



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Solemnity of the Epiphany

Sunday 8th 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)

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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 8th – 15th JANUARY 2023

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
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 (Ann) / For the Parish
	12.00 pm	Senior Parishioners' Christmas Lunch in the Hall	
Monday 9th	10.00 am	Mass	Mario Coli (Ann) / Special Intention
	10.30 – 10.45 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
Tuesday 10th	10.00 am	Mass	/ Fr. Sebastian Wolff O.S.B. (RIP)
	10.30 – 11 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Wednesday 11th	11 am – 1 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
	10.00 am	Mass	/ Fr Stanley Bennie (RIP)
Thursday 12th	After Mass	Recitation of the Rosary	
	6.00 pm	Mass	/ Special Intention
Friday 13th	10.00 am	Mass	/ Mary Donnelly (RIP)
Saturday 14th	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Special Intention
Sunday 15th	11.00 am	Mass	/ For the Parish

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.

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: Our parishioners Jim McCaig and Dennis Hassan have died: may they rest in peace. The

Requiem Mass for Jim McCaig will be on Wednesday 18th January at 10 am, and the Requiem Mass for Dennis Hassan will be on Tuesday 24th January at 10 am.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE: This Sunday we will reflect on the justice as an imperative for peace in the world. There will be a special collection for the work of the Justice and Peace Commission of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland. Please use the gift aid envelopes in your box as appropriate. Thank you for your generosity.

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)

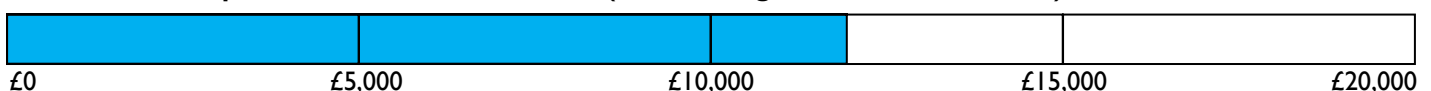
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

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

Standing orders: £704.62. **Weekly collection:** £980.54. **Crib:** £116.60.

Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund): £12 (+£3 gift aid).

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £12,005.43.



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

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.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR SENIOR PARISHIONERS: For those who have signed up already, a Christmas lunch will take place for the senior parishioners today, Sunday 8th January gathering at 12 noon for a 12.30 pm start.

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 who 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 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.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday 23rd January at 6.30 pm in the church hall. There will be a time of Eucharistic Adoration from 6.00 pm in the church for those who can manage. Should parishioners wish an item to be discussed, please email kilmarnock.stjoseph@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or pass the item to the parish house.

BEE BUSY BE FRIEND is a small charity set up by the Volunteer Centre East Ayrshire 11 years ago to work mainly with the elderly who are, for various health or social reasons, experiencing loneliness and isolation. The charity provides a free service to those referred and offers them a volunteer befriender to visit them regularly and share quality time with social engagement. Recently, following lockdowns and the impact of events of recent years, the charity is experiencing an increase in referral and are greatly in need of new volunteers. Full support to volunteers is provided from recruitment to training to mentoring throughout. Volunteers receive expenses for travel, or any other costs incurred. If you are interested in supporting this work as a volunteer please contact Ann Dilaver on 07873 394005 or beebusy@eav.org.uk.

POPE FRANCIS MESSAGE FOR WORLD DAY OF PEACE: In a message sent to heads of state across the world, Pope Francis has asked leaders to reflect on what lessons can be learned three years after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“What did we learn from the pandemic? What new paths should we follow to cast off the shackles of our old habits, to be better prepared, to dare new things? What signs of life and hope can we see, to help us move forward and try to make our world a better place?”

Pope Francis wrote in the message that “certainly after directly experiencing the fragility of our own lives ... the greatest lesson we learned from COVID-19 was the realisation that we all need one another.”

He added: “We also learned that the trust we put in progress, technology, and the effects of globalisation was not only excessive but turned into an individualistic and idolatrous intoxication, compromising the very promise of justice, harmony, and peace that we so ardently sought.”

The pope underscored that “in our fast-paced world, the widespread problems of inequality, injustice, poverty, and marginalization continue to fuel unrest and conflict, and generate violence and even wars.”

“We cannot continue to focus simply on preserving ourselves; rather, the time has come for all of us to endeavour to heal our society and our planet, to lay the foundations for a more just and peaceful world, and to commit ourselves seriously to pursuing a good that is truly common,” he said.

HALL QUIZ: Well done to all who participated in the hall quiz which raised £76 towards maintenance of the hall roof. The winner was Anne Timmons. Congratulations!

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
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
Saturday 14 Jan 6.00 pm	M Kirk, K McGhee, H Rameckers	C Power	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia, Antoj		<i>Holiday</i>	Anne, Michael	M McGrath
Sunday 15 Jan 11.00 am	E Bohan, E Gallagher, E Maxwell	P Coyle	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	Anne Mackie, Alice Murphy	Emma Woods, Karen Cassidy	Eileen, Dennis	M McGrath