



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday 18th 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

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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 18th – 25th DECEMBER 2022

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 17th	5.30 – 5.45 pm....	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm.....	Vigil Mass	Spec Int / Hugh & Moira McCluskey (Ann)
Sunday 18th	11.00 am.....	Mass	Rose Dorrans (Ann) / For the Parish
Monday 19th	10.00 am.....	Mass	Michael & Theresa Corry (RIP) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 20th	10.00 am.....	Requiem Mass for Jean Wylie, RIP	Special Intention / Jean Wylie (RIP)
	11 am – 1 pm.....	Community Café in St Joseph's Church Hall	
	6.00 pm.....	Vigil Reception of Muriel Hart, RIP	
Wednesday 21st	10.00 am.....	Requiem Mass for Muriel Hart, RIP	Muriel Hart (RIP) / Special Intention
	7.30 pm.....	Service of Reading and Carols in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr	
Thursday 22nd	5.30 – 5.55 pm....	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm.....	Mass	Frances Neil (Ann) / Canon William O'Sullivan (RIP)
Friday 23rd	10.00 am.....	Mass	Maureen Matthews (RIP) / Theresa Corry (RIP)
Saturday 24th	10.00 am.....	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	9.00 pm.....	Christmas Mass During the Night	Tom & Dorothy Mathieson (Ann) / John Brady (Ann)
Sunday 25th	11.00 am.....	Christmas Dawn Mass	Mary Wynne (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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION): There will be opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week at 10.30 – 10.45 am on Monday and 5.30 pm – 5.55 pm on Thursday.

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.

Music for Christmas 9 pm Mass will include "O Radiant Dawn" by James MacMillan, "Startlight" by Andrew Sievewright, "The Babe in Bethlehem's Manger Laid" arr. Vernon Hoyle, "A Child is Born in Bethlehem" arr. Richard Proulx, "O Leave Your Flocks" arr. John Sanders, as well as traditional congregational carols.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: The Requiem Mass of our Jean Wylie will take place on Tuesday 20th December at 10 am, and the Requiem Mass of Muriel Hart on Wednesday 21st December at 10 am.

ALTAR SERVERS' CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME: On Friday 30th December the altar servers are invited to gather in the church hall at 12 noon for a Christmas lunch, followed by the pantomime "Snow White" in the Palace Theatre. We will walk to the Palace Theatre from the church.

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)

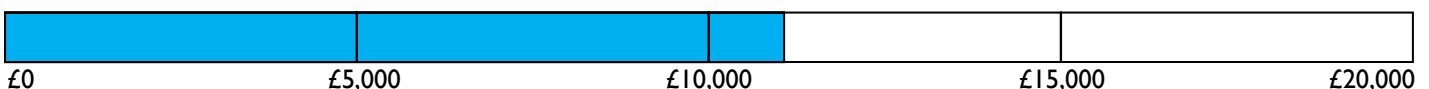
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

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

Standing orders: £704.62. **Weekly collection:** £914.74. **Scottish Catholic Education Service:** £5.

Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund): £590 (+ £7.50 gift aid).

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £11,586.68.



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 is open on Tuesday and then will take a two-week break during the Christmas holidays, to resume on Tuesday 10th January from 11 am – 1 pm.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI: While some people have showed interest in the proposed pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in June 2023, the numbers have not been sufficient to make the pilgrimage viable at this time. Consideration will be given to organising an alternative pilgrimage in 2024.

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.

GALLOWAY DIOCESE NEWS: The Advent issue of the Galloway Diocese News is available as you leave Mass this weekend. There are sufficient copies for one to be taken per household.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR SENIOR PARISHIONERS: A Christmas lunch will take place for the senior parishioners on Sunday 8th January gathering at 12 noon for a 12.30 pm start. Please sign up using the list in the porch and making your choice of food.

CRIB APPEAL: The Crib Appeal supports the St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society. The pressure of the pandemic led to an increase in need for their services and, at the same time, the restrictions left them facing major funding gaps which threaten their ability to continue to offer these much-needed services. Donations may be left at the crib.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE FUND: 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 the individual donation of £500 last week.

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

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.

HYMN: We long to see Thee so!

We long to see Thee so! To see Thee newly born,
we long for Christmas morn, the sands of time run slow.

*O come, O come, O come, our Saviour dear to be,
O come, O come, O come, we have no King but Thee.*

We long to see Thee so! To see the Angel's glory,
to hear their midnight story, and with the shepherds go.

We long to see Thee so! No other joys can please us,
we want Thee, Baby Jesus, the sands of time run slow.

We long to see Thee so! The world will not receive Thee,
but we will never leave Thee. To whom, Lord, could we go?

We long to see Thee so! Sweet Christ-Child, do not tarry,
O bring Him to us, Mary, amid the frost and snow.

HYMN: Dear St Joseph, pure and gentle

Dear St Joseph, pure and gentle, guardian of the Saviour child,
treading with the Virgin mother, Egypt's deserts rough and wild.

*Hail, St Joseph, spouse of Mary, blessed above all saints on high,
when the death shades round us gather,
teach, oh, teach us how to die,
teach, oh, teach us how to die.*

He who rested on thy bosom is by countless saints adored;
prostrate angels in his presence sing hosannas to their Lord.

Now to thee no gift refusing, Jesus stoops to hear thy prayer;
then, dear saint, from thy fair dwelling, give to us a father's care.

Dear St Joseph, kind and loving, stretch to us a helping hand;
guide us through life's toils and sorrows,
safely to the distant land.

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 17 Dec 6.00 pm	A Davidson, H Rameckers, G McIntyre	C McGowan	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia			Anne, Michael	M McGrath
Sunday 18 Dec 11.00 am	E Bohan, G Smith, P Nicholson	A Smith	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	E Cunningham, L Heron	IHM Sisters, Emma King	Paul, Libby	M McGrath
Saturday 24 Dec 9.00 pm	G Smith, E Heron, H Matthews, M Kirk, P Nicholson, E Bohan, K McGhee	F Donachie	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia			Claire, Margaret	H Matthews
Sunday 25 Dec 11.00 am	T Murphy, E Maxwell, E Gallagher	J Shields	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel			Eileen, Dennis	H Matthews