

November: A Month In Honour of the Holy Souls

In the Catholic Church, the month of November holds special significance as it is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. During this month, the faithful are encouraged to commemorate and pray for all who have departed from this life yet have not reached the eternal joys of Heaven. This observance springs from both scriptural roots and the deep compassion of the Church for those souls who are undergoing purification. By understanding this dedication, we can engage in meaningful prayer, sacrifices, and acts of charity that benefit both the souls in purgatory and our spiritual growth.

Biblical and Theological Foundations of Purgatory

St. Paul, in his letters, implores Christians not to “be ignorant concerning the dead,” reminding the faithful that death is not the end but a transition for those who die in Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). The Church teaches that purgatory is a state of purification for those who have died in a state of grace but still require purification before entering the fullness of Heaven. The Catechism of the Catholic Church affirms this belief by explaining that souls undergo a “final purification” necessary to attain the perfection required for Heaven (CCC 1030-1032). This teaching is drawn from Scripture, Tradition, and centuries of theological reflection.

Why Pray for the Souls in Purgatory?

Praying for the souls in purgatory is an act of charity, as these souls can no longer pray for themselves and depend on the prayers of the living to aid their final journey. The efficacy of our prayers, alms, and sacrifices on behalf of the Holy Souls is a testimony to the profound interconnectedness of the Church—what is known as the Communion of Saints. Our prayers assist the souls in their journey, bringing them closer to the beatific vision of God.

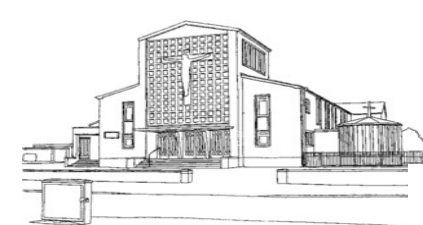
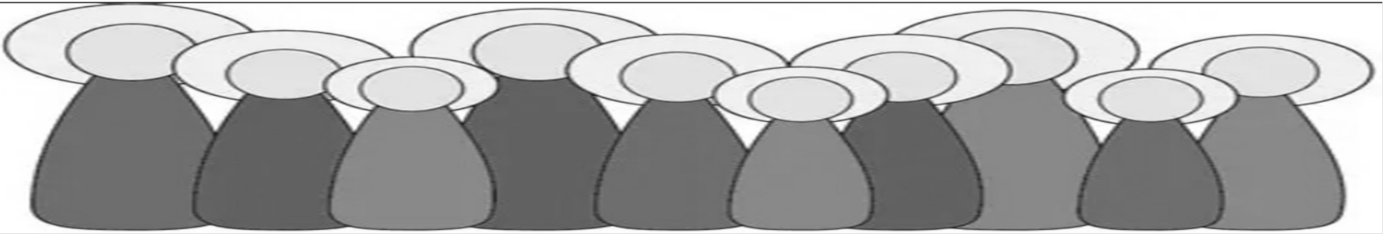
St. John Chrysostom emphasized the importance of these prayers: “Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them.” By praying for the deceased, we manifest our love for them and deepen our awareness of our own mortality and eternal destiny.

Praying for the Dead

The most traditional and accessible way to help the souls is through prayer. Prayers such as the Eternal Rest Prayer (“Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them”) and the De Profundis (Psalm 130) are commonly recited for this purpose.

Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most powerful prayer that can be offered for the dead. Attending Mass and offering it for the repose of souls in purgatory is a profound act of charity.



SUNDAY BULLETIN

Sunday 2nd November, 2025



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL & ST MATTHEW’S



PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Jim Hayes
Fr Jim’s Telephone: 01563 533587 or 01563 523822.
Address: The Parish Office, St Matthew’s, Grassyards Road, Kilmarnock. KA3 7SH
Fr. Jim’s Email: kilmarnock.stmatthew@rcdg.org.uk or kilmarnock.olmc@rcdg.org.uk
Parishes of the RC Diocese of Galloway. Charity Number: SC 010576
PASTORAL ASSISTANTS: Sr. Mary Rose Confidence Maduka IHM, Sr. Mary Mabel Chukwu IHM & Sr. Marilyn Juliet Obiorah IHM
Contact Details: 01563 523822 Email: ihmsisters@rcdg.org.uk

Liturgy: Solemnity of All Saints. Year (C)



Divine Office:	Sunday: Vol. 3, pg 364. Weekdays: Week 3.
Mass texts in other languages:	virc.at/unit/virc/en/massreadings
Sunday Masses:	9.30am at St Matthew’s, Grassyards Road. KA3 7SH. 11.30am at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kirkton Road. KA3 2DF.
Psalm 24 Response:	Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, Alleluia. Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord, and I will give you rest. Alleluia.
Memorial Acclamation:	We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Please, ask your child(ren) to return to you immediately after the Children’s Liturgy if you do not wish them to be captured on the live-stream recording. **LIVESTREAM MASSES:** [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) *Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Matthew’s Kilmarnock*

Service Schedule for the coming week:

ALL SAINTS 2nd November	9.30am at St. Matthew's Intention: Vincent Hegarty (RecDec).		11.30am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: Rev Bob Simpson (RecDec) and SSVp Sp.Int-health.	
Monday 3rd November	The Parish Office is closed on Mondays. We have no services on Mondays.		10am Mass in St Joseph's, Hill Street.	
Tuesday 4th November	9.30am Adoration (with Confession) in OLMC. 10am Mass in Our Lady of Mount Carmel		Intention: Betty McCaffrey (RecDec).	
Wednesday 5th November	10am Mass in St Matthew's		Intention: Ana Martinez RIP and Martin Fitzsimmons RIP	
Thursday 6th November	9.30am Rosary in St Matthew's 10am Mass in St Matthew's		Intention: Archie Pryce (RecDec).	
Friday 7th November	9.30am Short Rosary and 10am Mass in OLMC prepared and led by the school children. 7-8pm First Friday Holy Hour in OLMC		Intention: Archie Pryce (RecDec).	
Saturday 8th November	9.30am Adoration in St Matthew's (Confession till 9.55am).	10am Mass in St Matthew's Intention: Archie Pryce (RecDec).	6.00pm Vigil Mass at St. Joseph's	
THE LATERAN BASILICA 9th November	9.30am at St. Matthew's Intention: Harry Merrick (18th Ann).		11.30am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Intention: Hugh Gray (8th Ann).	
The Holy Souls on our Altar Lists of the Dead will be remembered at all Masses in November. May they rest in peace.				

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Rec. Deceased: Deacon Bob Simpson, Vincent Hegarty, Betty McCaffrey, Archie Pryce. May they rest in peace.
Anniversaries/B’d day Rem: Harry Merrick, Hugh Gray and all those we ourselves have known and loved.
The sick: Baby Clay Lobban, Isobel Connolly, Margaret Cassidy, Davey Spiers, Marion McGonagle, Gerda Devlin, Stephen Montgomery, Janette McConnell, Fiona Fulton, Briege Abbott, Tommy Wood, Eleanor McCluskey, Margaret Fleming, Lily Kelly, Tom Currie, Mary McLaughlin, Dougie Black, Anne Johnston, Pat McKenna, Matt Connelly, Janice McCrae, Ashley Kenny, Margaret Fitzpatrick, Eimear Callaghan, David O’Callaghan, Michelle Hanlon, Michelle Dunne, Leona McAllister, Donald Gibon, Frank Mullen, Helen O’Donnell, Frances O’Neil, Helen McClure, James Hughes, Max McLean, Mary Rea, Carolanne Gallagher, Charlie Smith.



THE DIOCESE
of GALLOWAY



RC Diocese of Galloway - SC010576

Clergy Changes

Bishop Frank has announced the following Clergy Changes in the Diocese:

Fr Jim Hayes, currently Parish Priest of St Matthew's, Kilmarnock and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kilmarnock, is to move and become Parish Priest of St Winin's, Kilwinning.

Fr Stephen McGrattan, currently Parish Priest of St Joseph's, Kilmarnock becomes Parish Priest of St Joseph's, Kilmarnock, St Matthew's, Kilmarnock and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kilmarnock.

Fr Kevin Rennie, currently Assistant Priest of St Joseph's, Kilmarnock becomes Assistant Priest of St Joseph's, Kilmarnock, St Matthew's, Kilmarnock and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Kilmarnock.

These changes will take effect for the 1st Sunday of Advent.

www.rcdg.org.uk[f](https://www.facebook.com/rcdgalloway)[X](https://www.instagram.com/rcdgalloway)[i](https://www.youtube.com/rcdgalloway)RC Diocese of Galloway - @rcdgalloway

SACRAMENTS	
Marriage	By arrangement with Fr. Jim. The Diocese of Galloway requires that couples give a minimum of six months’ notice of their intention to marry
Baptism	By arrangement with Fr. Jim on a mutually suitable date and time
Reconciliation	Tuesdays and Saturdays during Exposition and at any other time on request at suitable times.
	Community Support at St Matthew’s. A Donation’s box is located at the Church entrance. Thank you for your continuing generosity. ‘Bags for Life’ are always welcome.
	OLMC SSVP Conference. All donations are most welcome and needed. Please use the Donations Box as you leave the church. Email: olmc_ssvp@icloud.com

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS. With grateful thanks we acknowledge the following generosity	
OLMC	1st: £ 194.74 and the 2nd collection: £126.48 and the SSVP Box: £94.20.
ST MATTHEW’S	1st: £423.06 and the 2nd collection: £266.19 and The Community Box: £193.00.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE/EMAIL ADDRESSES	
KILMARNOCK RC CHURCHES: www.rckilmarnock.org.uk FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/OurLadyOfMountCarmelKilmarnock/ https://facebook.com/stmatthewschurchkilmarnock	
St Matthew’s Hall Bookings: Margaret Merrick - 07765715798 or Email: margaret.merrick@btinternet.com	
OLMC Society of Saint Vincent de Paul: olmc_ssvp@icloud.com	Mount Carmel Primary School: 01563 525897
St.Andrew’s Primary School & Early Childhood Centre: 01563 549549	St. Joseph’s Academy: 01563 526144
Diocese of Galloway: 01292 266750 www.rcdg.org.uk 8 Corsehill Road, Ayr. KA7 2ST.	SPRED: 01292 738068 / Email: office.ayr@spredgalloway.org.uk Facebook: SPRED Galloway/ www.spredgalloway.org.uk
Crosshouse Hospital Chaplaincy: St Joseph’s - 01563 521832	Ayr Hospital Chaplaincy: Fr. Benjamin Mkeri – 01655 882145
ITEMS FOR THE SUNDAY BULLETIN: Parish/Diocesan based info/news will be given priority. If room allows we will gladly include items from other organisations. Please Email the Parish Office on either: kilmarnock.olmc@rcdg.org.uk OR kilmarnock.stmatthew@rcdg.org.uk . Deadline: Thursdays 10am.	

Ministry Rota for 2nd November 2025– Solemnity of All Saints.				
Scripture	Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14	Psalm 24	I John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12a
St. Matthew’s	Readers: Susan Faulds, Kenny Ainsworth and Philip Brown. Euch.Ministers: Martin Dempster (L), Cherry Stacey (L), Laura Vernon (R), Clare Gordon (R), Sister(R).			
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Readers: Gretta McNeil and Helen Kennedy. Euch.Ministers: Linda Hefron, John Hefron and Agnes Starrs.			

Ministry Rota for 9th November 2025– Dedication of the Lateran Basilica.				
Scripture	Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9,12	Psalm 46	I Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17	John 2:13-22
St. Matthew’s	Readers: Fran Boyle, Michael Thomson and Caron Bias. Euch.Ministers: Maureen Bradley (L), Stephen Duff (L), Maureen Thomson (L), Anne Gillion (R), Sister (R).			
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Readers: Irene Roy and Marion Smith. Euch.Ministers: Charlie Harper, Colette Lamberth and Marie Urquhart.			

Changes in our Parish Communities	Fr Jim thanks everyone in both parishes (and beyond) for the lovely messages of support and thanks received since last week’s announcement from Bishop Frank of his new assignment to Kilwinning. A certain surprise for us all but we now enter a transition period as we will soon welcome Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin as our new pastors as per the “Embracing Change” discussions and conclusions we have been taking part in across the deanery/diocese for the past 25 years or more! Just to confirm then that Fr Jim’s last Sunday Mass with us will be Sunday 23rd November. He will be on planned annual leave from 12-20 November, Fr Neil will join you for Masses on 16th November.
Altar Lists of the Dead	As the Month of the Holy Souls begins you are invited to gather the names of your deceased family and friends to add them to the Altar Lists of the Dead in each of our churches. Envelopes and lists are available in the Church porch for you to write and return your list, of course you may hand in your own list and envelope too. Any offering you are able to make will go to help families in need with their Christmas preparations.
Youth Office Events	Join Young Adults (s5-30 years) from across the deanery for their meeting in St Joseph’s, Kilmarnock this Sunday (2nd November) from 6pm till 8pm. The theme this month is “The History of the Church” with guest, Fr Philip from Cumnock, leading the presentation. The next evening for younger youth (p.6-s.4) will take place on Sunday 16th November in St Joseph’s beginning with Mass at 5pm ending at 7pm. See @rcdgyouth on social media for the other opportunities organised by the Diocesan Youth Service for our youth and young adults.
U R Welcome Seniors Club	The next meeting (with Sugar craft modelling) is scheduled for Wednesday-5th November from 1.30pm till 3.30pm. Join them in the Norbert Room at OLMC-All seniors, friends and neighbours are most welcome!
First Friday Holy Hour	Our Parish Sisters invite you to join them this coming Friday (7th November) for their regular First Friday Holy Hour in OLMC from 7pm till 8pm. Confession is also available till 7.45pm. Night Prayer and Benediction will conclude the hour at 7.45pm. All welcome.
Community Lunch	Join the group next Sunday (9th) for the regular community lunch at 12.45pm in St Matthew’s Hall. The meal is free and all are welcome.
Aid to the Church In Need (CAN) “Red Wednesday”	On Wednesday 19th November, our Scottish cathedrals will join Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) in remembering Christians across the world who suffer for their faith. 80% of all religious persecution in the world is directed against Christians, and our brothers and sisters in Christ desperately need our prayers and support. Will you help us ‘break the silence on Christian persecution’? Come along to Evening Prayer in St Margaret’s Cathedral, Ayr at 7pm Contact scotland@acnuk.org or call the office at 01698 337 470.
	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 at Mass to mark this special occasion. Please use the link or QR code below to register your attendance. We look forward to seeing you then. Mrs Donna Shearer, Depute Head Teacher. https://forms.office.com/e/08LyWEVDy8
OLMC St Vincent De Paul Afternoon Teas	Our parish SSVP at OLMC will be hosting another two afternoon teas in the Norbert Room at OLMC. The dates to choose from are 15th and 22nd November from 1pm until 3pm and anyone over 60 is invited to attend. Please indicate preferred date by adding your name to the list in the Norbert Room, by speaking to one of the SSVP members or by email to OLMC_SSVP@icloud.com . We look forward to seeing you there-great company, great chat, great fun and great food!
Christmas Fayres	You are invited to join the children, staff and families to the Mount Carmel Primary School Christmas Fayre in the school on Friday 28th November from 6.30pm. Donations for the Tombola/bottle stall would be gratefully received-hand into school or Marion will gladly take the form you at Church (you can catch her in the Church stall. The school children will also sell raffle tickets in the week’s before at the back of Church.
	The St Joseph’s Academy community welcome you to their Christmas Fayre in the school on Saturday 29th November from 11am till 1pm. Donations for the Stalls (bottles, chocolate, Tombola, raffle etc) will be gratefully received– a box is in the porch or hand them into the school office.
Foodbank Information	St Matthew’s Foodbank are short of bags-if you could hand your used bags in they’d appreciate it very much. In need of support from the Foodbank at Our Lady of Mount Carmel or St Matthew’s Churches? Telephone 01563 574000 to try to book an appointment (before 12noon to be sure) so they can be prepared to assist you. The Foodbank at OLMC is on Monday evenings at the Church (SSVP front entrance) from 7.30pm till 8.15pm. At St Matthew’s the Foodbank is on Tuesdays and Thursday from 3.30pm till 5.30pm.