



St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

THE SUNDAY NEWSLETTER

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Sunday 2nd April 2023

Parish Priest: Reverend Stephen G McGrattan (stephen.mcgrattan@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 2nd – 9th APRIL 2023

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

Date	Time	Gathering	Mass intention (Fr McGrattan / Fr Rennie)
Saturday 1st	10.00 am	Mass at St Matthew's Church	
	5.30 – 5.45 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	6.00 pm	Vigil Mass of Passion/Palm Sunday	Patrick McGurk (RIP)
Sunday 2nd	11.00 am	Mass of Passion/Palm Sunday	Robert Kerr (RIP) / For the Parish
Monday 3rd	10.00 am	Mass	Eileen White (RIP) / Special Intention
Tuesday 4th	10.00 am	Mass	Special Intention / Esther McClure (RIP)
	10.30 – 11 am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	
Wednesday 5th	10.30 – 11 am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	11 am – 1 pm	Community Café in St Joseph's Hall	
Thursday 6th	7.30 pm	Mass of Chrism at St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr	
	10.00 am	Requiem Mass for Angelo Suffredini	Angelo Suffredini (RIP) / Angelo Suffredini (RIP)
Friday 7th	7.00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Catherine Heron (RIP) / Special Intention
	11 am	Walk of Witness, Salvation Army Hall to New Laigh Kirk	
Saturday 8th	12 noon – 3 pm	Ecumenical Vigil at New Laigh Kirk	
	12.00 pm	Stations of the Cross for Children in St Joseph's	
	3.00 pm	Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord	
	6.00 – 6.50 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)	
	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Sunday 9th	11.00 am	Blessing of Easter Baskets (Święconka)	
	8.30 pm	Vigil Mass of Easter Sunday	Lewis Orr (RIP) / Special Intention
Sunday 9th	11.00 am	Mass of Easter Sunday	Muriel Hart (RIP) / For the Parish

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

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: Our parishioners Angelo Suffredini, Francis (Frank) Farren, and Winifred (Freda) Kirkwood have died: may they rest in peace. The Requiem Mass for Angelo Suffredini will be celebrated on Wednesday 5th April at 10 am. The Requiem Mass for Francis Farren will be celebrated on Friday 14th April at 10 am. The Requiem Mass for Winifred Kirkwood will be celebrated on Tuesday 18th April at 10 am.

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 or add

more people, please indicate this when buying tickets. Tickets are on sale from the shop in the porch, cost £20.

WORLD YOUTH DAY – A MESSAGE FROM OUR YOUNG PARISHIONERS: After a very successful night, combined with donations, the World Youth Day Quiz and Raffle managed to raise a grand total of **£570**. We would like to thank Fr Stephen and Fr Kevin for allowing us to hold the event in the church hall and Margaret McGrath for her help in arranging the hall and technology. Finally, we would like to thank all those who attended, from family and friends to parishioners across Ayrshire, as well as those who donated. This makes it possible for us and young people from a developing nation to travel. God bless you, from Kieran, Mark, Lily and Dario.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE BAKE SALE: To continue to raise funds to take part in the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes,

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:** £1,112.20. **SCIAF:** £262. **Annual Mission Appeal:** £10.

Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

our parishioner, Julia, with the help of her sister Lexi, will sell home baking at the back of the church over the Easter weekend. Please support her as you are able.

POLISH BLESSING OF THE BASKETS (ŚWIĘCONKA): The Polish community (and others who wish) are invited to bring baskets of food to St Joseph's Church at 11.00 am on Saturday 8th April to be blessed in the traditional Święconka Blessing Service (in the English language).

ALTAR SERVER REHEARSALS: Holy Thursday rehearsal at 6.25 pm on Holy Thursday; Good Friday rehearsal at 2.00 pm on Good Friday; Easter Vigil rehearsal from 12.00 noon until 1.00 pm on Holy Saturday.

SPECIAL COLLECTION: A special collection will be taken on Good Friday for the Holy Places - places of pilgrimage in the Holy Land - to assist the welcome and hospitality of pilgrims. This collection also assists Christians who are persecuted in the Holy Land. An envelope is included in the box set. Thank you.

EASTER CARDS: A selection of beautiful cards for Easter are available at the stall at very reasonable prices.

NEW DONATION ENVELOPES: Weekly collection envelopes for use from 9th April 2023 will be distributed from this weekend. Please collect them as you enter the church to reduce queues at the end of Mass. If your address details or tax status have changed, please inform the church secretary in order to update our records. Thank you for your ongoing financial support of the parish.

Especially since the pandemic began, many people have set up a standing order for the benefit of the parish. Thank you for making this arrangement. If you pay by standing order and have submitted a tax declaration, you will still receive an envelope set which will only include envelopes for special collections for your convenience and to allow a gift aid claim to be made where applicable.

People may also wish to consider increasing the amount of their standing order if they are able. Thank you.

PARISH MINIBUS TRIP: The next minibus trip to New Abbey will take place on Monday 1st May, leaving the Church at 10.00 am and returning at approximately 6.00 pm. We will celebrate Mass in New Abbey before having afternoon tea and an opportunity to explore the village and ruins of Sweetheart Abbey. The cost per person is £10, payable on the day. If you're interested, please sign up in the porch.

RECOVERING LITURGICAL PRACTICES RESTRICTED BY THE PANDEMIC: While most liturgical practices have been restored as we exit the pandemic, there are two which have remained restricted: the physical handshake of peace and the reception of Communion from the chalice. Easter is a moment of new life and new beginnings. Since by Easter we are moving out of winter with less possibility of spreading respiratory viruses, Easter seems to be a pragmatic and symbolic moment to reinstate these last two restricted practices. From this Sunday, you are invited to share peace using the handshake as before, and from Holy Thursday the opportunity to drink from the chalice will be available for those who choose. Intinction (the "dipping" of the host in the chalice) is not permitted for reasons of general hygiene: those who wish to receive the Precious Blood should drink from the chalice.

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. **Only three rooms left – book now if you would like to take part.** For more information on how to book please visit

www.rcayr.org.uk/pilgrimage or email Fr David on david.borland@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

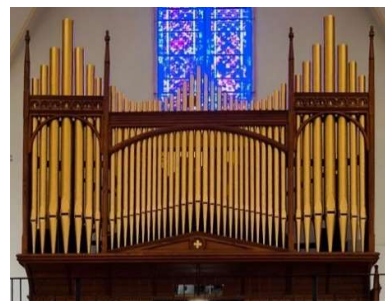
MASS OF CHRISM: Archbishop Nolan will return to St Margaret's Cathedral on Tuesday 4th April to celebrate the Mass of Chrism at 7.30 pm. At this Mass the oils for use in the Sacraments will be blessed and consecrated. All welcome.

PILGRIMAGE TO IONA: This year Our Lady of Mount Carmel will celebrate its 60th Jubilee. To mark this occasion, we are planning a day's pilgrimage to Iona on Saturday 22nd April. Parishioners from St Joseph's are very welcome to join us. The coach will leave Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church around 6.00 am and return just after 10.00 pm. We will have approximately 5 hours on the island with Mass in the Abbey at 3.00 pm. There will be several hours free to explore the Abbey precincts, the burial place of Scottish kings and the many fine beaches on the other side of the island, all within easy walking distance. The cost will be approximately £65 which includes coach, ferry tickets and Abbey admission charges. If interested, please contact Brian Murphy on mlarchbank@hotmail.com or 07714 981255.

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.



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.

With voicing and tuning work completed on Friday, the 1903 pipe organ in St Joseph's – our "hidden jewel" is now fully restored!

Thank you for all your support towards the remarkable achievement of restoring this instrument which has provided an indelible soundtrack on the souls of generations of parishioners during the last 120 years. The organ will be played publicly for the first time at the Easter Vigil as a symphonic expression of the Resurrection!

BRECBANNOCH PILGRIMAGE: The annual Breccbannoch Pilgrimage will take place 9 -12 June 2023. With the permission of Bishop Brian McGee, pilgrims will traverse the 43 miles from Oban to Iona on foot, praying for a new evangelisation in Scotland, which once rang with Catholic faith from sea to sea. Along the way we will not only invoke the special intercession of the holy men and women of Scotland, but we will carry the relics of St Columba, St Andrew, an St Margaret. Sign up as soon as places are running out: <https://www.brecbannoch.org/book>

BISHOPS' CONFERENCE TO MOVE TO SINGLE LOCATION: The Bishops Conference of Scotland is to move all its agencies, the Scottish Catholic Archives and the Scottish Catholic Museum to a new single location in Glasgow.

Following a consultation and review of its agencies, the Bishops' Conference decided to relocate its agencies, to one central location in Glasgow. The relocation will also include the Scottish Catholic Archives and the Scottish Catholic Museum. For the first time ever, the Bishops' Conference and all its employees will have a single base in Orr St, Glasgow. The property which has previously served many roles, including a social work office, a parish/dance hall and a school will bring all the branches of the Conference together and promote the identity of the Bishops' Conference and the presence of the Catholic Church in Scotland at a national level.

Commenting on the decision, Bishop Joseph Toal, who has responsibility for Catholic Heritage and Culture said: "It is good that the Bishops have taken the decision to bring together the Offices of the Bishops, the Catholic Archives and Museum. In the chosen location we wish to identify with plans to regenerate the area around St Mary's, Abercromby Street, which itself has such strong historical and cultural links with the development of the Catholic Church in Scotland through the last two centuries."

Prior to this decision, there were many properties for each agency. Consolidating the agencies with the archives and museum will contribute to a significant financial saving. It is also an investment in the historic Calton district of Glasgow, currently undergoing redevelopment and regeneration. The building was previously the school of St Mary's parish, which once served as the pro-cathedral of the Archdiocese of Glasgow in the mid-19th century and was home to many immigrant Catholics. The monument to those who suffered

from famine in the Scottish Highlands and Ireland in the 19th century is located on this site. The presence of the archives and museum in Glasgow will give greater accessibility to the historical records and artefacts of the history of the Catholic Church in Scotland-pre-Reformation, the Penal Laws when Catholicism was banned in Scotland, and the Emancipation of Catholics in 1829 up until the present day.

The Bishops' Conference Headquarters will serve not only for the efficient running of the Catholic Church at a national level but as a centre of culture and education for schools, academics and the general public. This exciting initiative underlines the Bishops' commitment to a formerly deprived area of the city of Glasgow, to using the richness of our Catholic culture including the famous portrait of Mary Queen of Scots and many Jacobite artefacts to tell our story through the ages, to engaging with the many nearby historical religious sites of the life of St Mungo but also as a means of informing and evangelising Catholics and all people as we look towards the future of the Catholic Church in Scotland.

HYMN FOR PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Give me joy in my heart I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Keep me praising till the end of day.

Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King!

Give me peace in my heart keep me resting.
Give me peace in my heart I pray.
Give me peace in my heart keep me resting.
Keep me resting till the end of day.

Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
Give me love in my heart I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving.
Keep me serving till the end of day.

MINISTRY ROTAS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK							
	Readers	Minister of Communion	Altar Servers	Sunday Teas	Children's Liturgy	Welcomers	Bidding Prayers
Saturday 1 April 6pm	G McIntyre, B Shepherd, F Donachie. R Heron, K McGhee	M Steele (Choir)	Joseph, Lexi, Maia, Antoni			Claire, Margaret	M McGrath
Sunday 2 April 11am	P Nicholson, H Matthews, G Smith. T Murphy, L Hand	J Shields (Choir)	Luca, Marilyn, Aidan, Mark, Rachel	Anne & Gerry Smith	-	Paul, Libby	M McGrath
Holy Thursday 6 April, 7pm	E Heron, K McGhee, R Heron	F Donachie, L Dorrian, G McGee, A Gorman, R Murphy (Choir)	tbc			Anne, Michael	H Matthews
Good Friday 7 April, 3pm	F Donachie, M Cunningham, E Maxwell. H Matthews, B Shepherd	-	tbc			Eileen, Dennis	
Stations of the Cross, 7pm	K McGhee	-	tbc			Claire, Margaret	
Holy Saturday 8 April, 8.30pm	H Rameckers, A Davidson, G Smith, H Matthews, G McIntyre	J Shields, J Lennon, D Casey, F Donachie, C Power (Choir)	tbc			Theresa, Alan	IHM Sisters
Easter Sunday 9 April, 11am	T Murphy, P Nicholson, L Hand	R Murphy, A Smith, G McGee, I Love	tbc		-	Anne, Michael	IHM Sisters

HOLY WEEK IS THE HEART OF THE CHURCH'S YEAR

Holy Thursday



Holy Thursday begins the *Triduum*. The oldest and still official name of this day is "Thursday of the Lord's Supper". It commemorates the historical Gospel events surrounding the Last Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. "Maundy Thursday," a popular title in English-speaking countries, comes from the solemn ritual of washing of feet in imitation of Jesus at his Last Supper. The name is a corruption of *mandatum* (Latin for "commandment") from the words of Jesus sung as the washing begins; "A new commandment I give to you" (Jn 13:34).

Parish liturgies take place in the evening, with joyful overtones. Bells ring and festive colours are used for vestments and decorations. The Gloria, not prayed since Ash Wednesday (except for solemnities such as the Feast of the Annunciation), returns for this brief moment. The tabernacle is empty so that all might receive the Eucharist from bread consecrated at this Mass.

The Holy Thursday ritual has included a ceremonial washing of feet by the presider since the 5th century. This ritual imitates Jesus' Last Supper action of humility and service. Appropriate songs are sung during this symbolic washing. Usually, twelve participants are chosen from the parish at large.

At the end of the Holy Thursday liturgy, consecrated Hosts are carried in procession, with incense and song, to a chapel of adoration. These Hosts will be received the next day in Communion. After placing the Hosts in the tabernacle, an atmosphere of quiet watching with the Lord begins. It is common for people to spend a Holy Hour sometime before midnight in the adoration chapel.

Good Friday



The second day of the *Triduum* is the Passion of the Lord, known as Good Friday, the anniversary of the death of Jesus on the cross just outside the walls of Jerusalem. The origin of the term "Good" for this day is unknown, but probably emphasises the saving value of the historical event of the crucifixion of Jesus. The theme of this day throughout history has been one

of quiet sadness and mourning for the crucified and dead Jesus.

On this one day of the entire year, the Mass is not celebrated. The Church's Good Friday liturgy takes place in the afternoon. The emphasis of the liturgy is on Scripture readings and prayers, the veneration of the cross, and the reception of the Eucharist from the Hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday.

Holy Saturday

The daytime hours of Holy Saturday continue the atmosphere of Good Friday, and have been observed as a time of quiet and fasting from the earliest centuries. The day has no liturgy or religious traditions of its own. There is an atmosphere of anticipation for the coming of night and for the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection.

Adults preparing for Baptism or reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil often spend some time in a mini-retreat, with fasting and prayer as the hours of the Easter Vigil approach.

Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday is the night of all nights and the primary celebration of Jesus' Resurrection.

The late 20th-century restoration of the adult catechumenate (RCIA) first developed in the early Church has added an important feature to the Easter Vigil that had not existed for centuries: the public Baptism of adults, and reception of the other sacraments of initiation by them and by already-Baptised adults being received into full communion with the Church.

The elaborate and beautiful ritual of the Easter Vigil calls for extensive preparation by the parish team and many other parishioners. The church is decorated; sacramentals of oil, incense, water, and fire are readied; and the liturgy is rehearsed. Adult Elect and Candidates begin their final hours of preparation. The Easter Vigil has four clearly-defined parts: the service of light, the Liturgy of the Word, the celebration of the sacraments of initiation, and the Eucharist. The service of light begins with a fully darkened church. The presider and other celebrants begin outside or at the back of the church, striking the Paschal flame and lighting the Paschal candle (the symbol of Christ's Resurrection), which is inscribed and adorned with appropriate symbols. Once the Paschal candle is lit to the chant of *Lumen Christi* ("light of Christ"), its flame is used to light small candles held by those in the congregation. The Paschal candle is processed to the altar, during which *Lumen Christi* is sung twice more at intervals.

Following the arrival of the procession, the *Exultet*, a recounting of the saving actions of Christ, is sung. Then the readings of the Mass, several from the Old Testament, are interspersed with responsorial Psalms and prayers by the celebrant. The Liturgy of the Word is far lengthier than in any other Mass of the Church, consisting of as many as seven readings that recapitulate God's saving action throughout history. The prayer at the end of this part of the Liturgy of the Word is the Easter Proclamation, immediately after which the lights are turned on suddenly, and the Gloria is sung with the maximum amount of musical instruments, bells, and choir available to the parish.

Following the proclamation of the Gospel and the preaching of the homily, the celebration of Baptism of the Elect begins, followed by a rite to receive already-baptised Candidates, and Confirmation of all those just received into the Church. The Mass concludes with the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Easter



The theme of Easter morning continues the triumphant joy of the Easter Vigil. It remembers and celebrates the very foundation of Christianity: Jesus is raised from the dead, and is Lord. Those who believe and are baptised share in this resurrection to new life. This theme will continue for the next fifty days of the Easter Season, which does not end until Pentecost Sunday. It was natural

that the very first followers of Jesus would hold the moment of Jesus' Resurrection sacred. It was the anniversary of that wonderful time when they experienced him risen and still among them. His death had occurred on the most important of all Jewish feasts: the Passover. His Resurrection fulfilled all that the Passover had meant to them as Jews. It was an *exodus*, or passage, from the old times and the oppression of slavery to spiritual freedom. Jesus himself was the Paschal Lamb, slain to achieve this freedom.

During this week, the heart of the Church year, the drama of God's love for us unfolds before our eyes. We celebrate and thank God for the very essence of our faith this week. Please make a special effort to play an active part in all of the services this week, and to bring your children along too.

On Good Friday a special collection is taken for Holy Places of Pilgrimage. The following is a letter from His Excellency Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, Prefect of the Dicastery for Eastern Churches, and explains how what is contributed to this collection supports those most in need.

In the account of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, we hear reported among the signs accompanying the death of Jesus, "the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, the earth shook, and the rocks split" (Mt 27:51-52). Just as humanity was slowly recovering from the consequences of the pandemic, a few weeks ago we witnessed the upheavals caused by the terrible earthquake. Felt even in Jerusalem, it caused great damage and a very high number of deaths in Syria and in southern Turkey, lands visited by the Apostles, where early Christianity thrived with outstanding monastic and eremitical traditions. We are all indebted to the theological schools that flourished there and contributed to the development of the understanding of the mystery of Christ, even if we often do not know them due to the persecutions that extinguished them.

To the drama of the war that has lasted for over twelve years in Syria, the strong seismic shocks added devastation caused by collapsed buildings. Many of our brothers and sisters in faith and in humanity have faced a new exodus from their homes, this time no longer for fear of bombs or for what the invasion of the Plain of Nineveh had meant in Iraq, but because their very houses trembled. The refuges of families and intimate dwellings of their deepest affections faced the risk, alas often realised, of turning into deadly tombs.

The ravages of the long war and the recent earthquake have once again laid bare the fragility of the securities to which humanity entrusts its hope, and make us feel more strongly the desire to take root in the Rock of God's fidelity in the Pasch of Christ, dead and risen. We saw His image desecrated a few weeks ago by vandalism at the Church of the Flagellation, along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem. That mutilated Crucifix invites us to recognize the pain of so many of our brothers and sisters who have seen the bodies of their loved ones tortured under the rubble or hit by bombs. We are called to walk the way of the Cross hand in hand with them, knowing that, in every age, each sepulchre, just like that of the Basilica of the Anastasis in the Holy City, is not the last word on the life of man. The precious presence of the Friars of the Custody of the Holy Land not only guarantees the maintenance of the sanctuaries, but also safeguards the life of the Christian communities, often tempted to lose their vocation to be Easter people in the lands blessed by the presence of the Redeemer.

In recent weeks, many houses of Franciscan Friars and Sisters, as well as those of other Religious Orders and Congregations, have become tents and shelters for the displaced in Syria as in Turkey. More generally throughout the Holy Land, they remain sources of hope by caring for the littlest ones, educating schoolchildren and youth, accompanying mothers in difficulty, attending to the elderly and the sick, as well as offering housing projects for new families and creating jobs, so that it is worthwhile continuing to stay in the Places of Salvation.

The universal Church and all of humanity have once again shown themselves attentive in this emergency, coming to the aid of those afflicted by the natural catastrophe. The Holy Father, Pope Francis, following his predecessors, this year too has instructed the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches to revive the invitation to solidarity with the Christian community of the Holy Land as Saint Paul, the Apostle to the Nations, had already done with a

collection for the Church of Jerusalem. The material gesture to which he calls us is accompanied above all by a word that rekindles our sense of keeping alive the memory of the origins, as the prophet Isaiah recalls: "Consider the rock from which you were hewn" (Is 51:1). The Church spread throughout the world with the preaching of the Apostles, and each of us through Baptism, has become a stone called to remain united to the foundation, which is Christ the Lord, in order to construct a spiritual building. In Jerusalem are our wellsprings, and we want to remain united with the brothers and sisters who continue to testify to the Gospel there. Let us cherish the historical memory of the Upper Room, making our homes and parishes cenacles of prayer and charity. Let us reinforce the spaces of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre and restore them to light, but above all, let the announcement of the Risen Lord abide in our hearts. Let us maintain the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, but let us allow our lives to be changed daily by the Word of the Lord as the Virgin Mary did. Let us join the rejoicing angels in the mosaics of the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem, but let us take care of those who are born and remain on the margins of our society, like the Holy Child in the cave, surrounded only by shepherds.

I ask you with all my heart that the Good Friday Collection therefore be generous, like so many "mites" of the widow praised by Jesus in the Gospel.

On behalf of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, I thank the bishops, the parish priests, all the religious and parish communities, as well as the commissioners of the Holy Land, who everywhere in the world help to achieve this annual pilgrimage to the sources of Christian existence. Thanks, especially on behalf of those who, through your goodness, will return to a more dignified life.

Sincerely,

✠ Claudio Gugerotti

Prefect

Dicastery for Eastern Churches

ORGAN RECITALS 2023

THE NEWLY RESTORED
1903 HARRISON & HARRISON PIPE ORGAN

FRIDAY 19 MAY – 7.30 PM
RAYMOND McCLUSKEY
ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, KILMARNOCK

TUESDAY 20 JUNE – 12 NOON
AARON HAWTHORNE
FREELANCE ORGANIST, GLASGOW

TUESDAY 4 JULY – 12 NOON
ALESSANDRO BIANCHI
ST EDWARD'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, LUGANO, SWITZERLAND

TUESDAY 8 AUGUST – 12 NOON
MALCOLM SIM
GLASGOW CATHEDRAL

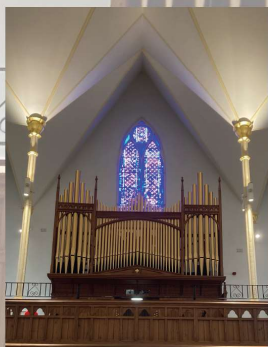
TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER – 12 NOON
ANDREW SCOTT
MANAGING DIRECTOR, HARRISON & HARRISON, DURHAM

TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER – 12 NOON
MATTHEW HYNES
ROYAL BURGH OF AYR ORGANIST

TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER – 12 NOON
NICKY FRASER
JESUIT CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART, EDINBURGH

FREE ADMISSION

RETIRAL COLLECTION



ST JOSEPH'S RC CHURCH
Hill Street, Kilmarnock, KA3 1HB

Telephone: 01563 521832

Email: kilmarnock.stjoseph@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

Web: www.rckilmarnock.org.uk

Facebook: St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kilmarnock

St Joseph's is a parish of the RC Diocese of Galloway. Charity number SC010576