



THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 12th July 2026

St Joseph's – Our Lady of Mount Carmel – St Matthew's
Catholic Parishes, Kilmarnock

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

Assistant Priest: Father Kevin J. A. Rennie (kevin.rennie@rcdg.org.uk)

Pastoral Assistants: Sisters Mary Rose Confidence, Mary Mabel and Marilyn Juliet (ihmsisters@rcdg.org.uk)

Parish Secretary: Mariella Hoekstra Berry (rckilmarnock@rcdg.org.uk)

Items for the newsletter to the Parish Secretary (by 10 am Thursday please): rckilmarnock@rcdg.org.uk

Web: www.rckilmarnock.org.uk

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

LITURGY AND GATHERINGS FROM SUNDAY 12th – 19th JULY 2026

Time	Venue	Gathering	Mass intention
Saturday 11th			
5.30 – 5.45 pm	St Joseph's	Confession	
6.00 pm	St Joseph's	Mass	Special Intention
Sunday 12th			
9.30 am	St Matthew's	Mass	People of the Parishes
After Mass	St Matthew's	Tea and Coffee	
11.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	People of the Parishes
11.30 am	OLMC	Mass	Edward Farrell (RIP) & George McArthur (RIP)
After Mass	OLMC	Tea and Coffee	
12.45 pm	St Matthew's	Community Lunch	
Monday 13th			
9.30 am	St Matthew's	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
10.00 am	St Matthew's	Mass	Gina Doonan (RIP)
10.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	Special Intention
Tuesday 14th			
10.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	Rory and Leo Clark (RIP)
After Mass	St Joseph's	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
10.00 am	OLMC	Mass	Special Intention
After Mass	OLMC	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession	(until 10.50 am)
Wednesday 15th			
10.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	Helen Munro (RIP)
After Mass	St Joseph's	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
10.00 am	St Matthew's	Mass	Molly Mowat (RIP)
After Mass	St Matthew's	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession	(until 10.50 am)
Thursday 16th			
10.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	Special Intention
Please note the earlier time for this week only.			
Friday 17th			
9.30 am	OLMC	Recitation of the Holy Rosary	
10.00 am	OLMC	Mass	Special Intention
10.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	James King (RIP)
Saturday 18th			
5.30 – 5.45 pm	St Joseph's	Confession	
6.00 pm	St Joseph's	Mass	Carmel Anne Napier (RIP)
Sunday 19th			
9.30 am	St Matthew's	Mass	Pat Burnett (RIP)
After Mass	St Matthew's	Tea and Coffee	
11.00 am	St Joseph's	Mass	Enrico Curtis (RIP)
11.30 am	OLMC	Mass	People of the Parishes
After Mass	OLMC	Tea and Coffee	

St Joseph's is open for prayer Monday to Friday from 9.30 am until 4 pm. Enter through the small side door.

COMPARISON OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR FIRST TWO QUARTERS OF 2026 AND 2025

	January-June 2026			January-June 2025		
	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/ Deficit	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/ Deficit
St Joseph's	£ 106,894.90	£ 76,951.56	£ 29,943.34	£ 96,317.39	£ 73,280.29	£ 23,037.10
OLMC	£ 33,291.01	£ 37,961.58	-£ 4,670.57	£ 17,760.42	£ 34,333.38	-£ 16,572.96
St Matthew's	£ 45,184.71	£ 48,453.87	-£ 3,269.16	£ 34,879.10	£ 35,019.37	-£ 140.27

GENERAL NOTICES

CHANGE TO THURSDAY MASS: Please note that Mass on Thursday will be celebrated in St Joseph's at 10 am.

WAVERLEY MINIBUS TRIP: Thank you to everyone who has signed up to take part in this trip which will see us join the Waverley Paddle Steamer for a trip to Girvan and Ailsa Craig on Monday 3rd August. **The tickets for this have now been booked and paid for. If you have signed up, the £55 cost – which includes transport to/ from Ayr and your ticket for the boat – is required no later than Sunday 26th July.** The cost can be paid in cash at the stall in St Joseph's.

APPEAL FOR ALTAR SERVERS FOR ALL PARISHES: If any of the children who recently made their First Holy Communion would like to be altar servers, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin. Training will be provided.

DEANERY PILGRIMAGE TO BIRNIEKNOWE: Following the success of last year's Deanery pilgrimage to the Birnieknowe, we are planning another for this year. This year it will take place on **Sunday 2nd August at 2.30 pm** to Birnieknowe, just outside Auchinleck, and be followed by a reception in the church hall. Birnieknowe was the location of the former Our Lady and St Patrick's church, school and convent until the mid 1960s (pictured below).



This year's Mass will also be the August Diocesan Mass to the Holy Spirit with Bishop Frank joining us.

WHITHORN PILGRIMAGE: The annual National Pilgrimage to Whithorn will take place on Sunday 30th 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.

SCIAF SHIELD: returns on Saturday 1st August 2026. Put your faith into action and take part in the SCIAF Shield – our knock-out tournament that uses football to raise money for the world's poorest people. Get ready for a day of fun, football, and fundraising. The SCIAF Shield is a 5-a-side tournament that brings together 16 teams for an exciting afternoon of community and sport - all in support of SCIAF's life-changing work overseas. This year, funds raised by the SCIAF Shield will go towards our Emergency Hunger Appeal, to provide emergency food packages and help people grow more food in places devastated by floods and droughts in Africa. Sign your parish team up here: www.sciaf.org.uk/sciafshield

SEASON OF CREATION CONFERENCE: The Bishops' Conference Care of Creation Office invites you to the Season of Creation Conference 2026 on Saturday, 5th September 2026, 10am – 3pm, in Eyre Hall, Archdiocese of Glasgow Offices, Clyde Street, Glasgow, G1 4JY. Our guest speaker will be Lorna Gold, Executive Director of Laudato Si' Movement, and there will be workshops on how to engage young people and parish groups. Please register here: bit.ly/SeasonofCreation26

BUILDING FUND: There will be a special collection for the Building Fund at Masses next weekend. Please use the envelope in your box if you have one to ensure gift aid is claimed.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER CLUBS:

St Kentigern's Church: There will be a Summer Holiday Club - Kingdom Builders - from Monday 3rd till Wednesday 5th August from 10 am - 12 noon. Primary school children are invited to explore building God's Kingdom with blocks and

games! To register contact stkentigernsnfl@outlook.com or Sandy Brown 07526 490034.

New Laigh Kirk: A Summer Club with a sports theme will be held in New Laigh Kirk's Halls in John Finnie Street from 10th to 12th August from 6 to 7.45 p.m.. There will be Bible stories, games, crafts, snacks and Forum ice cream. To register contact Amy Tanner at amy_bh@hotmail.co.uk or 07980-665432.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH

JULY ORGAN RECITALS: On Tuesday 28th July at 12 noon, we welcome James Gough, Director of Music at St John the Evangelist's Church, Upper Norwood, London, will perform a recital. It is a privilege to host such esteemed musicians at St Joseph's. Please spread the word that all are welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S, KILMARNOCK

THE RESTORED
HARRISON & HARRISON
ORGAN (1903, 2023)

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES
2026

Recitalist:
JAMES GOUGH
(St John the Evangelist,
Upper Norwood, London)

Tuesday 28 July
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
Harrison & Harrison pipe organ.

Admission free - Retiral collection

No booking required - just come along

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

PARISH FUN DAY: On **Sunday 9th 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.

HALL HIRE: Did you know that our Church Hall is available for hire for community events, fundraisers and family gatherings? We offer competitive rates for the hire of the hall which are affordable and, by hiring the hall, you're helping to support the parish. For more information or to book the hall, please contact Margaret McGrath.

ST MATTHEW'S PARISH

COMMUNITY LUNCH: takes place today at 12.45pm in the church hall. All are welcome to join for a delicious 3 course meal.

HALL HIRE: Did you know that our Church Hall is available for hire for community events, fundraisers and family gatherings? We offer competitive rates for the hire of the hall which are affordable and, by hiring the hall, you're helping to support the parish. For more information or to book the hall, please contact Margaret Merrick.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

SSVP & FOODBANK PROVISION: We are extremely grateful to the Society of St Vincent de Paul who run foodbanks in St Joseph's and Our Lady of Mount Carmel, as well as the volunteers who help to

run the foodbank in St Matthew's.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION GATHERING AND CELEBRATION

SATURDAY 25TH JULY - 11.00 AM - 4.00 PM - ST JOSEPH'S, KILMARNOCK

Did you receive your First Holy Communion this year?
JOIN US TO CELEBRATE!

Scan to Register



Join us for a day of games, pizza, and prayer as we celebrate YOU and invite you to become part of Galloway Youth!

Foodbanks are available through our parishes on the following days and times. All of our foodbanks are provided free of charge.

Day	Start	Finish	Location
Monday	7.30 pm	8.15 pm	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Tuesday	3.30 pm	5.00 pm	St Matthew's
Wednesday	10.30 am	11.30 pm	St Joseph's Hall
Thursday	3.30 pm	5.00 pm	St Matthew's

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) or phone 01563 521832 and they will be visited during our routine visiting. We are not automatically notified when a Catholic patient is admitted to hospital and so we rely on receiving the information from family and friends. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri at 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.**

MINISTRY TO YOUNG PEOPLE

SUMMER WITH GALLOWAY YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

25TH JULY
11.00 AM - 4.00 PM



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATION DAY

8TH AUGUST
AFTER 6.00 PM
VIGIL MASS



YOUNG ADULTS' (S5-30)
SUMMER BBQ

15TH AUGUST
11.00 AM - 4.00 PM



SUMMER YOUTH GATHERING

30TH AUGUST
ALL DAY



WHITHORN YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

TO TAKE PART IN ANY OF OUR EVENTS,
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
YOUTH.RCDG.ORG.UK.

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION DAY: The Diocesan Youth Office invites all those who have made their First Communion this year to join them for a celebration at St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock on Saturday 25th July from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. The day will include a variety of fun and engaging games, a couple of short talks, Mass, and lunch: pizza and a BBQ. Interested? Scan the QR code to register. There's no charge to take part in the day.



MILLPORT SPONSORED CYCLE



THURSDAY 6TH AUGUST

SCAN TO DONATE

Young people will be cycling 10 miles around the island, while some of our leaders will be cycling 60 miles - 6 times around!

Supporting Young People in their fundraising to take part in Galloway's Seoul in August 2027 - a five day summer camp following the events of World Youth Day, to encourage them to grow in faith and knowledge of God, and friendship with one and other.

@ youth@rcdg.org.uk



Diocese of Galloway Youth - @rcdgyouth

SPONSORED CYCLE AROUND MILLPORT (GREAT CUMBRAE): On Thursday 6th August, Fr Kevin, Margaret McGrath, and others from the Diocesan Youth Office will be joined by some of the young people taking part in 2027 Galloway's Seoul: a five-day residential for young people following the events of World Youth Day in Seoul, while also taking part in a range of outdoor activities, and hearing inputs (Catechesis) from local speakers. The event aims to give young people the opportunity to grow in their knowledge and love of God as well as growing in friendship with each other through the activities on offer.

For the cycle: Fr Kevin will be completing 60 miles (six circuits of the island) while Margaret and the young people will complete one circuit (10 miles).

To sponsor the group, please fill in the form in the stall, or scan the QR code to donate online.



Invitation to take part: While the event is raising funds for Galloway's Seoul, any young person (P6 and up after the summer) is welcome to come along and take part - the Youth Office will cover the ferry fare and bike hire, if you'd like to take part, please speak to Fr Kevin, Margaret, or go to the Youth Office's website and click on 'Millport Sponsored Cycle' (under 'Youth').

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Deanery Pilgrimage to Birnieknowe for Mass of the Holy Spirit with Bishop Frank – 2.30 pm
 - Waverley Minibus Trip – Monday 3rd August (*Open to all*)
 - Parish Fun Day – Sunday 9th August from 12 noon – 2 pm (*St Joseph's*)
- Whithorn Pilgrimage – Sunday 29th August – Mass on the beach at 4 pm and in the town at 4.45 pm
- Fellowship of Kilmarnock Churches service – Sunday 20th September at 3.00 pm (*Our Lady of Mount Carmel*)
 - Ecuador Walk from Kilmarnock to Troon – Sunday 27th September (*details to follow*)

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers (1st, 2nd, Intercessions)	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 11 July St Joseph's 6pm	M Kirk, G McIntyre, K McGhee	Sr Mabel, F Donachie, G Rankin, L Rankin, M Steele	Joseph, Luca, Ryan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi			Clare, Margaret	Fran Boyle
Sunday 12 July St Matthew's 9.30 am	D Bias, E Allan, V Kelly	R: Sister, M Musilli L: M Thomson	Luca, David, Rebecca		-		
Sunday 12 July St Joseph's 11 am	P Nicholson, An Davidson, F McCann	P Chigbo, E Cunningham, L Dorrian, I Love, H Matthews	Ryan, Luca, Mark, Rachel, Gabo, Jason, Marilyn, Kamili, Bianca, Jude	-		Devlin, Eileen	
Sunday 12 July OLMC 11.30 am	C Harper, K Jones	J Hefron, L Hefron, S Hollywood	Jessica, Farrah, Katie, Aaron, Akunna, Raphael	Suzy	-	C McGuire, C Lamberth	
Saturday 18 July St Joseph's 6pm	H Rameckers, F Donachie, A Davidson	Sr Juliet, Sr Mabel, C McGowan, A Gorman, K McGhee	Joseph, Luca, Ryan, Antoni, Ravindu, Lexi			Kathleen, Frances	Helena Rameckers
Sunday 19 July St Matthew's 9.30 am	A Gillion, M Thomson, C Bias	R: C Gordon, M Gordon L: M Dempster	Luca, David, Rebecca		-		
Sunday 19 July St Joseph's 11 am	M Cunningham, L Hand, M Walker	R Murphy, A Neil, J Shields, F McCann, M Walker	Ryan, Luca, Mark, Rachel, Gabo, Jason, Marilyn, Kamili, Bianca, Jude	-		Alan, Theresa	
Sunday 19 July OLMC 11.30 am	O Jones, H Kennedy	C Lamberth, J McCrossan, G Rannochan	Jessica, Farrah, Katie, Aaron, Akunna, Raphael	Suzy	-	M Wilkie, B McDade	

Useful Contacts

	Hall bookings	Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators
St Joseph's	Margaret McGrath (01563 542130)	Margaret McGrath (margaret.mcgrath@rcdg.org.uk)
Our Lady of Mount Carmel		Alice Brown (alice.brown@rcdg.org.uk) Charles Harper (charles.harper@rcdg.org.uk)
St Matthew's	Margaret Merrick (07765 715798)	Vacant
Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals: In emergencies ask hospital staff to page the on-call priest. For regular visiting: <i>Crosshouse Hospital:</i> Fr Stephen McGrattan (stephen.mcgrattan@rcdg.org.uk or 01563 521832) <i>Ayr Hospital:</i> 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		

Parish Office & Presbytery Contact Details:

St Joseph's Presbytery, 15a Hill Street, Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB – Telephone: 01563 521832

Convent Contact Details:

Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mount Carmel Convent, 14 Kirkton Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 2DF
 Telephone: 01563 523822 • Email: ihmsisters@rcdg.org.uk

Collections for Sunday 5th July

St Joseph's	Standing orders: £834.08. Weekly collection: £1,487.47. Building Fund: £53.15. Peter's Pence: £54. Ecuador Trust: £200. Communications Sunday: £10.
Our Lady of Mount Carmel	Standing orders: £261.57. Weekly collection: £659.73. SSVP: £141.79. Peter's Pence: £12.
St Matthew's	Standing orders: £508.62. Weekly collection: £302.96. Building Fund: £10. Community Box: £115.40. Ecuador Trust: £7.18. Church Students Fund: £5. Peter's Pence: £10.

Thank you for generously supporting our parishes.

SUPPORT OUR PARISHES

You can now support our parishes by giving online, just scan the QR code to donate or go to our website and click the link.

St Joseph's



Our Lady of Mount Carmel



St Matthew's



FOLLOW US ONLINE

Facebook – X – Instagram – @rckilmarnock

Web: www.rckilmarnock.org.uk

YouTube: RC Kilmarnock

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.