



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Sunday 1st January 2023

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 1st JANUARY – 8th JANUARY 2023

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 31st	9.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ For the Parish
Sunday 1st	11.00 am	Mass	/ Peter & Janette Campbell (Ann)
Monday 2nd	10.00 am	Mass	Damian McGrath (RIP) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 3rd	10.00 am	Mass	Isabel Agnew (Ann) / Mary Donnelly (RIP)
	10.30 – 11 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Wednesday 4th	10.00 am	Mass	Special Intention / Canon Pat Kelly (RIP)
	After Mass	Recitation of the Rosary	
Thursday 5th	6.00 pm	Mass	Maria Bordone, Daniel Alonzi (Ann) / McCann & McCluskey Families (SI) Patricia Power (RIP) / Jean Wyllie (RIP)
Friday 6th	10.00 am	Mass	
Saturday 7th	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Stuart Cameron (RIP) / Special Intention
Sunday 8th	11.00 am	Mass	Peter Mason / For the Parish
	12.00 pm	Senior Parishioners' Christmas Lunch in the Hall	

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

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME FOR TEENAGERS: If you are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and are aged 12 and over, we will be running a series of preparation classes in the New Year. They begin in the church house on Tuesday 10th January at 6.30 pm and continue on Mondays at the same time until 20th February. Those of this age group receiving Confirmation in February 2023 are expected to attend.

THANK YOU: Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin thank you for the cards and gifts received at Christmas.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: Our parishioners Jim McCaig and Dennis Hasson have died: may they rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Jim McCaig will be on Wednesday 18th

January at 10 am. Arrangements have yet to be made for Dennis Hasson's funeral.

SUNDAY COFFEES AND CHILDREN'S LITURGY: These are taking a break over the Christmas holidays, both will resume on Sunday 15th January.

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.

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)

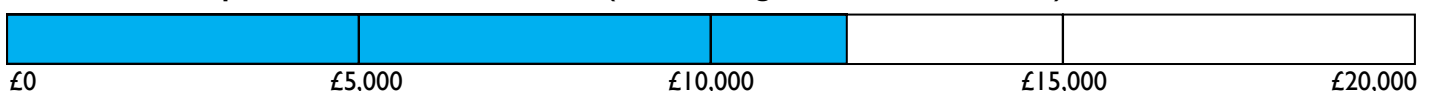
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

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

Standing orders: £704.62. **Weekly collection:** £1,748.82. **Crib:** £154.18.

Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund): £280.

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £11,899.18.



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

ST JOSEPH'S ACADEMY FOOD PARCEL APPEAL:

The pupils and staff of St Joseph's Academy have gathered food for over 100 substantial food parcels for distribution to those in need. They have been shared between the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and Foodbanks of the Kilmarnock parishes. Thank you to the pupils and staff for your thoughtful kindness and for reaching out with Christmas spirit.

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.

FELLOWSHIP OF KILMARNOCK CHURCHES:

Hurlford Church will host a service at 3 pm on Sunday 22nd January. This is an opportunity for churches of all denominations to pray for an end to all forms of discrimination, remembering that all lives matter equally in the sight of God. Churches around the world unite in worship, using a theme prepared by Christians in a different country each year. This year's service has been prepared by churches in Minnesota after the tragic death of George Floyd, a victim of racial injustice. The format of the service requires readers from the churches of our Fellowship to contribute. Please let Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin know if you would be willing to participate in this way.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE FUND:

A Special Maintenance Fund has been launched with hoping to raise £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.

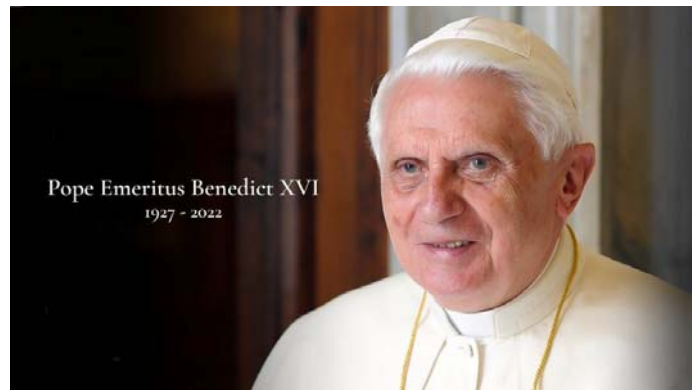
I am keenly aware of the cost-of-living crisis hitting many particularly hard at this time, and this request is not made to those who have to prioritise their spending for their own wellbeing and that of their family. Thank you for your ongoing generosity, Fr Stephen.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ:

The Community Café will take a two-week break during the Christmas holidays, to resume on Tuesday 10th January from 11 am – 1 pm.

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 stephenmcgrattan@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01563 521832. For general visiting in Ayr Hospital please contact Fr Benjamin Mkeri at benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or on 01655 882145. For the urgent or emergency assistance of a chaplain please ask the hospital staff to page the priest on call.



Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger was born in Marktl, Bavaria, Germany, and was elected Pope by the College of Cardinals at the Conclave in 2005 following the death of Pope Saint John Paul II. Pope Benedict served as Roman Pontiff for nearly eight years until his resignation in 2013. Since then he lived a quiet life of prayer in the Vatican until his death on 31st December 2022.

Ordained as a priest in 1951 in his native Bavaria, Ratzinger embarked on an academic career and established himself as a highly regarded theologian by the late 1950s. He was appointed a full professor in 1958 at the age of 31. After a long career as a professor of theology at several German universities, he was appointed Archbishop of Munich and Freising and created a cardinal by Pope Paul VI in 1977. In 1981, he was appointed Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. From 2002 until his election as pope, he was also Dean of the College of Cardinals. During his papacy, Benedict XVI advocated a return to fundamental Christian values to counter the increased secularisation of many Western countries. He viewed relativism's denial of objective truth, and the denial of moral truths in particular, as the central problem of the 21st century.

Bishop Hugh Gilbert, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, paid the following tribute: "With the passing of Pope Emeritus Benedict, we lose one of the leading Catholic figures of the second half of the 20th century and the beginning of our own. By nature a shy and scholarly man and by profession a priest-theologian, he found himself drawn ever more into public life as Archbishop of Munich, as Prefect of the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith in Rome and finally as Pope – the first German since the end of the 2nd World War to attain world pre-eminence. His memorable State visit to the United Kingdom in 2010 began in Scotland. The gentle and prayerful intelligence revealed during that visit disarmed his critics. He was often misunderstood, even caricatured. Contrary to a widespread perception, however, he was a resolutely contemporary 'confessor of the faith', deeply and critically engaged with modern thought, a lucid and unacademic preacher and pastorally sensitive. His bold, independent spirit surprised us all with his decision to resign while in office, the first Pope to do so for centuries. He once wrote: 'my basic intention has been to expose the real core of the faith underneath the encrustations, and to give this core its true power and dynamism. This has been the constant direction of my life.' His full stature will surely emerge increasingly. May he rest in peace."

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 31 Dec 6.00 pm	H Rameckers, F Donachie, A Davidson	J Lennon	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia, Antoj		<i>Holiday</i>	Anne, Michael	IHM Sisters
Sunday 1 Jan 11.00 am	H Matthews, P Nicholson, G McGee	R Murphy	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	<i>Holiday</i>	<i>Holiday</i>	Theresa, Alan	IHM Sisters
Saturday 7 Jan 6.00 pm	B Shepherd, R Heron, E Heron	M McGrath	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia, Antoj		<i>Holiday</i>	Claire, Margaret	H Rameckers
Sunday 8 Jan 11.00 am	G Smith, R Doak, M McGrath	I Love	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	<i>Holiday</i>	<i>Holiday</i>	Paul, Libby	H Rameckers