sunday 28th September
- Conflict in the Holy Land meeting in Saltcoats - Sunday 5th October
- Choir practice for Christmas begins - Sunday 19th October
- Advent Youth Retreat - Friday 28th - Sunday 30th November

## MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
<b>Saturday 27 Sept</b> 6 pm	M Kirk, K McGhee, G McIntyre	G Rankin, L Rankin, J Lennon, F Donachie, C McGowan	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Kathleen, Frances	IHM Sisters
<b>Sunday 28 Sept</b> 11 am	M Andrew, M Walker, An Davidson	A Neil, J Shields, F McCann, P Dorrian, D Custodio	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	E Cunningham, Liz Heron	Emma Boyd, Karen Cassidy	Paul, Libby	IHM Sisters
<b>Saturday 4 Oct</b> 6 pm	G McIntyre, H Rameckers, M McGrath	F Donachie, A Gorman, J Lennon, C McGowan, C Power	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	H Rameckers
<b>Sunday 5 Oct</b> 11 am	M Cunningham, R Doak, L Hand	H Matthews, R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, F McCann	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo	Alice Murphy	IHM Sisters, Emma O'Connell	Eileen, Devlin	H Rameckers





## GALLOWAY YOUTH NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2025



**NATIONAL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS PILGRIMAGE!** On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September twenty seven Youth and Young Adults from across all four clusters of our Diocese gathered for the National Pilgrimage to Perth. They spent the day meeting other young people from across Scotland, taking part in games and activities, and hearing talks and input around the themes of the Nicene Creed and the Reformation, as well as joining for a prayer service for Christian Unity at St John's Kirk. The day ended with Mass in St John's Church at which we were delighted to have some of our young people serving.



**Youth Office**  
Gather · Pray · Discuss · Socialise







# ADVENT YOUTH RETREAT

**LED BY THE YOUTH OFFICE TEAM.  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN P7-S4  
REFLECTING ON CHRIST'S HOPE IN OUR LIVES**

<b>Weekend includes:</b> Outdoor Activities <i>(Tree climbing, Nightline, Archery Tag, and more!)</i> Talks, Prayer, and Mass All Meals & Accommodation	<b>28TH - 30TH NOVEMBER</b> GOWANBANK    £100 PP* <b>REGISTER TODAY</b>
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**LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE**

SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO [YOUTH.RCDG.ORG.UK](https://youth.rcdg.org.uk)  
TO SECURE YOUR PLACE TODAY!



@ youth@rcdg.org.uk
Diocese of Galloway Youth - @rcdgyouth



**Youth Office**  
Gather · Pray · Discuss · Socialise







# YOUTH EVENINGS

**for Young People in P6-S4  
COME AND JOIN US!**





**MASS . GAMES . TALK . ACTIVITIES . SOCIAL**

<b>28TH</b> SEPTEMBER <b>BIBLE</b> STORIES	<b>26TH</b> OCTOBER <b>MARY</b>	<b>16TH</b> NOVEMBER <b>THE SAINTS</b>	<b>21ST</b> DECEMBER <b>CHRISTMAS</b>
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**5.00 PM - MASS**  
 FOLLOWED BY GAMES, ACTIVITIES, PIZZA,  
 AND A TALK IN THE HALL UNTIL 7.00 PM.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH,  
 KILMARNOCK, KA3 1HB  
 ST MARGARET'S CATHEDRAL,  
 AYR, KA8 0BS

ST TERESA'S CHURCH,  
 DUMFRIES, DG2 9DE

@ youth@rcdg.org.uk
Diocese of Galloway Youth - @rcdgyouth

**ADVENT YOUTH RETREAT: Reduced to £100 for the weekend!** Register today to join youth (P7-S4) from across the Diocese as we gather at Gowanbank SU Centre (outside of Darvel) for our 2025 Advent Retreat. We'll spend the weekend together taking part in various different outdoor activities including archery tag, crate climbing, and an escape room (among other activities). We'll also have talks from a number of different people about their own faith and Advent, as well as spending time in prayer and growing in friendship with Jesus and one and other. The retreat runs from 6.00 pm on Friday 28th to 4.00 pm on Sunday 30th November and costs £100 per person (all inclusive). Places are limited, for more details or to register scan the QR code or go to our website: [youth.rcdg.org.uk](https://youth.rcdg.org.uk). When registering, you will be asked to pay a £60 deposit to secure your child's place, with the balance due two weeks before the retreat.

### COMING SOON TO YOUR REGION!

#### SOUTH AYRSHIRE LAUNCH

Sunday 28th September – 5.00 pm  
St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr

#### NORTH AYRSHIRE LAUNCH

Sunday 26th October – 5.00 pm  
St Peter-in-Chains Church, Ardrossan

And returning to...

#### EAST AYRSHIRE

Sunday 28th September – 5.00 pm  
St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock

#### DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY

Sunday 28th September – 5.00 pm  
St Teresa's Church, Dumfries



**YOUTH EVENINGS:** Our popular Youth Evenings return on Sunday 28th September for young people in P6-S4 and we can't wait to welcome young people in South and North Ayrshire this month and next!

**Queen Margaret Academy Cluster (St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr):** Launches on Sunday 28th September. For the first evening, we'll be thinking about some of the stories we read in the Bible and what we can learn from them today.

**St Matthew's Academy Cluster (St Peter-in-Chains, Ardrossan):** Launches on Sunday 26th October. For the first evening, we'll be thinking about Mary and how she is a model, guide and inspiration for us in our own lives.

**St Joseph's Academy Cluster (St Joseph's, Kilmarnock) & St Joseph's College Cluster (St Teresa's, Dumfries):** Resume on Sunday 28th September.

Each evening begins with Mass at 5.00 pm following which our Junior Leaders will lead us in games, activities, a short talk and pizza in the hall. If you are a parent travelling to the evening you're welcome to join us for Mass, after which tea and coffee will be provided in a separate part of the hall should you wish to stay during the evening. Whether you're a regular or this would be your first event come and join us: to meet new people, and to grow in friendship and faith with one and other. There's no charge, and no need to register – but please complete a parental consent form on our website: [youth.rcdg.org.uk](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk).

## YOUNG ADULTS (S5-30)

**YOUNG ADULTS TALKS:** Our Young Adults evenings resumed on Sunday 14th September when our groups were joined by Sr Placida McCann and Fr Uchenna Odenigbo, CSSp for two fantastic talks on "The Missionary Church". In October, there's no talk in Kilmarnock but you're invited to join us for 11.00 am Mass in St Joseph's on Sunday 5th October as our Young Adult Camino Pilgrims are commissioned for their pilgrimage. At 6.00 pm the same evening, Fr Kevin Rennie will be joining the Dumfries group to speak on Morality & Law, beginning with Mass at 6.00 pm. All events are open to all Young Adults aged S5-30.



**Young Adults**  
Gather · Pray · Discuss · Socialise

Autumn/ Winter Schedule



**5th October (11AM - Kilmarnock)**  
**Santiago Commissioning Mass**  
followed by meeting in the Hall - all welcome.



**5th October (6PM - Dumfries)**  
**Morality & Law**  
Fr Kevin Rennie



**2nd November**  
**The History of the Church**  
Fr Philip Kitchen (North & South)



**7th December**  
**The Parables of Jesus**  
Fr Mark Kelly/ Fr Gerald Donnelly

St Joseph's, Kilmarnock (KA3 1HB)/  
 St Teresa's, Dumfries (DG2 9DE)  
 6.00 - 8.00 pm

**MORE INFORMATION** @ [youth@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdg.org.uk)

   Diocese of Galloway Youth - @rcdgyouth

**SANTIAGO PRAYER INTENTIONS:** On Sunday 12th October a group of 11 Young Adults and 3 leaders will depart to walk the last 112km of the Camino de Santiago over five days. If you would like them to carry any prayer intentions with them on their journey these can be mailed to: Camino Pilgrimage c/o St Joseph's Church, 15A Hill Street, Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB; emailed to [youth@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdg.org.uk) or handed in to St Joseph's

Church. The group will then carry these with them on their pilgrimage.

## SUPPORT YOUTH MINISTRY IN GALLOWAY – JOIN OUR 200 CLUB!



**Youth Office**  
Gather · Pray · Discuss · Socialise



JOIN OUR... 200 CLUB

£5 per month

Cash Prizes to be won!

(20%, 10% & 2 x 5% of the Total Income)

Register today and help support Youth Ministry in Galloway.

Email [youth@rcdg.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdg.org.uk) or go to: [youth.rcdg.org.uk/200-club](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk/200-club).

The Youth Office is licensed to operate a 200 Club under license no SAC298

@ youth@rcdg.org.uk
  
Diocese of Galloway Youth - @rcdgyouth







As far as possible, we endeavour to run all of our events free of charge to ensure equal opportunities for every young person in the Diocese. Where this isn't possible and we have to apply a charge, we will always do so as minimally as possible, and where possible, provide funding for places for young people from poorer backgrounds.

In order to help us continue doing this work, we're launching the Youth Office 200 Club. This club gives you the opportunity to donate to support our work, whilst also being in with a chance of winning prizes!

Are you passionate about Youth and Young Adults ministry in Galloway. Would you like to support our work in ensuring that events remain free or as affordable as possible? Why not join our new Youth Office 200 Club.

For £5 per month, you will be entered into a monthly prize draw where you could win one of four prizes: 20%, 10%, or 2 x 5% of donations from that draw. For less than the cost of a cup of coffee a week you could help ensure we can continue reaching out to and sharing the Gospel message with young people across the Diocese. Anyone at all can join, and all support is gratefully received.

## YOUTH OFFICE ONLINE STORE – LAUNCHES MONDAY! –

Looking for that perfect gift for a friend or family member? Whether it's a birthday, retirement, or special occasion why not check out the Youth Office's new online store where you'll find a fantastic selection of gifts and when you buy from our store you're not only getting a beautiful and unique gift, you're also helping support our work sharing the message of Christ with young people by supporting our events: helping us to provide opportunities as affordably as possible, and to provide funded places for young people to ensure everybody who wants to take part in events can.



**YOUTH OFFICE 2026 CALENDAR**

The perfect gift or the home office essential? Why not both?

£10

Go to: [youth.rcdg.org.uk/shop](http://youth.rcdg.org.uk/shop)