



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 19th 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

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 19th – 26th FEBRUARY 2023

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 18th	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 - 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	Sandra Niven (RIP) / Sandra Niven (RIP)
Sunday 19th	11.00 am	Mass	Jim McQuillan (RIP) / For the Parish
	After Mass	Tea and Coffee in St Joseph's Hall	
Monday 20th	9.40 – 9.55 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	10.00 am	Mass	/ Special Intention
	10.30 – 11.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Tuesday 21st	10.00 am	Mass	Pauline Robb (RIP) / James Muir (RIP)
	11 am – 1 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Wednesday 22nd	12.30 pm	Mass for Ash Wednesday	Maureen Matthews (RIP) /
	7.00 pm	Mass for Ash Wednesday	William Gallacher (RIP)
Thursday 23rd	6.00 pm	Mass	Marie McKay (Ann) / Special Intention
Friday 24th	10.00 am	Mass	John McCluskey (RIP) / Special Intention
	After Mass	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 25th	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass	/ Holy Souls
Sunday 26th	11.00 am	Mass	Josephine Traynor (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.

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.

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.

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)

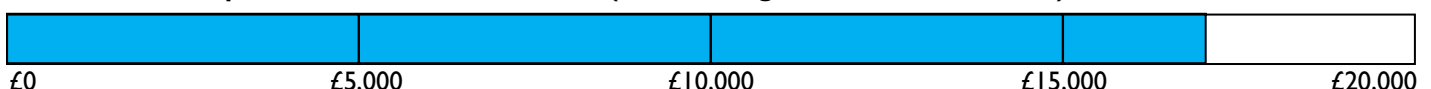
Ayr Hospital: Fr Benjamin Mkeri (benjamin.mkeri@gallowaydiocese.org.uk or 01655 882145)

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

Standing orders: £706.85. **Weekly collection:** £960. **Food bags:** £50. **SCIAF:** £20.

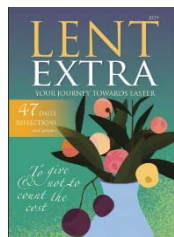
Special Maintenance Fund (including Building Fund): £1,554.08 (+£323.32 gift aid).

Special Maintenance Fund total (see climbing total on the bar below): £16,924.12



Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

WEEKDAY SCHEDULE: During the Organ Restoration Project, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday (instead of Tuesday) from 10.30 am until 11.00 am. Confession will be available on Monday from 9.40 am until 9.55 am.



LENT EXTRA MAGAZINE: In this year's *Lent Extra* magazine you will find: 47 daily reflections to help you get ready, remain hopeful and faithful this Lent; discussion points that pose practical guidance for thoughtful prayer; and engaging articles. You will be offered a magazine as you leave church today.

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FOR CHILDREN IN PRIMARY 3: 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.

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.

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.

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 TO MARK THE 175th ANNIVERSARY YEAR: A dinner 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.

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@joewalstours.co.uk or www.joewalstours.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 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 12th March, a free minibus will run from the Church. If you are interested 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.

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. 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.

LENTEN RETREAT ONLINE: The Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow, are delighted again this year to run an online Lent retreat and to provide a free App and free booklets to those that would like them.

Retreat details and how to get the booklets can be seen here: <https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/lent23.html>.

(You can view the retreat on www.onlineprayer.net/saints)

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.



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.



Congratulations to the young people of St Joseph's Deanery who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday 16th February in St Joseph's Church, Kilmarnock. May the Holy Spirit strengthen them to be faithful disciples of Jesus.

WORLD YOUTH DAY: During the summer three young people from our parish will embark on a pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal to celebrate the World Youth Day with Pope Francis and young people from across the world. As well as raising our fare, we are trying to raise the fare of a young person from a mission country. In order to do this we have planned a fundraising Quiz Night and Raffle.

World Youth Day Quiz night and raffle

Cash Prize to be won! Saturday 25th March at St Joseph's Church hall, start time 7.30pm. Maximum of 6 people per team. £6 team entry. £2 entry on the night. Pay on the night. Raffle prize donations welcome. Raffle donations can be brought on the night or left in the porch after masses. Bring your own bottle. To enter your team please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. Alternatively contact Kieran with your name and team size on 07931974095 to enter.

Thank you for your support.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday 22nd February: Ash Wednesday (Masses at 12.30 pm and 7.00 pm)

Friday 3rd March, 10.30 am: Parish trip to Silverburn (see details above)

Saturday 11th March, 7.30 pm: Burns Night in St Joseph's Church Hall (tickets available at the shop in the porch)

Saturday 25th March, 7.30 pm: World Youth Day Quiz Night and Raffle in St Joseph's Church Hall (see details above)

Sunday 16th April, 6.00 pm: Service of Blessing and Dedication of the restored 1903 Harrison & Harrison Pipe Organ and recital by Andrew Reid

Friday 28th April at 7.30 pm: 175th Anniversary Year Parish Dinner with live music in St Joseph's Church Hall (tickets available at the shop in the porch)

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK

	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
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	M Cunningham, G McGee, R Doak	R Murphy	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	Anne & Gerry Smith	Anne & Lucie Dorrian	Paul, Libby	H Matthews
Saturday 25 Feb 6.00 pm	K McGhee, H Rameckers, M Kirk	M McGrath	Joseph, Ben, Sofie, Lexi, Maia, Antoni			Anne, Michael	H Rameckers
Sunday 26 Feb 11.00 am	T Murphy, E Maxwell, H Matthews	I Love	Luca, Aidan, Mark, Marilyn, Rachel	E Cunningham, Lizzie Heron	Pauline Ferguson, Sophie Crawford	Eileen, Dennis	H Rameckers