



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Sunday 19th June 2022

Parish Priest: Reverend Stephen G McGrattan

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Parishes of the R C Diocese of Galloway (www.gallowaydiocese.org.uk). Charity number SC010576.

LITURGY AND OUTREACH FROM SUNDAY 19th – 26th JUNE 2022

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention
Saturday 18th	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass (with Children's Liturgy)	Anthony Rogers (RIP)
Sunday 19th	11.00 am	Mass (with Children's Liturgy)	Isa Duffy (Ann)
Monday 20th	10.00 am	Mass	Peter Thomson (RIP)
Tuesday 21st	10.00 am	Mass	Denis & Maureen McCann (Spec Int)
	After Mass	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.45 am	
	11 am – 1 pm.....	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
	2.00 pm	Recitation of the Rosary to pray for peace	
Wednesday 22nd	10.00 am	Mass	Shirley Morgan (RIP)
	After Mass	Recitation of the Rosary	
Thursday 23rd		No Mass in St Joseph's today	
Friday 24th	10.00 am	Mass – Solemnity of the Sacred Heart	Charles O'Hare (RIP)
Saturday 25th	10.00 am	Mass – Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary	Annette Brown (RIP)
	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass (with Children's Liturgy)	Moira McCluskey (Ann)
Sunday 26th	11.00 am	Mass (with Children's Liturgy)	John & Mary Kimmitt (Ann)

The church will be open for prayer Monday to Friday from 10 am until 4 pm. Enter through small side door.

175th ANNIVERSARY MASS OF THANKSGIVING:

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the marvellous and unique celebration of our 175th anniversary of the solemn opening Mass of the Church. At the celebration our parish community welcomed in our midst representatives from St Andrew's and Mount Carmel Primary Schools and St Joseph's Academy. We were honoured with the presence of ministers from other Christian churches in Kilmarnock and beyond and members of their congregations. Our civic guests included Provost Jim Todd, councillors and other representatives of East Ayrshire Council, as well as Willie Coffey MSP.

Fourteen priests, many of whom had served at St Joseph's, joined Fr Stephen to concelebrate Mass. The church was filled with beautiful music thanks to the Gallery Singers and organists Raymond McCluskey and his sister Fiona. It was thrilling to sing the world premiere of "Ite ad Joseph" (Go to Joseph), a piece of music especially composed for the occasion by Dr Raymond McCluskey.

In the church hall after Mass people enjoyed a splendid buffet prepared by parishioners, viewed the photographic exhibition of

the history of the parish, and shared memories of as many of these last 175 years they could remember!

The Mass was a profoundly memorable occasion and a tribute to the good will of our parishioners and their desire to mark the occasion with solemnity and joy. Thank you once again!

ANOTHER MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS: We were moved to receive another kind message from Rev Jill Clancy, Church of Scotland Moderator of the Irvine and Kilmarnock Presbytery: "Happy Anniversary on this your 175th year. May God continue to strengthen you as you witness for Him in your parish. Every blessing and with much Love."

SATURDAY IS THE MEMORIAL OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY: Saturday is also the patronal feast of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary and there will be a festive celebration of Mass on Saturday 25th June at 10 am during which the Sisters will renew their vows. Please come and celebrate with them on this day. Refreshments will be served after Mass in the church hall.

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:

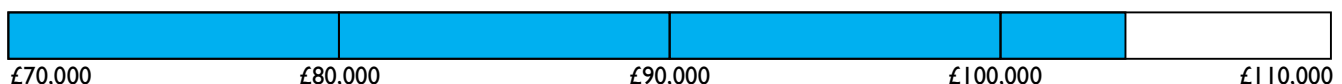
Crosshouse Hospital: Fr Stephen McGrattan (crosshousehospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01563 521832)

Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (ayrhospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

Standing orders: £734.92. **Weekly collection:** £990.47. **Students' Fund:** £10. **Apostolate of Life:** £608.66.

SCIAF: £10. **Communications Sunday:** £9. **Organ Fund:** £383.

Organ Restoration Fund total to date: £103,951.76.



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

DEACON KEVIN RENNIE will be ordained a Priest for Galloway Diocese on 1st July 2022 (7 pm) in St Teresa's Church, Dumfries. All are welcome. A Novena of Prayer has been organised by the people and priests of our Diocese. It will run from 23rd June until 1st July itself and will be published on the 'Galloway Diocese' Facebook page.

WELCOME to Jessica Arnott who will be baptised during Sunday Mass and will be adopted as a child of God into his family. Congratulations to her and her family!

IHM SISTERS SILVER JUBILEE: The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary will celebrate 25 years of missionary presence in the UK with a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Archbishop Longley in Sacred Heart Parish, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3DB on Saturday 2nd July at 10.00 am. Parishioners are cordially invited to join them for this celebration.

There is also a raffle to support the Sisters' Benevolence Charity Fund used for all the charity work undertaken by the Order throughout the world, e.g. Compassion Kitchen, Heerey Caring Hands, Compassionate Home for Orphans, Widows Apostolate, training of young people especially the less privileged in schools etc. Raffle tickets are available from the shop in the porch.

VIDES YOUTH CAMP: The Youth camp has been running in St Matthew's for a few years now. There are activities each day for young people – activities with a Christian message of life. Please spread the word of the following timings of the VIDES Youth Camp to take place at St Matthew's Church Hall.

Juniors (P4-6): Monday 11th July – Thursday, 14th July from 11am-3pm each day;

Seniors (P7-S4): Saturday 9th July – Wednesday, 13th July from 7-9pm each night.

Registration forms can be picked up from Fr. Martin: martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk.

THE SUNDAY COLLECTION: During the pandemic we used boxes at the back of the church for the weekly collection. It is safe to pass around the collection bags again, and this helps maximise income and to gather the special collections which dropped dramatically during the pandemic. However, many people have set up standing orders for the collection. **There is no expectation for you to put a donation in the collection bag if you already contribute by standing order.** Just pass the bag on or politely indicate to the passkeeper to pass you by and without any embarrassment.

FELLOWSHIP OF KILMARNOCK CHURCHES: The next Fellowship service will be at the Salvation Army on Sunday 19th June at 6.30 pm. All are welcome to join this joyful celebration.

Also, **The Opal Trust** sends Bibles and theological books in good condition to Christians in poor countries. Details of the kinds of books required can be found by contacting info@opaltrust.org or phoning Ian Shaw at 01698 792804. Books can be delivered to Opal Trust's warehouse at 2b Green Street, Darvel. Please ring in advance to arrange to arrive when the warehouse is open.

Reachout Together, a Church of Scotland initiative in Kilmarnock and Irvine area, proposes to create a non-denominational worship space aimed at people with Autism and other special needs. We are looking for interested parties who would like to explore with us how this might develop as we combine our ideas and experience of good practice. Our aim is to have this as an ecumenical collaboration. To this aim we are organising a meeting to take place in July/August. If you or anyone you know is interested in coming together to discuss ideas, please contact ktempleton@churchofscotland.org.uk or on 07789038025 so we can arrange the best date to meet. Hope to hear from you soon.

APPEAL FOR FOOD PARCELS: We appeal again for food parcels to be delivered to the church to maintain supply. The contents of the food parcel are specific and are to be delivered in a strong plastic or paper bag:

- 2 cans of soup
- 1 canned meal, e.g. beef bolognese, chilli con carne, chicken supreme, Fray Bentos style pie
- 1 pack of either pasta, tinned potatoes, rice
- 1 tin of fruit
- 1 tin of vegetables
- 1 tin of beans
- 1 carton of long-life milk (UHT)
- 1 tin of hotdog sausages
- 1 tin of sardines/mackerel fillets/tuna
- 1 packet of biscuits
- 1 toilet roll and 1 bar of soap.

Please ensure canned foods **have a ring pull** for opening. Please also note that tea, coffee and sugar are **not required**. Please deliver the parcels to the church hall on **Wednesday between 11 am and 12 noon**. Alternatively, they can be brought to Mass or left in the front porch of the church house. Thank you for your support.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY: The hospital chaplains of Crosshouse and Ayr Hospitals are pleased to visit patients on request. Chaplains are not automatically notified when a Catholic patient is admitted so self-referral is required. For general visiting in Crosshouse Hospital please contact Fr Stephen McGrattan at crosshousehospital@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01563 521832. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri on 01655 882145. For the urgent or emergency assistance of a chaplain please ask the hospital staff to page the priest on call.

ORGAN RECITAL SERIES: We are pleased to be able to extend the 2022 Organ Recital Series into August. The upcoming recitals for your diary are:

Saturday 16 July at 7.30 pm

Alessandro Bianchi, St Edward's Church, Lugano, Switzerland

Tuesday 23 August at 12 noon

Greg Abrahams, Freelance Recitalist

TRANSPORT APPEAL: If anyone can drive a parishioner to Mass from the Grange area of town please speak to Clare Power on 07845 927912.

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 18 June 6.00 pm	K McGhee, G McIntyre, M Kirk	J Lennon	Joseph, Julia, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia		Children in church	Anne, Michael	M McGrath
Sunday 19 June 11.00 am	G McGee, M McGrath, E Maxwell	L Dorrian	Matthew, Marilyn, Luca, Aidan, Mark	Anne & Mike Timmons	Julia & Helena Rameckers	Eileen, Dennis	M McGrath
Saturday 25 June 6.00 pm	B Shepherd, G McIntyre, V Dagostino	A Gorman	Joseph, Julia, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia		Children in church	Claire, Margaret	H Matthews
Sunday 26 June 11.00 am	E Gallagher, H Matthews, P Nicholson	G McGee	Matthew, Marilyn, Luca, Aidan, Mark	E Cunningham, Liz Heron	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Theresa, Alan	H Matthews

A PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD OF THE 175th ANNIVERSARY MASS OF THANKSGIVING







Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of Scotland On the Holy Eucharist

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

“The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion with the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a communion in the body of Christ? As there is one bread, so we, though many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread”¹.

St Paul is speaking here of the celebration of the Lord’s Supper, the Eucharist, and of the unity it both symbolises and brings about. His words are timely in the wake of the pandemic - a pandemic which affected all of us and some cruelly so, which even separated us from the celebration of the Mass and so from one another. We need to come together again and recover our “communion in the body of Christ”. On the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*), the Bishops of Scotland want to proclaim the truth, goodness and beauty of the Eucharist and encourage all the faithful to centre their lives once again on its celebration at Mass. At the unforgettable liturgy in Bellahouston Park on 1 June 1982, Pope St John Paul II gave this simple advice: “Be faithful to your daily prayers, to the Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Penance, meeting regularly with Jesus as a loving and merciful Saviour.” 40 years on, the Bishops of Scotland want to re-echo that appeal.

The Eucharist is a mystery to be believed, to be celebrated and to be lived².

A mystery to be believed

Anticipated in the Old Testament and several Gospel episodes, the Eucharist was instituted by the Lord at the Last Supper and given to the apostles to celebrate in his memory. It is many things. It is thanksgiving and praise to the Father. It is the memorial of Christ’s Passover, the making present and the sacramental offering of his unique sacrifice, enabling the Church to be united to his saving self-gift through the centuries. It is the presence of Christ by the power of his word and of his Holy Spirit. It is the paschal banquet, in which we eat his flesh and drink his blood, become his body and heirs of the resurrection³.

The Eucharist is the summit and source, the heart and centre of our Christian life. Somewhat as the rhythmic beating of our hearts draws in our lifeblood to send it out purified and re-oxygenated, so a pattern of eucharistic worship draws our own lives into God’s heart and fills them with the Holy Spirit.

A mystery to be celebrated

We experience this especially at Sunday Mass. St Ignatius of Antioch, the early Christian martyr, understood Christianity as “living according to the Lord’s Day”⁴. He meant that Christians draw their strength from encountering the risen Christ in the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist.

Let us recall here what it is we enter into at Mass.

We come to church, each with our differences. We come of our own free will, but also, beyond that, moved by the Holy Spirit. In the opening moments of the Mass, the Spirit rekindles our common faith, draws us together and brings us, forgiven sinners, before the Lord. We are no longer just our separate selves. We are now a worshipping community, the Church gathered in this place and turning to its Lord. When the Mass is full of music and song, we feel this all the more.

In the Liturgy of the Word, the God’s living word addresses us. It is proclaimed in the Scriptures and linked to our lives by the

homily. In the Profession of Faith and Prayers of the Faithful, we respond in faith and prayer.

In the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we are drawn further still into the reality of Christ. In the bread and wine presented to the Lord at the Offertory, we bring to the Father the gifts of nature, our human work and the joys and hardships of our lives. In the Eucharistic Prayer, this bread and wine are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ given for us and his Blood poured out for us. As the self-offering of Christ is commemorated and made present among us, the whole Church and each and all of us offer our Amen and become a sacrifice pleasing to God. Through him, with him and in him, we give thanks to the Father in union with the angels and the saints, while our prayer reaches out to the living and the dead, the Church and the world.

In the Rite of Communion, we pray for forgiveness and peace and find ourselves at the Table of the Lord, called to his Supper. The risen Lord himself, the true Passover Lamb, comes to feed us with himself. Even if we cannot receive him sacramentally, we are never deprived of his blessing.

Finally in the blessing and dismissal we are sent out to live what we have shared.

A mystery to be lived

The Eucharist does not end with the Mass. It is prolonged, for example, in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, something to be greatly encouraged. It is destined, too, to extend still further into the whole of our life as members of the Church. Through the Eucharist we become what we receive, namely the Body of Christ. There is no corner of our humanity and our Christian life which the Eucharist cannot enter, purify and raise to a new level. Any commitment to prayer, to community life, to our own family and friends or to our work can be inspired and nourished by it. Any form of caring, the task of teaching and educating, any form of social service or pastoral care can become part of “living by the Lord’s Day” and be an overflow of Christ’s self-gift. Any passion for the unity of Christians or for deeper relationships with those of other faiths, for social justice or outreach to the poor and marginalised, can be fuelled by the power of the Eucharist. It “is also a source of light and motivation for our concerns for the environment, directing us to be stewards of all creation”⁵. Thanks to the Eucharist, these various efforts become more than personal causes; they are taken up into the charity of Christ; they become part of the life of the Church, Christ’s Body and Bride, in the world. Christ’s presence is extended into the whole of life. The synodal process to which Pope Francis is urging us can also find its pattern in active participation in the Liturgy. Even the bother and tedium of daily life take on deeper meaning in the sacrifice of Christ. And there is no suffering which his Heart has not embraced. Thanks to the joy of the Eucharist, the “medicine of immortality”⁶, even death loses its power, as we experience at a Funeral Mass.

This is why we, as your Bishops, desire that Christ’s great Eucharistic gift be continually acknowledged in faith, celebrated in prayer and lived out in love. We encourage all, especially our families and young people, to live by the Lord’s Day. We ask your prayers for vocations to the priesthood. We pray the Eucharist may amaze us more and more, “as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ”⁷.

¹ 1 Cor 10:16-17

² Cf. Benedict XVI, *Sacramentum Caritatis*

³ Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, nn. 1358, 1362, 1368, 1382

⁴ St. Ignatius of Antioch, Letter to the Magnesians, 9:1

⁵ Pope Francis, *Laudato Si’*, n. 236

⁶ St. Ignatius of Antioch, Letter to the Ephesians, 20:2

⁷ Cf. Titus 2:13