

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

25th & 26th August 2018

Readings

Joshua 24: 1-2.15-18 Ephesians 5: 21-32

John 6: 60-69

Psalm Response

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The Nicene Creed:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven: *(all bow)*

and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Times of Mass and Services 27th August - 2nd September

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

Scottish International Airshow: This takes place next weekend (September 1st/2nd) in Ayr – be aware that the roads may be busier than usual.

Holy Land Pilgrimage: All places on this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land have now been filled and the tour operator, Joe Walsh Tours, are running a waiting list. If you are still thinking about going then I would suggest you contact them now.

Organ Recital: Dr. Gordon Stewart will give a recital on the Willis Organ in Mauchline Parish Church on Friday September 7th at 7 p.m. Entry is by donation toward the Organ Restoration Fund. See Poster for further details.

SeAscape – The Cobbler Challenge: The local charity tackling homelessness, poverty and isolation in our community are facilitating this short walk to one of Scotland's most iconic peaks on Sunday 2nd September 2018 – and it is a great day out for all ages while supporting a worthy cause. Text **WALK** to **07833 472313** for more information and a sponsor pack. There are cards at the back of the Churches with these details - please take one.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1129.73; St. Paul's - £601.38; St. Francis Xavier's - £218.83.

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

SPRED Galloway Ladies Charity Lunch: Saturday 29th September 2018 - Trump Turnberry (Caledonian Ballroom) 12.30 - 5pm. Champagne Reception followed by 2 course lunch, coffee & petit fours. Fashion Show hosted by M & Co Troon, also a selection of local Ayrshire businesses will be hosting a number of stalls allowing the purchase of candles, cushions, throws, handbags, scarfs, christening gowns, Christmas Gifts and so much more. Fabulous Charity Auction & Raffle. Ticket Price £30.00 per person, to purchase a ticket please contact Helena or Janette on 01292 738068 or email info@spredgalloway.org.uk

Ayr Group Amnesty International are hosting a tea party and information afternoon on Saturday 8th September in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Fullerton Street, from 2 - 4pm. Free entry - donations accepted.

Mary's Meals Clothing Collection: The Mary's Meals Clothing Collection van will be at St. Margaret's and St. Paul's on Sunday September 8th to accept any donations you wish to make of clothes, fabric (e.g. bedding, curtains, etc) handbags and shoes. This is all they can accept – no household goods or bric-a-brac please. St. Francis Xavier's parishioners can bring their donation to the Church at the Saturday Mass and they will be brought to Ayr for you, St. Margaret's (both Masses) and St Paul's parishioners should take their donations to their respective Hall. Thank you, this is one of Mary's Meals' major sources of funding.

Celebrate Scotland invites you to our 2018 Catholic Family Conference at St. Ninian's High School, Giffnock, East Renfrewshire on Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th September. There will be lively worship, good teaching and good company in a vibrant faith-filled atmosphere; includes mime and drama and Sunday family mass. Celebrate is designed for families of all sizes and ages. It has streams to accommodate all ages of children and youth to help them grow in their faith in a relevant and joy filled way. This year's theme is "See, I am doing a new thing" For more info go to www.celebrateconference.org or phone Ged Farrell on 07793 370910

Annual Pilgrimage to pray for the beatification of Margaret Sinclair's : The 2018 Annual Pilgrimage to pray for the beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair will take place on Sunday 9 September from 2.00 to 6.00pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, Edinburgh. 2pm – Opening; 3pm – Film: The Story of Margaret Sinclair, Servant of God; 4.30 pm – Holy Mass. Refreshments available.

There has been a little interest in this pilgrimage so if someone would like to arrange the transport please let us know. We are happy to put lists in the churches for people to sign up for this pilgrimage.

Dr Allan McNeill: Despite being a medical professional, Allan has carelessly caught a bug – the running bug! Now he intends to run the Great Scottish Run in Glasgow in aid of 'The Friends of the Holy Land' charity. He is in the process of setting up a Just-Giving page and details of that will be provided soon should you want to sponsor him. There are also sponsor sheets available in the churches for anyone who chooses to sponsor him that way. Whether you decide to do that or not, please continue to pray for the Christians in the Holy Land who suffer daily just for living their faith – this is the most important thing we can do for them.

Saint Margaret's

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.

SVP Meeting: Monday at 6 p.m. in the church hall. New members very welcome.

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

200 Club: Annual subscription of £13 is due in September. Payment can be made in the Hall after the Sunday Mass next weekend. Currently there are 141 members, so if you would like to join or take an extra number, please come in to the Hall to sign up.

Saint Paul's

SVDP Ayr: The SVDP Conference which meets in St. Margaret's is the Conference for the whole of the town, helping anyone in need wherever they live. Unfortunately the St. Paul's representation on the Conference is very low, so low in fact that it has zero members! Could you join and help? Please contact Pat Snee on 07722 707076 for more information on how you can help.

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

Tuesday Club: The group meet in the hall on Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

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

Saint Francis Xavier's

Service of the Word and Holy Communion: There will be a Service of the Word and Holy Communion on Wednesday morning of this week.

Help! Help! Help! Mark Rooney is in the process of compiling a book of the "History of St. Francis Xavier's Church" and would really like your help in filling the pages. Mark is looking for stories, anecdotes, photographs etc. to include in the future publication which will be available for all who want a copy. He's not planning to write an academic or weighty tome, so 'funnies' would be very welcome. You can contact Mark on 07909 402203 or at rooneymarkj@gmail.com Thank you.

Mary's Meals Backpacks: In recent years Sandra Miller has worked quietly in the church hall filling backpacks for Mary's Meals. She has donated 100's over the years. After her death in February, our aim was to finish the work she started and we have filled 64 bags in her memory. Thank you.

SVDP

Visit requests: 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. If you require the assistance of the SVDP please contact 07722 707076.

Fr. David's Mass intentions for this week are:

Monday – Special intention; *Tuesday* – Jean Stewart; *Wednesday* – Special intention; *Thursday* – Special intention (Y);
Friday – Special intention; *Saturday* – James & Annie Ferguson; *Sunday* – for the parishes.

Fr. Gabriel's Mass intentions for this week are:

Monday – Andrew Reid; *Tuesday* – Rachel Davidson; *Wednesday* – Alex Jopp; *Thursday* – Special intention;
Friday – Rachel Davidson; *Saturday* – Rachel Davidson; *Sunday* – Annie Kelleghan.

The Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time

Joshua 24: 1-2.15-18

Ephesians 5: 21-32

John 6: 60-69

The Eucharist is the Sacrament of Unity, yet it has also been a great source of division. Anyone who has at all been involved in a liturgy group, a choir, the arrangement of flowers even will understand what I mean when I say how divisive the preparation of the liturgy can be. Perhaps it is that everything connected is so close to our hearts we are particularly possessive or edgy.

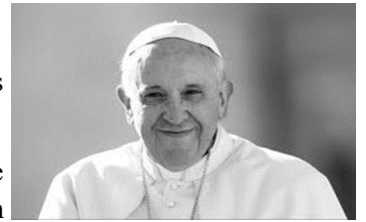
The Gospel story gives us a lead into the kind of situation which arises. Christ's claim from last Sunday's Gospel: *If you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you* is too much for the followers of Jesus and they exclaim: *This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it? And many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.*

Over the centuries, there have been very many tensions, theological disputes and even the break-up of the Church, not least at the time of the Reformation when the issue of transubstantiation became a central point of theological/philosophical debate. It remains today a main stumbling block – the question of inter-communion being very sensitive.

The Catholic Church has also suffered much from the rigours of Jansenism, with its view that the things of the body are evil, which made the worthiness to receive Holy Communion a real mountain to climb. More recently, with the curtailment of the Tridentine Rite, Vatican II changes in the liturgy and with receiving Holy Communion in the hand, many disciples have turned away. Why is this? What has made so many people disillusioned that they leave the Church? Could it be that there is a sense of possessiveness in people's attitude to the Eucharist? So much so that when the way they wish to receive it is changed they turn away? Perhaps they feel lost, hurt or even betrayed. Yes – the Eucharist is sadly still divisive.

Words of Pope Francis

At the General Audiences on Wednesday of this week Pope Francis continued his catechesis on the 10 Commandments.



Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the Ten Commandments, we now turn to the commandment: “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain” (*Ex 20:7*). In the Bible, a name often embodies the deepest reality of a person. God's name, revealed to Moses, is supremely holy, and thus never to be profaned or misused. In Judaism, the sacred Name is solemnly invoked on the feast of Yom Kippur to beg God's mercy and forgiveness. Christians are baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God's name is thus “taken”, not in vain, but as the pledge of our redemption and rebirth as adoptive sons and daughters in Christ. Each day we take God's name upon us anew, when we pray the petition of the Lord's Prayer: “Hallowed be thy Name”. We ask that by our lives, and the witness of the Church, his name may be ever better known and loved. May we always invoke God's holy name with reverence, as a sign of our special relationship to him, who in Christ took upon himself our sins and showed us the depth of his eternal mercy and love.

