

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

PRIEST - Fr David Borland

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Parish Bulletin

22nd/23rd September 2018

Readings

Wisdom 2: 12, 17-20 James 3:16 – 4:3

Mark 9: 30-37

Psalm Response

The Lord upholds my life.

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 24th September - 30th 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

Volunteer needed for SPRED: Could you offer to support a lady who has learning difficulties from this parish, at her THURSDAY evening SPRED group? We meet in St. Margaret's Hall from 7-9pm. Contact SPRED Office 01292 738068 or Sr. Kathleen 01292 270408 for details.

Update on Fr. Gabriel: He is safely ensconced in his parishes in East Ayrshire and has mastered the heating system already!

Thinking of becoming a Catholic? If you, or someone you know, is considering joining the Church, please contact Fr. David or Sr. Marie as we hope to get the RCIA process starting again soon. The RCIA is the process through which those enquiring about the faith can come to know more about what we believe and therefore be more certain that this is the path on which the Holy Spirit is guiding them.

Diocesan Holy Land Pilgrimage: There are a couple of meetings this weekend for those travelling to the Holy Land on pilgrimage this month. The first is in St. Margaret's Cathedral Hall, Ayr, on Sunday at 1.30 p.m. and the second is in St. Andrew's & St. Cuthbert's Church Hall, Kirkcudbright, at 6 p.m. on the same day.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1051.90; St. Paul's - £641.48; St. Francis Xavier's - £198.25.
Retired Priests Special Collection: St Margaret's £1358.05; St Paul's £544.08; St. Francis Xavier's £198.25. Thank you.

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

Heart Attack: A man suffered a serious heart attack and had open bypass surgery. He awakened from the surgery to find himself in the care of nuns at a Catholic Hospital. As he was recovering, a nun asked him questions about how he was going to pay for his treatment. She asked him if he had health insurance, and in a raspy voice he replied, "No health insurance." The nun then asked if he had any money in the bank. He replied, "No money in the bank". The nun asked, "Do you have a relative who could help you?" He said, "I only have a spinster sister, who is a nun." The nun became extremely agitated and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters! Nuns are married to God!" The patient then replied, "Send the bill to my brother-in-law."

Mary's Meals Clothing Collection: The Mary's Meals Clothing Collection van will be at St. Margaret's and St. Paul's on SUNDAY OCTOBER 14TH 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.

Fire Risk Assessments: All of our churches/halls are due to have a Fire Risk Assessment completed. If any parishioner is qualified to undertake this task could they please let the parish office know by calling Angela on 263488 on a Tuesday, Thursday or Friday morning.

Dr Allan McNeill: Allan intends to run the Great Scottish Run in Glasgow in aid of 'The Friends of the Holy Land' charity – a charity you have so generously supported in the past. If you would like to sponsor him then you can do so at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dr-Allan-McNeill 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. If you are thinking of sponsoring Allan could I encourage you to do so this weekend as the race is NEXT Sunday and he could do with a little extra motivation!



A date for your diary – advanced warning: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Nolan on the primary four aged children in the Cathedral on Thursday February 22nd 2019 at 7 p.m. This is the celebration for all the children from Ayr, Waterside, Mossblown, Maybole and Girvan. If your child does not attend a Catholic School in our parishes then please contact Angela at the parish office (263488) to register for this Sacrament as the preparation programme is beginning soon.

First Reconciliation Catch-up: I believe that there are some children of primary four age who have not yet celebrated First Reconciliation – usually celebrated during Lent in primary three. If this is your child, and you intend to present them for Confirmation in 2019, please get in touch with the parish office as soon as possible as First Reconciliation needs to be celebrated before Confirmation.

Saint Margaret's

Altar Servers: Most of our Altar Servers are getting older and many have 'retired' – and we could really do with some new volunteers. If you would like to be an Altar Server, providing you have already celebrated First Holy Communion, please speak to Fr. David.

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 now due. Payment can be made in the Hall after the Sunday Mass this weekend. There are 13 draws with prizes of £30, £20 and £10 each and 4 Bonus prizes of £100. If you would like to re-join or take an extra number, please come in to the Hall to sign up.

Welcome: On Thursday we will welcome a group of pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Portland, Oregon, USA, led by their priest Mgr. Patrick Brennan, for Mass in St. Margaret's Cathedral at 3 p.m.

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.

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

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

Readers/Eucharistic Ministers: New rota available at the back of the church.

Thank you: Vincent & Aileen McGowan would like to thank everyone in the Parish for all their kindness, cards and flowers received on their move to Glasgow. They are most appreciative of the kindness and support they have received from friends and the parish community.

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 a "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.

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.

The Vincentian Carfin Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 29th September. Rosary Procession at 1 pm followed by Mass at 2 pm. We will be organising a bus for the 3 Churches. This will be free to all. Please add your name to the list at the back of the churches, if you wish to attend.

150th Anniversary: We are getting closer to the 150th Anniversary (October 31st) Mass to celebrate the foundation of the St Vincent de Paul Society in St Margaret's. Unfortunately, apart from the past few years, all records have been lost through time. We are appealing for any information on former members (photos, stories etc). Please contact any member of the SVDP if you can help.

A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for spiritual and emotional healing after abortion will be held north of Glasgow on Tuesday 9th – Thursday 11th October 2018. This confidential, supportive retreat is powerful for anyone who has been affected by their own or someone else's abortion experience. For more information, please call Sr Andrea on 07816 942824 or email Marene via the enquiry form on the website www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk

The Twenty Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Wisdom 2: 12, 17-20

James 3:16 – 4:3

Mark 9: 30-37

Christianity is a web of paradoxes and often seeing contradictions. The example given to us this week is from the whole Gospel passage. Jesus comes for everyone, but God's plan does not overwhelm us as he could do. The whole world could have a Damascus Road event like St. Paul but that is not God's way because he treats us, knows us and loves us as individuals. Even in the short span he lived on earth he took his time. Choosing those he wanted close to him, he took his time before revealing everything to them. In today's Gospel, he avoids others because he does not want people to know he is instructing his disciples.

Indeed what he was teaching they did not understand because it was about being put to death and then rising – what extraordinary teaching! Their basic thought was like the world's thought. We spend our time trying to get on to have better jobs, better pay, better homes – up and up. And Jesus is saying to them 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' Here is the paradox. It is difficult to see in the disciples' day how these simple men could grasp the point. Surely this remains true today in the frightening competition of education, job-seeking and career climbing.

But the disciples at this stage had been in the process of jockeying for position – a situation which occurs on a number of occasions in the Gospel story. Jesus continues with the illustration of the little child, setting this child as their model. What a difficult concept – simplicity, directness, acceptance of these, and so often a child has a depth of insight beyond anything we older people achieve.

In our day, St. Therese of Lisieux gives her interpretation of spiritual childhood. Her 'little way' deserves to draw many followers because it gives an attainable path to holiness.

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 fourth commandment: "Honour your father and your mother". In the version of the Decalogue found in the Book of Deuteronomy, this command is followed by the promise of a long and happy life. We know how important the experience of good upbringing is for our later life, as well as the fact that not all parents are perfect. The fourth commandment bids us respect those who brought us into the world, despite their own limitations and the shortcomings of our childhood or home situation. When we look to the saints who suffered in their early years, we see that whatever our past hurts, God's grace can bring not only healing but strength to change and to build a constructive future. God has a plan for our life. He is our heavenly Father, who through the death and resurrection of his Son offers us the possibility of being born anew and to enjoy life in abundance. In this light, we can honour our parents with gratitude for the gift of life they gave us, which finds its fulfilment in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

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

Monday – Roddy Hall; *Tuesday* – Annie Ferguson; *Wednesday* – Fr Gabriel Onoyima;
Thursday – Anne Morland; *Friday* – Ingles Mazson; *Saturday* – Special intention; *Sunday* – for the parishes.

