



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday 4th December 2022

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

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

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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 4th – 11th DECEMBER 2022

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 3rd	5.30 – 5.45 pm....	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm.....	Vigil Mass	/ Special Intention
Sunday 4th	11.00 am.....	Mass	Neil Cunningham (Ann) / For the Parish
Monday 5th	10.00 am.....	Mass	Cathie Harkin (RIP) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 6th	10.00 am.....	Requiem Mass for Paddy O'Sullivan	Paddy O'Sullivan (RIP) / Dougal Rowen
	11 am – 1 pm.....	Community Café in St Joseph's Church Hall	
	2.00 pm.....	Recitation of the Rosary to pray for peace	
Wednesday 7th	10.00 am.....	Mass	Chris McCambridge (RIP) / Margaret Cusack (RIP)
	After Mass.....	Recitation of the Rosary	
Thursday 8th	6.00 pm.....	Mass	John Paul (Gianpaolo) Smith (RIP) / Spec Int
Friday 9th	10.00 am.....	Requiem Mass for Theresa Corry	Theresa Corry (RIP) / Special Intention
Saturday 10th	10.00 am.....	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm....	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Sunday 11th	6.00 pm.....	Vigil Mass	John McCulloch (Ann)
	11.00 am.....	Mass	Susan Quinn (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.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: We pray for the eternal repose of the soul of our parishioners Paddy O'Sullivan and Theresa Corry who have died and extend our prayerful condolences to their families. The Requiem Mass for Paddy O'Sullivan will take place in St Joseph's, Kilmarnock on Tuesday 6th December at 10 am. The Requiem Mass for Theresa Corry will take place on Friday 9th December at 10 am.

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES: Mass on Christmas Eve will be at 9 pm (there will be no 6 pm Mass), and Mass on Christmas Day will be at 11 am.

DO THIS IN MEMORY: Next weekend is another of the special "Do this in Memory" Sundays for the children preparing to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. Children, please bring your candles and gather in the sacristy a few minutes before Mass to walk in the procession.

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**

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)

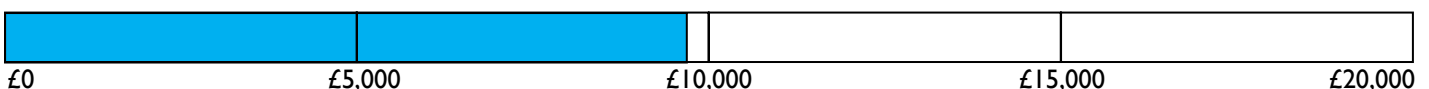
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

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

Standing orders: £704.62. **Weekly collection:** £1,087.67. **SCIAF:** £30. **Scottish Catholic Education Service:** £76.

Mission Sunday: £20. **Food bags:** £60. **Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund):** £450 (+ £62.50 gift aid).

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £9,697.25.



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

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.

The Hillhouse Christmas Fayre raised over £1,500 and the team at Hillhouse are grateful for your support.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND ADVENT SERVICE:

An ecumenical service will take place in St Mungo's Cathedral, Castle Street, Glasgow with a simultaneous link in the church of St Catherine, Bethlehem on Saturday 3rd December at 2 pm. The Christian communities in the two cities of Bethlehem and Glasgow, have enjoyed a Municipal Twinning Agreement since 2007. We will gather together in worship for a joint ecumenical service of Readings and Carols which will be simultaneously broadcast between the two locations. All are welcome.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI: As part of the 175th anniversary celebrations, a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi was proposed. Details are as follows: return flights from Glasgow to Fiumicino, departing Monday 19th June and returning on Monday 26th June, 3 nights in Assisi and 4 nights in Rome in 3* hotels, visits to the Assisi Basilicas, the Papal Basilicas in Rome, day trip to Perugia, Rome by night tour by coach, audience with Pope Francis, walking tour of Ancient Rome, full spiritual programme with Mass celebrated in the Vatican and other churches, breakfast and evening meal included. The cost would be around £1,350 based on two people sharing. A limited number of single rooms are available at around £1,530. Insurance is not included.

The cost of the pilgrimage is significant and reflects the circumstances in which we are living at this time. To determine whether a 2023 pilgrimage is viable, please let Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin know if you would be interested before Sunday 10th December. Thank you.

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 donations this week of £100 and £50 and all other donations to the Special Maintenance Fund.

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

BURNS SUPPER: Some parishioners are planning a parish Burns Supper for late January/early February 2023. If you would like to be involved in organising this please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin.

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 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
Saturday 10 Dec 6.00 pm.	F Donachie, B Shepherd, K McGhee	M Steele	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	H Rameckers
Sunday 11 Dec 11.00 am	E Maxwell, E Gallagher, L Hand	G McGee	Matthew, Marilyn, Luca, Aidan, Mark	Anne & Mike Timmons	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Theresa, Alan	H Rameckers