



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 12th February 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 12th – 19th FEBRUARY 2023

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 11th	10.00 am	Mass at St Joseph's Church (note venue change – for this week only)	
	5.30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ James McCaig (RIP)
Sunday 12th	11.00 am	Mass	Joseph Davidson (Ann) / For the Parish
		After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall
Monday 13th	10.00 am	Mass	John McCluskey (RIP) / Special Intention
Tuesday 14th	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Robert Kerr, RIP	Sandra Niven (RIP) / Dennis Hassan (RIP)
	11 am – 1 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 15th	10.00 am	Mass	Mary Gallacher (Ann) / Canon John McAllister (RIP)
Thursday 16th	10.00 am	Mass	John Cassidy (Ann) / George Purves (RIP)
	7.00 pm	Confirmation Service for children and young people	
Friday 17th	10.00 am	Mass	Peter Mason (RIP) / Anne McLean (RIP)
Saturday 18th	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Special Intention
Sunday 19th	11.00 am	Mass	Joseph Davidson (RIP) / For the Parish

The church will be closed on weekdays outside of Mass times during the organ restoration project until around mid-March. Sorry for the inconvenience.

CHOIR PRACTICES: Choir Practices will re-commence on Sunday 19th February, 6-8 pm, in the church. Music will be prepared for Holy Week and Easter 2023 as well as for a special service of Blessing and Dedication of the restored Harrison & Harrison pipe organ. The ability to read music is helpful but not essential. All are very welcome. After a hiatus of three years, we look forward to practices commencing again. If you enjoy singing and would look forward to making music with others to the greater glory of God, then please come along and be a part of St Joseph's longstanding choral tradition.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR CHILDREN IN PRIMARY 3: A letter was posted to parents of children in our Catholic schools to invite them to register

their child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in on 21st March. Copies of the letter are available in the porch for parents of children who do not attend a Catholic school. There will be a meeting of parents on Tuesday 7th March at 7.00 pm in Our Lady of Mount Carmel church. This meeting is for all the Kilmarnock parishes and attendance is very important. Parents should register their children by 17th February.

PRE-LOVED FIRST COMMUNION DRESSES: The Parent Council at St Andrew's have a selection of preloved communion dresses. If anyone is interested then to contact the school on 01563 549549 or email the parent council on pcstandrew@aol.com.

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)

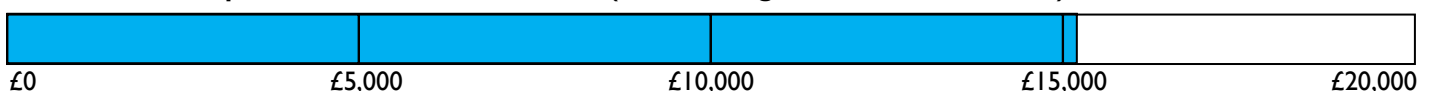
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

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

Standing orders: £706.85. **Weekly collection:** £1,076.37.

Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund): £20 (+£5 gift aid). **Organ Restoration Fund:** £1,000 (+£250 gift aid).

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £15,246.72



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

APPEALS FOR EARTHQUAKE ZONES IN SYRIA AND TURKEY: SCIAF has launched an emergency appeal to help those affected by the 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Syria and Türkiye. This is another devastating blow for war-torn Syria and a deadly earthquake for Türkiye. The tragedy has killed more than 20,000 people, with the number growing daily. Thousands of buildings have been destroyed across much of southern Turkey and northern Syria, including homes, schools, hospitals and other vital infrastructure.



Alistair Dutton, SCIAF's Chief Executive, has many years' experience of humanitarian aid and led the response to the 2010 earthquake in Haiti in his previous role as Humanitarian Director of Caritas Internationalis. Alistair Dutton said: "It is heart breaking to see the scale of destruction caused by the earthquake and the level of suffering it has caused. Once again SCIAF's local partners are responding as soon as the crisis happens. We have immediately released £20,000 for partners and are liaising closely with them to determine how best to help. Please support this response through SCIAF's appeal." Through their partners, SCIAF can immediately reach out to those most in need and its colleagues at Caritas Syria and Caritas Turkey are already there, working tirelessly to provide emergency relief where it's needed the most.

Donate to SCIAF at www.sciaf.org.uk

Mary's Meals has been serving meals to children at schools in Syria since 2017. Working alongside our partner on the ground, Dorcas, we now stand ready to provide emergency support to communities affected in Aleppo and the surrounding areas. Our school feeding programme in Syria provides meals for children whose young lives have been scarred by unimaginable trauma.



Every school day, we normally reach 5,042 children across 18 schools and one community centre in Aleppo – a city which was under siege between 2012 and 2016. A dedicated team of volunteers prepare all the lunches in one school that has reliable access to water and electricity. The food is then delivered to the other locations across the city.

Donate to MARY'S MEALS at www.marysmeals.org.uk

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: Our parishioner Robert Kerr has died. His Requiem Mass will be on 14th February at 10 am.

ROBERT BURNS NIGHT: A Burns Night will take place in the hall on Saturday 11th March at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm in the church hall. It falls a little later than the traditional date and is an opportunity for a social event in the parish and all are welcome. The programme is not too formal and there will be live music, entertainment, a three-course meal and the bar will be open. Tickets are available from the shop in the porch at £7 for adults, £5 for school children, under 10's are free. Tickets limited to 50 so please buy them soon. Raffle prizes will be gratefully received and can be left in the shop in the church porch.

PARISH DINNER DANCE TO MARK THE 175th ANNIVERSARY YEAR: A dinner dance will take place in the church hall on Friday 28th April at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm to celebrate the 175th anniversary year. A three-course meal will be served and there will be live music. Tables will be arranged to seat eight people and if you wish to book a full table, please indicate this when buying tickets; otherwise a seating arrangement will be in place. Tickets will be on sale from Saturday 11th February from the shop in the porch, cost £20.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK: The Diocesan World Day of Prayer for the Sick Mass will be held on Sunday 12th February at 4 pm in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr. The Hospitalité looks forward to welcoming you, if you wish to be anointed please make yourself known to a member of the Hospitalité team on arrival. Following Mass there will be refreshments in the hall and the AGM of Galloway Lourdes Hospitalité.

Any adult pilgrimage volunteers should attend St Margaret's Hall from 2-3.30pm for our sign-up, PVG and safeguarding session.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: This year's pilgrimage takes place from 3rd – 10th July by air from Prestwick Airport. The cost is £949 per person and includes accommodation in the Hotel Eliseo, full board, 20 kg check-in luggage, and a full religious programme throughout. Single room occupancy costs £39 per night. Travel insurance not included. To book contact Joe Walsh Tours on 0808 1890468 or info@joewalshstours.co.uk or www.joewalshstours.co.uk. Booking forms also available from the sacristy.

Pilgrims with a medical condition who wish to travel as a registered assisted pilgrim should obtain an application form from Janie Agnew on 07739 399222.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER: The Youth Office are organising two opportunities for young people this summer:

Youth for Lourdes: This will run from the 3rd-10th July 2023 as part of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, with the youth travelling by air this year. The cost per person is £650 however this is reduced through fundraising. Young parishioners (aged 16-23) are invited to sign up to join the group to help out with the assisted pilgrims in Lourdes. The next meeting takes place on Sunday 29th January, a free minibus will run from the Church.

World Youth Day: This takes place in Lisbon from the 30th July – 8th August, joining other young people from around the world. The cost per person is £950 however this is reduced through fundraising. Young parishioners (aged 16-25) are invited to sign up to join the group.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please speak to Fr Stephen or Fr Kevin for more information, or email the Diocesan Youth Office at youth@gallowaydiocese.org.uk.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ: Come along for homemade soup, sandwich and cakes on Tuesdays between 11 am and 1 pm. **The café needs some more volunteers to serve at the tables and prepare the sandwiches in the kitchen, and donations of home baking** – if you are able to help, please contact Margaret McGrath on 01563 542130.

PARISH TRIP: After a successful outing to Carfin in November, a series of trips by minibus are planned for the months ahead. The first will be on Friday 3rd March leaving at 10.30 am to Silverburn shopping centre. The cost is £10 to be paid on the day. Please add your name to the list in the porch.

SPECIAL MAINTENANCE FUND: A Special Maintenance Fund has been launched 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. Thank you for your ongoing generosity. Fr Stephen.

LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY: Ash Wednesday, 22nd February marks the beginning of Lent. Masses in St Joseph's will take place at 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm. Please make an effort to begin Lent with Mass and the imposition of ashes.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE – OCTOBER 2023: Fr David Borland is putting together a small group Pilgrimage to the Holy Land from October 15th – 22nd 2023, flying with British Airways from Glasgow to Tel Aviv via London Heathrow. The cost of the Pilgrimage is approximately £1,850 per pilgrim (exact fare will depend on the price of the airfare at your time of booking) based on two people sharing a twin room for 7 nights on a half-board basis in three-star hotels. Single rooms are limited in number and unfortunately carry a supplement of £440. For more information on how to book please visit www.rcayr.org.uk/pilgrimage or email Fr David on david.borland@gallowaydiocese.org.uk The earlier you book then the lower the price as airfares only increase as we get nearer the departure date!

PIPE ORGAN RESTORATION: Organ builders from Harrison & Harrison returned on 6th February to begin the reconstruction of the restored pipe organ. They expect to complete the reinstallation and voicing by the end of March at the latest, ensuring the organ is in place and in good voice for the Easter liturgies.

The organ builders will work from 7.00 am until 7.30 pm each day to complete the project as quickly as possible. Weekday Mass will take place in the church as normal but unfortunately and inevitably the other weekday devotions will not take place during the project. The organ builders will work until 10 minutes before each weekday Mass and there may be noise as they work. The church will not be open on weekdays for quiet prayer during the re-installation of the organ. Sorry for any inconvenience.

BLESSING AND DEDICATION OF THE RESTORED PIPE ORGAN: To celebrate the restoration of the Harrison and Harrison (1903) pipe organ, the Mass of Sunday 16th April (a week after Easter) will be offered in thanksgiving. The choir will sing with the organ at Mass. Then, in the evening of the same day, at 6.00 pm, a Service of Blessing and Dedication followed by a recital will take place. The recitalist will be Andrew Reid, formerly Managing Director of Harrison and Harrison who also performed a recital in St Joseph's in November 2021.

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.

WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE – SCIAF LENTEN APPEAL 2023: On Ash Wednesday SCIAF launch the WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal. This year's Lent appeal focuses on communities in Zambia, where hunger is killing all hope. Right now, millions of families are suffering from devastating hunger and urgently need your help. Your donations will help families to grow their own food by providing the training and tools they need. This Lent, use your WEE BOX to make a BIG CHANGE. To find out more please visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox or call 0141 354 5555.

At Masses this weekend, in preparation for Lent, the SCIAF Lenten packs with the WEE BOX will be offered to you as you leave the church.



MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 11 Feb 6.00 pm	F Donachie, A Davidson, H Rameckers	J Lennon	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia, Antoni			Anne, Michael	M McGrath
Sunday 12 Feb 11.00 am	L Hand, E Bohan, G Smith	J Shields	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	Anna Mackie, Alice Murphy		Theresa, Alan	M McGrath
Saturday 18 Feb 6.00 pm	R Heron, E Heron, B Shepherd	F Donachie	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia, Antoni			Claire, Margaret	H Matthews
Sunday 19 Feb 11.00 am	P Nicholson, G McGee, R Doak	R Murphy	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	Anne & Gerry Smith	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Paul, Libby	H Matthews