

The Parish Communities of:

ST MARGARET'S CATHEDRAL

John Street, Ayr, KA8 0BS

ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Peggieshill Place, Ayr, KA7 3RF

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH

Dalmellington Road, Waterside, KA6 7JF



RC AYR

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Fr Gabriel Onoyima

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Parish Bulletin

7th/8th & 14th/15th April 2018

The Second and Third Sundays of Easter in Year 'B'

Readings

Acts 4: 32-35 1 John 5: 1-6 John 20: 19-31
Acts 3: 13-15,17-19 1 John 2: 1-5 Luke 24: 35-48

Psalm Response

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Lift up the light of your face on us, o Lord.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
(all bow)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day
he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Times of Mass and Services 9th April—22nd April

Monday

Mass in St Paul's at 10am

Tuesday

Mass in St. Margaret's at 10am

Wednesday

Mass in St. Paul's at 10am

Thursday

Mass in St. Margaret's at 10am

Friday

Mass in St. Paul's at 10am

Saturday

Mass in St. Margaret's at 10am

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass in St. Francis Xavier's at 4pm and
St. Margaret's Cathedral at 6.00pm
Mass in St. Margaret's Cathedral at 9.30am
Mass in St. Paul's at 11.30 am

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be said before Mass on
Monday and Friday at 9.40am and the Rosary will be
recited on Wednesdays at 9.40am in St. Paul's.

The Rosary will be recited on Tuesday after Mass and
Thursday and Saturday before Mass at 9.30am
in St. Margaret's and on Friday at 10am in
St. Francis Xavier's

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This beautiful Sacrament is available from after Mass
until 10.50 a.m. during Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament on Thursdays at St. Margaret's and Fridays at
St. Paul's and at any other convenient time.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place on
Thursdays in St. Margaret's and Fridays in St. Paul's
after Mass until 11am

Parish Safeguarding: Our parishes Safeguarding Team, led by Mrs Lynsey May, are in the process of reviewing and renewing ALL parish volunteers whose ministry gives them contact with children or vulnerable adults. They have discovered that a number of people who are fulfilling these ministries have not completed the necessary PVG process or taken part in Level 1 training – and they **MUST NOW DO SO!!!** The Safeguarding laws in Scotland changed recently and the parish priest is now criminally liable if a volunteer is ministering without having done the necessary checks and training – and I am not prepared to go to prison for any of you! Lynsey has my full authority, and that of the Bishop, to approach any volunteer and insist that everyone complies with the law. I understand a few of you are unhappy with this, but anyone who has not gone through the PVG process, or who is unwilling to take part in the required training, **MUST WITHDRAW FROM THEIR MINISTRY WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.**

PLEASE NOTE: Please be aware that Fr David will not be around for a short while due to his mum's recent death. Fr Gabriel is away for the next week on Retreat with his brother Spiritans, and Angela is on her Easter holiday. If you need to contact the parish for an urgent reason then please call Deacon Bill on 521208.

Teresa Borland R.I.P.: Fr David's mum Teresa's funeral arrangements in St. Quivox, Prestwick, are as follows: Teresa's body will be received into the Church on Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. and the funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday at 12 noon. May she rest in peace.

Diocesan Holy Land Pilgrimage: The next pilgrimage to the Holy Land will take place from October 15th to 22nd later this year. The cost is £1,299 based on two people sharing and booking forms are now available in the Sacristy. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Bethlehem Rosaries for World Youth Day 2019: 1.5 million rosaries are being produced in Bethlehem for the World Youth Day in Panama, giving employment to unemployed youth in the family factories in the town. Everyone who attends World Youth Day will be given three rosaries: one to keep, one to give to someone in Panama who was not at WYD, and one to bring home to give to someone else. The organisers have produced a video to raise awareness of this wonderful venture and to encourage people to donate to the cost. The video is available to watch on Youtube:

<https://www.cmc-terrasanta.org/embed/wyd-panama-1-5-million-rosaries-made-in-bethlehem-14416>

The Creed: During the Season of Easter we will recite the ancient Apostle's Creed during Mass.

Rosary on the Coast for Life: On Sunday April 29th there will be groups of Christians gathering on the coast all around the UK to pray together the Rosary for Life. We will hold such a gathering on Doonfoot beach that afternoon. I encourage as many of you as possible to take part. We can meet at the Cathedral at 2 p.m. and then make our way down to the beach to pray at 3 p.m. If you have space in your car to transport others down and back that would be a great help. There will be a cuppa in the Cathedral Hall on our return.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul: If you need the assistance of the St Vincent de Paul Society please phone 07722 707076. Please place your requests for visits to the home/hospital in the box at the back of the Church, please also include the name and contact details of a relative/friend.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £2181.97; St. Paul's - £1030.17; St. Francis Xavier's - £156.70. Holy Places; St Margaret's £751.91; St. Paul's £501.29 ;St. Francis Xavier's £84.45. Many thanks.

CATHEDRAL SUNG EVENING PRAYER FOR EASTERTIDE: Evening Prayer of the Church will be sung in St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr on Sunday, 22nd April at 6.00 pm. You will be very welcome.

Foodbank: The Food Bank collections for St. Margaret's and St. Paul's parishes are taken on the 1st Weekend each month.

Saint Margaret's

Thomas Clark R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Thomas Clark who has died. Thomas' body will be received into the Church on Thursday evening at 6.30 p.m. and the funeral Mass will take place on Friday April 13th at 10 a.m. and thereafter to Ayr Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

St. Margaret's Hall: Our Hall is available for use by parishioners as a venue for functions and parties. Please contact Tony Mulholland (07780 760338) for anything related to the Hall.

Mile of Coins: 50% for SCIAF and local charities, 50% to parish improvements. Last week we added £51.10– 1.42 yards. 599.41 yards to go.

Saint Paul's

Art Club: The group meet in the hall on Monday at 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p.m. New members welcome.

Mother & Toddler Group: The group meet on Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the hall.

Tuesday Club: The group meet on Tuesday in the hall at 2 p.m. New members welcome.

Tea/Coffee: In the hall after Sunday morning Mass.

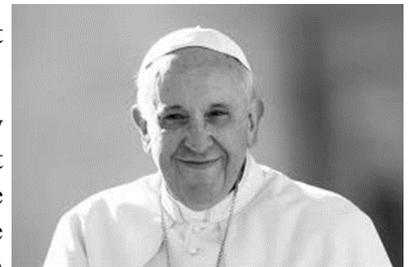
Saint Francis Xavier's

Service of the Word and Holy Communion: On Wednesday morning at 10 a.m.

Words of Pope Francis

At the General Audience on Wednesday April 4th the Holy Father finished his recent catechesis on the Holy Eucharist:

Dear brothers and sisters: Today we end our cycle of catecheses on Holy Mass by turning to the concluding rites. Following the Prayer after Communion, the priest blesses the congregation. Mass thus ends as it began, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the triune God who calls us to share in his divine life through the saving death and resurrection of the Lord. The dismissal sends us forth "in peace" to bring that blessing to the world around us, "glorifying God by our lives". Our celebration of Mass teaches us to be "eucharistic" men and women, conformed ever more fully to Christ in our thoughts, words and actions. After Mass, the Lord continues his real presence among us in the Blessed Sacrament, as a reminder that the fruits of the Eucharist are meant to expand daily through our growth in holiness, in union with the Church, and in loving service to our brothers and sisters, especially those in need. May our regular celebration of the Eucharistic banquet strengthen us in our journey of faith, until at last we share eternally in the unending joy of the wedding feast of the Lamb.



Fr. David's Mass intentions this week (9th – 15th) are: *Monday* – Sandra Miller; *Tuesday* – Teresa Borland; *Wednesday* – Robert Hely; *Thursday* – Isabella Smith; *Friday* – Patrick McGill; *Saturday* – Jim Miller; *Sunday* – for the parishes.

Fr. David's Mass intentions this week (16th – 22nd) are: *Monday* – Edward and Marion McCluskey; *Tuesday* – Pat Fearon; *Wednesday* – Teresa Borland; *Thursday* – Ian Drury; *Friday* – Teresa Borland; *Saturday* – Archie McBride; *Sunday 9.30 a.m.* – for the parishes.

Fr. Gabriel's Mass intentions this week (9th – 15th) are: *Monday* – Special Intention; *Tuesday* – John O'Neil; *Wednesday* – Patricia Campbell; *Thursday* – John McGill; *Friday* – Archie McBride; *Saturday* – Special intention; *Sunday 11.30 a.m.* – Vincent Rutherford.

Fr. Gabriel's Mass intentions this week (16th – 22nd) are: *Monday* – Special Intention; *Tuesday* – Margaret Gillan; *Wednesday* – Archie McBride; *Thursday* – Netta Carnegie; *Friday* – Elizabeth Tall; *Saturday* – Bernadette Tall; *Sunday* – Netta Carnegie.

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4: 32-35

1 John 5: 1-6

John 20: 19-31

There is so much talk about the freedom of the individual these days, that talk about 'obedience' and 'following God's will' may almost be considered old fashioned. Yet, if we look at Christ himself what do we see? He is the example of obedience: 'my aim is to do not my own will, but the will of him who sent me' (John 5:30). The thing that we have to realise, however, is that it was not a matter of following laws and commandments, Christ did what he did out of love: 'the world must be brought to know that I love the Father, and am doing exactly what the Father told me' (John 14: 31). Christ and the Father are one in love: 'You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me' (John 14:11). What, then, does Christ expect from us? 'If you obey me commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love' (John 15:10).

What Christ wants from us is obedience to the Gospel, obedience to his commandments of love for God and love of our neighbour. At every moment of our lives, we must ask ourselves what Christ would want us to do in a particular situation; that is the only way to discover the truth, the only way to discover true freedom. Following Christ means giving freedom to the Father, being open to him, listening to him, and then we will receive true freedom from him. Our obedience is a radical surrender to God, that is the choice we have made, so that he may enter into our lives and lead us to true freedom.

Following Christ means giving true freedom to others, being open to them, listening to them, and then, in our turn, we will receive freedom from them. Our Lady set an example for us when she said: 'I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me' (Luke 1: 38). Let us pray that we may be able to do the same with our lives; that we may listen to God's love for us, that we may be open to him, that we may choose to surrender in obedience to his commandments of love.

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3: 13-15,17-19

1 John 2: 1-5

Luke 24: 35-48

Facing the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ at Easter, we face our own death to sin and new life in Christ in Baptism. Because we live in a world of twenty four hour news, the crises across the nations which come into our homes and pressures of all kind locally, it is difficult to stand back and make space for prayer. Yet this we must try to do is we are to escape from drowning in the ever encroaching waves of materialism. To stop, to make this space, is to battle against secular values. For many it may seem nonsense to resist and walk against the tide. But don't give up! Take courage! You will find spending time with God gives you a greater certainty and peace. Try a little each day. You will come to know yourself better and what to do for God and for others.

I am sure part of us *really* believes in the power of prayer – and part of us is rather superficial and doubtful about God answering prayer. There is a story of an old lady who had a mountain behind her cottage. She read Christ's words "if your faith is the size of a mustard seed you will say to this mountain 'move from here to there' and it will move." (Matthew 17:20) So one night she said in her night prayer, 'Lord, move this mountain' – and went to bed. In the morning she got up, looked out of her window, saw the mountain was still there and said to God 'I knew you wouldn't move it!' Some expect too much in 'praying' for healing – some expect too little. Healing is in God's will and we must pray for healing deeply and intensely. It is God's gift – he loves us – trust him utterly and always say 'your will be done'.

Finally – praying, healing, use of medicine – in everything we must remember each and all of us will die one day. Prepare for dying by living healthily, fully, prayerfully, and may God bless our efforts.