

ST MATTHEW'S and OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Martin Chambers

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SUNDAY LITURGY: 29th November

1st Sunday of Advent - B

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| Psalm Response | <i>God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.</i> |
| Gospel Acclamation | <i>Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!</i> |

Sunday Masses:

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm: St. Matthew's. Sunday 9.30am: St. Matthew's and 11.00am: OLMC

Season of Hope

The experience of hope

By hope I mean the belief that things need not be as they are, that they can be different, that we are not prisoners of the past or the present, that we can make for mankind a different future. In essence hope is a belief in possibilities – not that things **will** be better, but that they **can be** different. Perhaps we should refer to it as an attitude rather than a belief, a fundamental human attitude that provides us with a positive and open attitude to life. This hopeful mood encourages outgoingness, willingness for experiment and change, even adventure..... includes elements of trust and expectancy.

The Hope of Christians

The reign of God has been established, in principle by the death and resurrection of Christ. This is the centre piece of Christian hope, embracing both the present and the future, both this-worldly realities and other-worldly realities. As Christian believers our hope is based on and inspired by God's love for us in Christ. Our Christian hope can and must have a this-worldly dimension that commits us to personal growth and to the love and care of our neighbour. It calls us to hope and work for a better world, for justice, peace and the integrity of creation.

In the past this has been underplayed and even overlooked but must be kept clearly before the church, its institutions and its members.

Christian hope for eternal life in heaven transforms our understanding of human life and also adds a new dimension to our hope in and for earthly life. Christian hope in eternal life overcomes the assertion that death renders human life meaningless. It gives ultimate meaning and points to its fulfillment with God in eternity

| Day | Mass and Eucharistic Service Schedule for the Forthcoming Week | | Gospel Reading |
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| Sunday 29th November | 9.30am Mass at St. Matthew's | 11.00 am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel | <i>Mark 13:33-37</i> |
| Monday 30th November | Private Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 9.30 am | 10.00am Mass from St. Matthew's | <i>Matthew 8:5-11</i> |
| Tuesday 1st December | Private Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 9.30 am | 10.00am Mass from Our Lady of Mount Carmel | <i>Luke 10:21-24</i> |
| Wednesday 2nd December | 10.00am Mass at St. Joseph's | | <i>Matthew 15:29-37</i> |
| Thursday 3rd December | Private Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 9.30 am | 10.00am Mass from Our Lady of Mount Carmel | <i>Matthew 7:21-24</i> |
| Friday 4th December | Private Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament from 9.30 am | 10.00am Mass from St. Matthew's | <i>Matthew 9:27-31</i> |
| Saturday 5th December | 6.00pm Mass at St. Matthew's | | <i>Matthew 9:35-10:1.6-8</i> |
| Sunday 6th December | 9.30am Mass at St. Matthew's | 11.00am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel | <i>Mark 1:1-8</i> |

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Recently Deceased: Cathie Carolan
May all our departed rest in peace.

Anniversaries: Tommy Thomson and Jimmy Caddis

People who are ill: Eimear Callaghan, David O'Callaghan & Michelle Hanlon, Mary Gibson, Michelle Dunne, Bridget Kirkwood, Leona McAllister, Helen Wass-O'Donnell, Betty Deeney, Lorette Pearson, Mary Hasson, Donald Gibon, Senga McCann, Benny McGuinness Sr, Bernard McGuinness Jr., Valerie Toal, Sarah Lobban, Frank Mullen, Helen O'Donnell, Nathalie Feeney, Mary McLaughlin, Agnes Lennon and May Hollywood

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| Wedding Congratulations | To ANGELA DICKOV & CHRISTOPHER GOUGH who recently celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage. May God continue to bless their Journey of Faith with love. |
| Feasts This Week | Tuesday 24 th – St. Andrew Dung Lac; Sunday 21 st – 1 st Sunday of Advent. |
| Tier 4 Sunday Masses | As you know, as we move into Tier 4 of COVID restrictions, there is a reduction in the amount of people we are allowed into Church for any Mass or Service. During Tier 4, the maximum we are now allowed in is 20. To give as many people as possible a chance of getting to Sunday Mass in person, please consider booking for a place at Mass only every 2 or 3 weeks. This will allow more parishioners the chance to attend Sunday Mass |
| Tier 4 Weekday Masses | As you know, as we move into Tier 4 of COVID restrictions, there is a reduction in the amount of people we are allowed into Church for any Mass or Service. During Tier 4, the maximum we are now allowed in 20. To give as many people as possible a chance of getting to Weekday Mass in person, please consider booking for a place at Weekday Mass only for one Mass each week. This will allow more parishioners the chance to attend Weekday Mass. |
| Booking a Place at Mass | <p>You can book a seat at SUNDAY Mass in the following ways:</p> <p>a) Each week from the Sunday evening at 6pm, you can book a seat online through the Parish website for either of the Saturday 6pm Mass or the two Sunday Masses.</p> <p>b) For those who do not have access to online booking, on the following Friday afternoon from 2-3pm, parishioners will be able to phone in and book a seat. The number is: 07847 726 845</p> <p>BOOKING A PLACE AT WEEKDAY MASS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:</p> <p>a) You can book online from 3pm on Friday until 6pm on Sunday. You can book for Weekday mass in your Parish Church.</p> <p>b) You can book Weekday Mass by phone call on Friday afternoon from 3-4pm. The number is: 07847 726 845</p> |
| Special Collection | Thanks to all who contributed to the recent Education Sunday Special Collection. £85 was collected at St. Matthew's |
| The Advent Calendar Cycle | COVID has hit us all very hard this year. Our friends in Ecuador have been hit harder still with little help available to the poorest in the shanty towns where Fr. Martin worked. To help them this Christmas he is launching this "Cycle the Advent Calendar" where he will cycle for an hour each day of the Advent calendar from the 1 st December through to Christmas Day itself. Please sponsor his efforts through the following Justgiving page: Martin Chambers is fundraising for The Martin Chambers Ecuador Trust (justgiving.com) ... Gracias a todos! |
| Sunday Obligation | Please remember that, during this next stage of the COVID pandemic, the obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday has been lifted. You may decide, therefore, to attend Mass through the week instead of at the weekend. |
| Welcome, Welcome, Welcome | Three Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary congregation will arrive in Kilmarnock on 15 th December. Although they will be living in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Chapel House, they will be working in all three Kilmarnock Churches. We welcome them and pray that their new chapter will bring them and us much joy from God! |
| OLMC Religious Advent Calendars and Christmas Cards | From this Sunday 22 November, Advent Calendars and Christmas cards will be on sale after Sunday Mass. Packs of cards are priced on the box and Advent calendars cost £1.25 A few good practices will keep us all safer. Please do not handle the packs of cards before buying – the style of card is displayed on the front of the boxes. Please bring money in cash to save multiple handling of change. There should be no more than one customer in the repository at any one time. It will be strictly one in one out. Social distance is to be observed between households, masks worn, and hands sanitised on entry and exit. Please follow the one-way system, entering through the door and leaving through the side exit at the ramp - thank you |

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| Foodbank Donations | With the prospect of a continued pandemic, further job losses and business closures, the local FOODBANK is asking for help. The Kilmarnock office is open at 13 – 15 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock, KA1 1DH. Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm. Alternatively, donations of food can be handed in to Fr. Martin. |
| Livestream | Go to YouTube " <i>St Matthew's & Our Lady of Mount Carmel Kilmarnock</i> " for Masses on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday |
| Diocesan Priesthood | DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD: Thinking about Diocesan Priesthood in 2021? The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information please contact Fr. Martin Chambers by e-mail: martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk |
| EACHa Christmas Gift Distribution | As in previous years parishioners are invited to donate clothes, toys and toiletries to the needy of our area. These will be distributed by the East Ayrshire Churches Homelessness Action (EACHa). There is a box at the back of Church. Please mark gifts for boy/girl and approximate age. The final date for donations is Sunday 13 th December. |
| SCIAF Real Christmas Gifts | If you are wondering what to give people for Christmas, why not think of giving a SCIAF Gift? You can buy a poor family a Goat (£32) to help them get 12 pints of fresh milk a week or give a family in need a Coronavirus Emergency Pack (£11). For more details, go to www.sciaf.org.uk/realgifts |
| Ecumenical Call to Prayer | You are invited to join with Christians throughout the country in praying together online every Sunday at 7pm. Join in on: http://www.acts-scotland.org/ |
| Hillhouse Christmas Project | Every year the Hillhouse Christmas Project supports families in need by providing two quality Christmas presents (one of which is a pair of pyjamas) for each child referred to us by a professional body (Health, Education, Social Services or other recognised Charity). We are now preparing for this December and will work hard to ensure that every family receives their presents before Christmas. Would you like to help this work? If so, we would love it if you would buy a pair of pyjamas for a child (age 0-16yrs - boy or girl) and leave them in the box provided in the church porch. Please don't wrap them as we do this ourselves with the aid of volunteers. Your help is very much appreciated not only by Hillhouse but by the families who need our help at this present time. If you are presently not visiting the church for services then please do not hesitate to deliver your gift to Hillhouse Distribution Centre or one of our shops in the town. Thank you, your generosity last year was very much appreciated. |
| Bulletin | This bulletin is available online but, if you know of anyone who wishes to receive a letter by post, please let Fr. Martin know. |
| East Ayrshire Coronavirus Call Centre | East Ayrshire Council will coordinate assistance to the community at a single telephone number 01563 554400 from Monday to Friday from 9 am – 5 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 9 am – 3 pm. You will be asked to describe the type of support or assistance required. Urgent needs, including meals and food parcels will be supported through local resilience groups. In a crisis, support will be arranged by a council officer. |
| Foodbank | Ayrshire East Foodbank continues to operate. Contact 01563 550951 for assistance, and your name will be added to the list for the delivery service. You can also make a monetary donation by phoning this number |
| Food Parcels | Through the donations from parishioners, Fr. Martin has been able to provide small food parcels to those who come to the St. Matthew's Church house. |
| St. Matthew's Collections | |
| Our Lady of Mount Carmel Collections | |
| Cheques/Cash: £654.08 (8 th Nov) & £287.50 (15 th Nov) Education Sunday: £85 Standing Orders for October: | 1 st Collection: 2 nd Collection: Standing Orders for October: Renovation Account Standing Orders for October: |
| IF YOU CANNOT DO GREAT THINGS, DO LITTLE THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE | |

