



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday 27th November 2022

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

Assistant Priest: Reverend Kevin J A Rennie (kevin.rennie@gallowaydiocese.org.uk)

St Joseph's Presbytery, 15a Hill Street, Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB

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Pastoral Assistants: Sister Mary Rose Confidence, Sister Mary Mabel, Sister Marilyn Juliet
Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mount Carmel Convent, 14 Kirkton Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 2DF

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

LITURGY AND OUTREACH FROM SUNDAY 27th NOVEMBER – 4th DECEMBER 2022

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 26th	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	The faithful departed
Sunday 27th	11.00 am	Mass	The faithful departed
Monday 28th	10.00 am	Mass	The faithful departed
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 29th	10.00 am	Mass	The faithful departed
	10.30 – 11 am.....	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
	11 am – 1 pm.....	Community Café in St Joseph's Church Hall	
Wednesday 30th	2.00 pm	Recitation of the Rosary to pray for peace	
	10.00 am	Mass	The faithful departed
Thursday 1st	After Mass	Recitation of the Rosary	
	6.00 pm	Mass	Eddie Johnston & Agnes Nicholson (Ann) / William Rayside (RIP)
Friday 2nd	10.00 am	Mass	Lewis Orr (Ann) / Maman de Monique (RIP)
Saturday 3rd	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm ...	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sunday 4th	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Jimmy Grehan (RIP) / Special Intention
	11.00 am	Mass	Neil Cunningham (Ann) / For the Parish

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

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION:

We are grateful to those parishioners who volunteer their time to bring the Eucharist to the sick and housebound. As the number of sick and housebound increases, we are keen to recruit more Extraordinary Ministers of Communion for visits. If you're interested, please speak to Clare Power, Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin for more information.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: Our prayers and condolences are extended to the family of the late Paddy O'Sullivan, and we pray for the eternal repose of his soul. The Requiem Mass will take

place in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock on a date to be arranged in the week beginning 5th December.

YOUTH GROUP: We are hoping to start a Youth Group in the Parish during Lent 2023. To do so we need to form a group of leaders who would be able to facilitate the evenings. Full training and resources will be provided, the role of the leaders will be principally to present the resources and facilitate the group. If you would be interested, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin after Mass for more information.

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@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01563 521832)

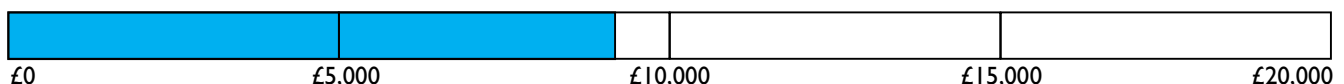
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

St Andrew's Primary: 01563 549549 **Mount Carmel Primary:** 01563 525897 **St Joseph's Academy:** 01563 526144

Standing orders: £704.62. **Weekly collection:** £1,058.48. **SCIAF:** £40. **Scottish Catholic Education Service:** £640.36.

Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund): £85 (+ £6.25 gift aid).

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £9,184.75.



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

SVPD SPECIAL COLLECTION: At Masses this weekend and next, the SVPD will be collecting after Mass for the Martin Chambers Ecuador Trust in place of their usual collection.

CHOIR ADVANCE NOTICE: In the New Year, in anticipation of the return of the restored pipe organ, the Church Choir will commence again with the first practice on **Sunday 19th February**, 6-8 pm, in the church. The Choir will prepare music for Easter 2023 and other significant liturgies, including the Blessing and Inauguration of the restored pipe organ.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ: The Community Café has happily become better attended in recent weeks. Come along for homemade soup, sandwich and cakes on Tuesdays between 11 am and 1 pm. **With a busier Café, we appeal for some more home baking to be donated on a weekly basis.** If anyone can help please contact Margaret McGrath on 01563 542130.

HILLHOUSE CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL FOR CHILDREN:

Last year Hillhouse supported 1,722 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? Most needed are:



- toys for children aged 7-16 years,
- pyjamas for 14-16 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).

Gifts (unwrapped please) can be left in the box in the porch of St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock. Please donate soon if you can and before Thursday 15 December. Thank you.

HILLHOUSE CHRISTMAS FAYRE: The Christmas Fayre will take place in St Joseph's Church Hall on Sunday 27th November from 11 am until 2 pm. Come along and enjoy tea, coffee cakes and hot rolls. Many stalls will be selling quality gifts – a good chance for some Christmas shopping while supporting a worthy cause.

CATHEDRAL SERVICE OF ADVENT READINGS AND CAROLS: A Service of Advent Readings and Carols will take place in St Margaret's Cathedral on Wednesday 21 December at 7.30 pm. This traditional service of many years in the Cathedral has suffered over the last two years due to the pandemic. The 2022 service provides an opportunity to come together once again as a diocesan family to celebrate the birth of Our Lord at Christmas. All are welcome.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE FUND: Over the last six years extensive refurbishment, restoration and maintenance has been undertaken on the church buildings. This has been possible because of your generous donations, legacies left to the parish, grants from funding bodies and substantial gift aid claims. Over the last three years we have had to draw down our savings to finance the maintenance work, particularly for external pointing of the stonework, the structural repair and renovation of the porch, painting and re-lighting. Unforeseen expenditure has

accrued from finding asbestos in the organ components, and roof repairs on the church and hall. Without an effort to raise funds, our savings reserves will be fully depleted early in 2023, and the matter was discussed, and a response agreed at the last Parish Pastoral Council meeting.

I am keenly aware of the cost-of-living crisis hitting many particularly hard at this time, and the request which follows is not made to those who have to prioritise their spending for their own wellbeing and that of their family.

A Special Maintenance Fund has been launched with the target of raising £20,000 by Easter 2023. We will be grateful for all donations, small or large, from those are in a position to contribute to this fund. If you have paid tax on your donation, please ask us to reclaim this tax for the church using the gift aid scheme. Perhaps some parishioners can also organise a fundraising activity. Thank you for your ongoing generosity, Fr Stephen.

Thank you for the donation this week of £100 and all other donations to the Building Fund which are directed to the Special Maintenance Fund.

There will be a Building Fund collection at Masses next weekend.

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.

91ST AYRSHIRE ST JOSEPH'S SCOUT GROUP CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY: The 91st Ayrshire (St Joseph's) Scout Group will be delivering Christmas cards again this year. Delivery is for within the Kilmarnock town area, Hurlford and Crookedholm only. All cards must be correctly addressed to ensure delivery. The cost is 30 pence per card. Drop off points are: Cubs on 7th and Beavers and Scouts on 8th December at St Joseph's church hall. Drop off also at all weekend Masses in St Joseph's, St Matthew's and Our Lady of Mount Carmel on 10th and 11th December. Deliveries will take place over the weekend of 16th/17th/18th December. This fundraising effort is very important for the success of our Scout Group throughout the year.

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK							
	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 26 Nov 6.00 pm.	R Heron, F Donachie, A Davidson	A Gorman	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	H Matthews
Sunday 27 Nov 11.00 am	G Smith, G McGee, E Maxwell	P Coyle	Matthew, Marilyn, Luca, Aidan, Mark	Anna Mackie, Alice Murphy	Children in church	Paul, Libby	H Matthews
Saturday 3 Dec 6.00 pm.	G McIntyre, H Rameckers, M Kirk	A Gorman	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia			Anne, Michael	IHM Sisters
Sunday 4 Dec 11.00 am	R Doak, H Matthews, T Murphy	L Dorrian	Matthew, Marilyn, Luca, Aidan, Mark	Anne & Gerry Smith	Emma Woods, Karen Cassidy	Eileen, Dennis	IHM Sisters