

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

**PRIESTS** - Fr. David Borland

Fr Stanislaus Chukwube CSSp

**DEACON** - Rev. Bill Corbett (01292 521 208)

**RELIGIOUS** - Sister Marie (01292 270 408)

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## Parish Bulletin

**20th/21st April 2019**

**Readings**

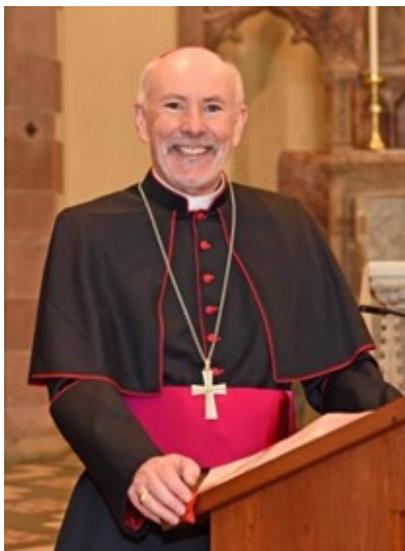
*Acts 10: 34.37-43      Colossians 3: 1-4*

*John 20: 1-9*

**Response**

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

### Easter Message from Bishop Nolan



The celebrations of Holy Week and Easter remind us of the sorrows and joys of our faith. With the disciples on Good Friday we mourn the death of Jesus; on Easter Sunday we rejoice in his resurrection to new life. We take comfort too in knowing that in our sufferings Jesus is with us, and that with Jesus we too will experience resurrection. Whatever sorrows we experience now, we are never abandoned by God. As Jesus bore his cross, may we too bear the heavy cross of suffering that weighs upon our shoulders. May we persevere in faith and never doubt that the joy of Easter eclipses our Good Friday. With every blessing. +William Nolan, Bishop of Galloway

### Times of Mass and Services 22nd April - 28th 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



**Congratulations!** Our parish communities have the great joy of welcoming four new members into our parish family this weekend. At the Easter Vigil Mass Keira was baptised and then she and Janette completed their reception into the Church with the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion. At the 11.30 am Easter Sunday Mass Janet and Sheena were Confirmed and received Holy Communion for the first time. Welcome one and all! A huge thank you to Sr. Marie and all on the RCIA team who have journeyed so willingly throughout this past year with Keira, Janette, Janet and Sheena.

**Thank you!** A huge 'thank you' to everyone who has worked so hard to make our Holy Week and Easter liturgies so prayerful and uplifting, and to those who have made our churches so beautiful. We all appreciate the great work that you all do, usually unnoticed and unacknowledged, but greatly valued by us all. Thank you.

**St John's Parent Council:** The PC will be having a coffee morning on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April from 10.30 a.m. until 12.30 p.m. in the Cathedral Hall. Entry £2 which includes tea/coffee and home baking. Please support your school!

**Saturday Exposition and Benediction:** The next Saturday Exposition and Benediction will take place on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> from after Mass until Benediction at 5 p.m. The theme of the April prayer day is "Mothers". Please sign up to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never alone – sheets are available at the back of each Church.

**Weekly Collections:** Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1006.88; St. Paul's - £681.90; St. Francis Xavier's - £287.66.

**Hospital:** If you, or any member of your family are going into Ayr or Crosshouse Hospitals, and would like to receive a visit, and/or Holy Communion; please contact Deacon Bill Corbett (The R.C. Chaplain), on 01292 521208.

**SCIAF Climate Change Cards:** SCIAF have asked that you complete the Climate Change Card contained within your Lenten Pack and return it to them as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul:** Bishop Nolan will lead a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Turkey from October 10<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> 2019, visiting the sites of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor. Flights are direct from Glasgow and bookings are now being accepted. Further information and Booking Forms can be obtained from Fr. David Borland. This is the first time the Diocese has offered a pilgrimage to these destinations. Bookings and Deposits need to be made by Easter.

**World Youth Day – Lisbon 2022:** The 'sign-up' cards to enable you to take part in the fundraising effort to send three of our young people to World Youth Day in Lisbon in 2022 are now available at the back of each Church. If you would like to take part then please take a card, complete it, and return it to the Church and a set of envelopes will be issued for you to use. At the moment only 13 people have signed up to take part in this fundraising effort and this is not really enough for the project to continue. If we have to decide to abandon this idea we will return the donations to those who have already made them.

**Mass of Chrism:** The Cathedral was packed on the Tuesday evening of Holy Week for the Mass of Chrism. The whole Mass is still available to watch on the RC Ayr Facebook page.

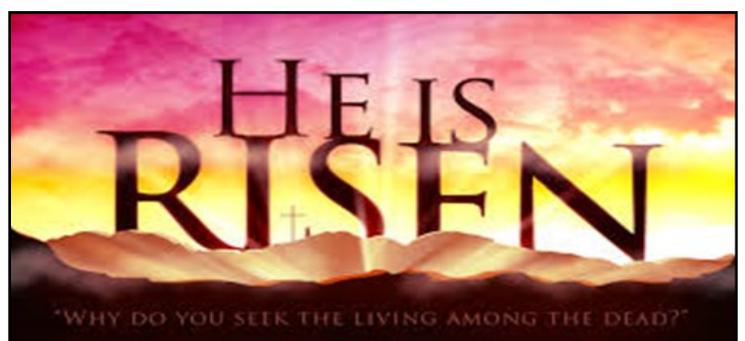
**SCIAF Lenten Boxes:** Please return your SCIAF Boxes to the Church as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Charity Concert:** In aid of Crossroads (South Ayrshire) Care attendant scheme. A song, A Sip, A Pie or a Quiche on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in St. Margaret's Church Hall. Tickets £12 available from Crossroads Office 671331, Frank Ward 267539 or online via PayPal events. Crossroads-sa.org.uk. Bring your own bottle! See posters for more information.

#### SSVP

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 SSVP please contact 07413 397630.**

**Foodbank:** The Food Bank collections are taken on the 1<sup>st</sup> Weekend each month.



## 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.

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

**SSVP:** Meeting in the hall on Monday at 6 p.m.

**200 Club Monthly Draw:** £30 M Mancini, £20 E Orsi, £10 M Nisbet, £100 Bonus G McFarlane.

## Saint Paul's

**Church Hall:** The refurbishment work in the Hall is now complete and it is looking very smart. Please help to keep it that way by putting any equipment that you use back into storage when you are finished with it, and now that the floor has been completely renovated, please LIFT table and chairs – do not drag anything across the floor.

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

**Readers/Eucharistic Ministers:** The new rota is available in the Sacristy.

## Saint Francis Xavier's

**Wednesday:** There will be a Service of the Word and Holy Communion on Wednesday morning at 10 a.m.

**Friday:** The Holy Rosary is recited at 10 a.m. on Friday morning.

**SPRED** Galloway warmly invite you to an evening of Scottish Music with special guest Alastair McDonald, the event is taking place at St Joseph's Parish Hall, Hill Street, Kilmarnock on Friday 17th May 2019. Tickets are £10.00 per head inclusive of finger buffet. To purchase your tickets for what promises to be a fabulous evening of music and dancing or for further information, please contact the SPRED Office on 01292-738068 or email [info@spredgalloway.org.uk](mailto:info@spredgalloway.org.uk)

**Christus vivit:** Pope Francis has issued his Post-Synodal Exhortation to Young People and the Entire People of God, "Christus vivit", his document resulting from the Synod for Young People held at the Vatican last year. The document can be read at the following address, and the link is available on our Facebook page. [www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/event.dir.html/content/vaticanevents/en/2019/4/2/christus-vivit.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/event.dir.html/content/vaticanevents/en/2019/4/2/christus-vivit.html)

Have you ever considered adoption as a way to grow your family? Could you provide a loving, stable family environment for a child who needs a forever home? If you would like to find out more about the adoption process, please visit [www.stmargaretsadoption.org.uk](http://www.stmargaretsadoption.org.uk) or contact us on 0141 332 8371 or e-mail [info@stmargaretsadoption.org.uk](mailto:info@stmargaretsadoption.org.uk).

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## Easter Sunday – Year ‘C’

*Acts 10: 34.37-43*

*Colossians 3: 1-4*

*John 20: 1-9*

Shortly before he was murdered at the altar of San Salvador’s Cathedral, Archbishop Oscar Romero wrote an open letter anticipating his death. He had been frequently threatened and thought it more than likely that one day he would be murdered. In the letter, pondering on death, he wrote a lovely phrase: ‘*I never think of death without Resurrection.*’

From Passion Sunday to the beginning of the Easter Vigil we have been wrapped in the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. But Easter bursts forth in the glory and joy, the Alleluias of the Liturgy. How different was the darkness of our Good Friday afternoon and night and the emptiness of Holy Saturday from the darkness and emptiness of Our Lady and the Apostles? Though we have, I hope, entered into the spiritual and ritual depth of Holy Week, we always had the background knowledge that we would soon emerge into the glorious joy of the Alleluias. And now we have! But what do we know of ALLELUIA?

In Hebrew the one word means ‘Praise the Lord!’ It is normally a liturgical expression of praise and appears in a number of Psalms particularly 105-107 and 111-118. Here it is set at the head of the Psalm and was probably chanted by the choir of Levites as an antiphon. Before each verse, the early Church took over the Alleluia to express especially the joy of Paschaltide. Pope St. Gregory the Great ordered the Alleluia to be sung/said at Mass and also in the Divine Office except during Advent and Lent, the penitential seasons of the Church’s year.

I personally find Alleluia a happy and habit-forming repetitive prayer of mantra. It’s basic meaning of praise centres me on the Lord at any time, alone or in company. If you have not got this familiarity of use, why not begin today and so help your life grow in praise of the Lord. ALLELUIA!

### Words of Pope Francis

At the General Audience on Wednesday in St Peter’s Square Pope Francis returned to his ongoing catechesis on the ‘Our Father’. After the reading of Mark 14: 32-36 in various languages the Holy Father continued:



Dear Brothers and Sisters: In these weeks we are reflecting on the “Our Father”; now, on this eve of the Easter Triduum, let us consider three prayers that Jesus makes to the Father as he approaches his death and resurrection. The first takes place after the Last Supper: “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you” (*Jn 17:1*). Second, full of anguish in the garden of Gethsemane, our Lord entrusts himself to God with the tender word “Abba, Father” (*Mk 14:36*). Third, at the height of his torment on the cross, Jesus prays for us: “Father forgive them; for they know not what they do” (*Lk 23:34*). As we pray the “Our Father” in the coming days, let each of us ask for one of these three graces: to live our lives for God’s glory, that is with love; to know how to entrust ourselves to the Father in moments of tribulation; and, in our encounter with the Father, to allow ourselves to be forgiven and to find the courage to forgive others.

### Visits to the Cathedral

We have two very important visitors coming to the Cathedral this year. A Statue of Our Lady of Aberdeen and the Relics of St. Therese of Lisieux!

The Statue of Our Lady of Aberdeen, our unbroken link with Pre-Reformation Scotland, is visiting all eight Catholic Cathedrals in Scotland as part of a programme of Prayer for the conversion of our country. The image of Our Lady of Aberdeen has now become widely recognised as our Scottish National Image of Our Lady and it will be coming to Ayr on Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. and remain with us for the whole month.

While the statue is with us we will celebrate May Devotions on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. and we will say a Prayer for the Conversion of Scotland at the end of all weekday and weekend Masses in St. Margaret’s.

The Relics of St. Therese of Lisieux will be coming to Scotland in September and will be in our Diocese from Monday September 2<sup>nd</sup> until Wednesday September 4<sup>th</sup> – they will be welcomed to St. Margaret’s Cathedral on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and remain with us until the 3<sup>rd</sup> when they will be transferred to Dumfries. A spiritual programme is being put together now and we hope that many people from across the Diocese will come and pray before the relics. This will be a very special time of grace for our Diocese.

#### **Fr. David’s Mass intentions for this week:**

*Monday – Alba Innarelli; Tuesday – Alice Lennon; Wednesday – Suzanne Cameron; Thursday – William Devine; Friday – Joe Lafferty; Saturday – Mary Devlin; Sunday – for the parishes.*

#### **Fr Stan’s Mass intentions for this week:**

*Monday – James Murray; Tuesday – Harry Roxbrough; Wednesday – Catherine Connelly; Thursday – Special intention ; Friday – Charlie McFarlane; Saturday – Charlie McFarlane; Sunday – Charlie McFarlane .*