



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Solemnity Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

Sunday 23rd November 2025

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

Assistant Priest: Reverend Kevin J.A. Rennie (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). Charity number SC010576. ONELICENCE #A-632895.

LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 23rd – 30th NOVEMBER 2025

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 22nd	11.00 am	Mass for the 70th Anniversary of St Joseph's Academy in the school	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Faithful Departed /
Sunday 23rd	11.00 am	Mass	Faithful Departed / Faithful Departed
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	12.30 pm	"I Belong" Sacramental Preparation for children and their parents in the hall	
	6.15 pm	Choir Practice in St Joseph's Church	
Monday 24th	10.00 am	Mass	Faithful Departed / Faithful Departed
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 25th	10.00 am	Mass	Faithful Departed / Faithful Departed
	10.30 – 11.00 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Wednesday 26th	10.00 am	Mass	Faithful Departed / Faithful Departed
	After Mass	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
Thursday 27th	6.30 pm	Mass for those involved in Education in St Margaret's Cathedral	
	6.00 pm	Mass	Faithful Departed / Faithful Departed
Friday 28th	6.30 pm	RCIA in St Joseph's House	
	10.00 am	Mass	Faithful Departed / Faithful Departed
Saturday 29th	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Faithful Departed /
Sunday 30th	11.00 am	Mass	
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
	6.15 pm	Choir Practice in St Joseph's Church	

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



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

CLERGY CHANGES: From next Sunday, Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin will become the Parish Priest and Assistant Priest to all three Kilmarnock parishes. The Sunday Mass times in the three parishes will remain the same. Over the coming months, it will be important to reflect as a Deanery on our pastoral vision for the future as the priestly resource is shared among an increasing number of communities. Please pray for the priests involved in these changes and for the parishes at this time.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN EDUCATION: The annual Mass for Those Involved in Education will be celebrated in St Margaret's Cathedral, John Street, Ayr on Wednesday 26th November at 6.30 pm. All staff who teach and work in our schools are warmly invited, including

those who have retired. The faithful of the diocese, especially school pupils, are welcome to join in the Mass. After Mass, there will be a light buffet in the hall and an opportunity to socialise.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION: There will be a special collection at Masses this weekend for the Scottish Catholic Education Service which supports the mission of our Catholic Schools.

COMMUNITY CAFE: There will be no Community cafe on Tuesday 25th November due to window replacement work taking place in the Hall.

91ST AYRSHIRE ST JOSEPH'S SCOUT GROUP CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY: The 91st Ayrshire (St

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: £834.08. **Weekly collection:** £1,246.89. **Building Fund:** £30. **Annual Mission Appeal:** £10.

SCES: £5. **Organ Recital:** £310.80. **Thank you.**

Thank you for generously supporting our parish.

Joseph's) Scout Group will be delivering Christmas cards within the Kilmarnock town area, Hurlford and Crookedholm only. All cards must be correctly addressed to ensure delivery. The cost is 50 pence per card. Collection points are Beaver, Cub and Scout gatherings on 3rd and 4th December; then at all Masses at St Joseph's, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Matthew's Churches on 6th and 7th December. Deliveries will take place over the weekend of 13th/14th December. This fundraising effort is very important for the success of our Scout Group throughout the year. Thank you for your support.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION OF CHILDREN: Today after Mass, parents/carers and their children should 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. The Sunday teas will finish at 12.30 pm today to let the catechesis go ahead.

ST JOSEPH'S ACADEMY CHRISTMAS FAYRE: Saturday 29th November, 11 – 1 pm. If you are able to contribute donations towards the bottle and chocolate stalls, the tombola and raffle, they will be gratefully received. There is a box in the porch for donations. Thank you.

Also, raffle tickets will be on sale after Masses in the porch this weekend. All support will be appreciated for school funds to benefit extracurricular educational opportunities for pupils.

HILLHOUSE CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL FOR CHILDREN: Last year Hillhouse gave 3,270 presents to 1,635 young people in East Ayrshire aged 16 and under by providing Christmas gifts to those most in need. When you are buying Christmas presents, can you please remember the Hillhouse outreach?



- toys for children aged 7-16 years,
- pyjamas for 0 -16 year olds,
- boxer shorts and socks for teenage boys,
- toiletries for teenage girls (e.g. perfume, deodorant and make up)
- toiletries for teenage boys (e.g. shower gel, after shave, deodorant).

Please donate items in the box in the porch unwrapped before the beginning of December.

INVITATION FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS: Would you like to join our fantastic team of Altar Servers who assist at weekend Masses, Christmas and Easter? If you've made your First Communion, you're able to do so, contact Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin for more details. Full training and support will be provided.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the programme followed by adults to become full members of the Catholic Church. The next meeting is after the 6 pm Mass on Thursday 27th November, at 6.30 pm in the parish house.

YOUTH OFFICE 200 CLUB: This provides 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.**

YOUTH (P6-S4) EVENINGS: The next monthly Cluster Youth Evening for young people in P6-S4 takes place in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock on Sunday 21st December. The next evening will reflect on 'Advent & Christmas: Preparing to

welcome Christ'. The evening runs from 5.00 – 7.00 pm, beginning with Mass at 5.00 pm. See you there!

YOUNG ADULTS (S5-30) EVENINGS: The next Young Adults evening takes place in St Joseph's Church on Sunday 7th December. This month, the group will be joined by Fr Mark Kelly who'll be speaking on 'The Parables of Jesus: Understanding Jesus' teaching in the Gospels'. The evening begins with Mass at 5.45 pm, following which Fr Mark will speak in the hall. All young adults are welcome, whether you're a regular or it's your first time.

SANTIAGO: HEAR THEIR STORY (EVENT FOR ALL): On Friday 12th December at 7.00 pm in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock, Young Adults who took part in the Camino de Santiago will be speaking about their experiences. They'll be sharing photos, stories, and taking questions about why it was so significant for all of those who took part. The evening is free of charge, but the bar will be open and donations are welcome towards the Young Adults' pilgrimage fund.

YOUTH OFFICE STORE: Looking for the perfect stocking filler? Would you like a unique gift you won't get anywhere else? The Youth Office is selling a range of merchandise including: mugs pens, calendars, and Christmas Cards with all profits going to support youth and young adults ministry in Galloway. See their stall at the back of the church, or shop online: youth.rcdg.org.uk/shop

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: will take place on Sunday 7th December from 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm. All children from our parishes are invited to come along for games and snacks, as well as a visit from Santa himself!

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE: A Carol Service will take place in the church on Monday 15th December at 1.00 pm followed by tea coffee and mince pies in the hall afterwards.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE: On Tuesday 9th December, the Kilmarnock Parishes' Advent Penance Service will be celebrated in St Joseph's at 7.00 pm. In addition to Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin, priests from the Deanery will be attending to give you the opportunity to celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation as we prepare for Christmas.

APPEAL FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL: SSVF Conference volunteers are few and in order for them to continue their current work in the Food Bank, they need new members to join them. The Food Bank takes place on a Wednesday morning in the hall between 10.30 and 11.30 am, when some 35-40 people come for a Food Bag and have soup and a sandwich, tea and coffee. If you are interested in joining them please speak to a SSVF member or to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin. SSVF would like to express their thanks to the Tuesday Community Lunch Team for the continuing support with surplus food.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- St Matthew's Church Christmas Fayre – Sat 22nd November, 11.30 am – 3 pm
- Diocesan Mass for Those Involved in Education – Wed 26th November, 6.30 pm (St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr)
- St Joseph's Academy Christmas Fayre – Sat 29th November, 11 am – 1 pm
- Children's Christmas Party – Sun 7th December, 2.00 pm
- Young Adults' Evening – Sun 7th December, 5.45 pm
- Santiago Presentation Evening – Fri 12th December, 7.00 pm
- Christmas Youth Day – Sat 10th January, 11.00 am
- Young Adults' Christmas Dinner – Sun 11th January

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 22 Nov 6 pm	M Kirk, K McGhee, H Rameckers	J Lennon, F Donachie, A Gorman, M McGrath, G Rankin	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Kathleen, Frances	IHM Sisters
Sunday 23 Nov 11 am	An Davidson, M Walker, M Andrew	H Matthews, P Chigbo, E Cunningham, L Dorrian, I Love	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo, Jason, Kamili	Anne & Gerry Smith	IHM Sisters, Emma O'Connell	Theresa, Alan	IHM Sisters
Saturday 29 Nov 6 pm	M McGrath, F Donachie, A Davidson	L Rankin, K McGhee, M Steele, C Power, Sr Juliet	Joseph, Ethan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	H Rameckers
Sunday 30 Nov 11 am	L Hand, M Cunningham, R Doak	F McCann, R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, M Andrew	Ryan, Marilyn, Mark, Rachel, Luca, Gabo, Jason, Kamili	-	-	Paul, Libby	H Rameckers