

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)

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Parish Bulletin

18th/19th May 2019

Readings

Acts 14: 21-27
Apocalypse 21: 1-5
John 13: 31-35

Response

I will bless your name for ever, O God my King

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 20th May - 26th May

Monday

Mass in St Paul's at 10am

Tuesday

Mass in St Margaret's at 10am (Funeral)

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

Saturday Exposition and Benediction: The next Saturday Exposition and Benediction will take place on Saturday May 25th from after Mass until Benediction at 5 p.m. The theme of the May prayer day is "For the Conversion of Scotland". Please sign up to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never alone – last month there were so many 'empty spaces' on the list that the Blessed Sacrament was not exposed between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. I'm afraid if this continues we will need to end this monthly devotion.

This week's first Communicants are: St. Margaret's – Leo Peach; St. Paul's – Matthew Patterson.

May Devotions: These continue on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. in St. Margaret's.

First Communion Celebration Mass: All of the children who have made their First Holy Communion during the month of May (in any of our three Churches) are invited to come along to a celebration Mass on Saturday June 8th at 12 noon in St. Margaret's Cathedral. During this Mass they will be presented with their Certificates and a little gift, and there will be a party in the Hall (with cake!) afterwards. The children are free to wear their First Communion outfits again if they would like to do so.

Ascension Thursday: Ascension Thursday falls on May 30th this year and is a Holyday of Obligation. Mass will be at 10 a.m. in all three churches and at 7 p.m. in St. Margaret's.

QMA / Friends of Badagry: For the Friends of Badagry, Srs. Cecelia and Henrietta from Nigeria will be in QMA in the late morning of Monday 20th May. They will give three talks to which all are welcome: 10.40-11.30; 11.30-12.20; 12.20-13.10.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1147.30; St. Paul's - £561.99; St. Francis Xavier's - £189.10.

Foodbank: The Food Bank collections are taken on the 1st Weekend each month.

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.

Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul: The date of our proposed Diocesan Pilgrimage to Turkey has been postponed from October 2019 to around April/May 2020 as many people were asking for more time to commit. If you would like to 'express and interest' in taking part in this pilgrimage please contact Fr. David Borland by email (david.borland@gallowaydiocese.org.uk) or call him on 01292 263488. Please do so by August 1st 2019 when a decision will be made as to whether the Pilgrimage will proceed.

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 25 people have signed up to take part in this fundraising effort and this should allow us to sponsor two young people to attend WYD!

Bereavement Counselling: If there is anyone in our parish community who has trained or taken part in Bereavement Counselling we would be grateful if they could make themselves known to Fr. David.

Special Invitaiton to all Current and Retired Galloway Diocese Primary Head Teachers: You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Bishop's Mass, Lunch and Mini Conference on Tuesday 28 May 2019. Bishop Nolan will celebrate Mass at 12.15 in St. Joseph's Church, Hill Street, Kilmarnock, followed by lunch and speakers in the Church Hall. Please RSVP to the Diocesan Office. kate@gallowaydiocese.org.uk

Forthcoming Special Collections: World Day of Prayer for Communications – June 1st/2nd; Day of Prayer for Life – June 8th/9th.

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. or email ssvpayr@outlook.com**

Fr. David's Mass intentions for this week:

Monday – Jenny O'Neil; *Tuesday* – Jane McMillan;
Wednesday – Charlie McFarlane; *Thursday* – Alba Iannarelli;
Friday – Alex Porter; *Saturday* – Vicky Dixon;
Sunday – for the parishes.

Fr Stan's Mass intentions for this week:

Monday – Special intention; *Tuesday* – Nicola McFadzean;
Wednesday – Elizabeth Hollingsworth;
Thursday – Michael Hollingsworth;
Friday – John Hollingsworth; *Saturday* – Margaret Nicol;
Sunday – Billy McNeil.

Saint Margaret's

Mary Jane McMillan R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jane McMillan who has died. Jane's body will be brought to the Church on Monday May 20th at 6.30 p.m. and the funeral Mass will be on Tuesday May 21st at 10 a.m. Thereafter to Ayr Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

First Holy Communion: Please also note that the distribution of Holy Communion in St. Margaret's will begin from the front of the Church during May.

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.

Saint Paul's

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

Art Club: The Art Club meet in the hall on Monday afternoons at 1.30pm.

Tuesday Club: The Tuesday Club meet in the hall on Tuesday afternoons at 2.00 p.m. New members very welcome.

Mother & Toddler Group: The Mother & Toddler Group meet in the hall on Tuesday mornings at 10.30am.

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.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete a 'Gift Aid' Declaration for any of our parish communities. For the last financial year we were able to claim back from the Inland Revenue the following sums for our parishes: St Margaret's £13,471.34; St Paul's £10,476.42; St Francis Xavier's £2,410.85. Please remember that in order for us to claim back anything from the taxman you need to be a tax-payer (salary, pension, savings), you need to have completed a Gift Aid form, and you need to use envelopes/standing order to make your offering. If you would like to do so from now on, or would like more information, please call Angela in the office on 263488. Thanks you everyone once again.

Prayer for the Conversion of Scotland

Loving Father, in the name of your Son Jesus,
and in the power of your Holy Spirit,
we ask that you fill our country
with the knowledge of your will,
and imbue her with spiritual wisdom and understanding.
Enlighten this precious land dear Lord!
Teach this nation to live in a manner
that is worthy of you,
so as to be pleasing to you,
full of good works bearing good fruits
and ever growing in knowledge of you.
Strengthen this lost lamb, dear Lord,
with the power of your Holy Spirit,
so that, full of endurance and patience,
she may, with joy, give thanks to you, O Father.
Make this land fit to share in the inheritance
of the holy ones of the Light.
Deliver this beloved land from the power of ignorance
to be once again part of
the kingdom of your Beloved Son, Jesus,
in whom is found all mercy
and the fullness of redemption.
Amen.

Fifth Sunday of Easter – Year ‘C’

Acts 14: 21-1

Apocalypse 21: 1-15

John 13: 31-35

Easter is lovely! We celebrate it with our own personal and family joy! Alleluia! But, now we are in Eastertide. As it were, we are not just rejoicing in Easter, we are now living out Easter in our daily lives. What a funny thing to say! How do we live out Easter?

Well, our resurrection springs from our Baptism. We are made alive in Christ by Baptism. We live out Easter as a people baptised. So – what does that mean? In Baptism we pledge ourselves, or are pledged by our parents and Godparents, to learning and living the Catholic faith. In practice, this means that whatever age we are we continue to study the Scriptures and pray. We also worship with the rest of God’s children at Mass (particularly the weekly Sunday Mass), and we try to influence others to love and serve God, through our own Christian living, loving and serving. We would do well to ponder on the promises made at our Baptism:

Do you renounce sin, so as to live in the freedom of God’s children?

Do you renounce the lure of evil, so that sin may have no mastery over you?

Do you reject Satan, the author and prince of sin?

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Do you 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?

Can we answer each of these questions with a clear and definitive ‘I do’ or is there something that holds us back?

Words of Pope Francis

At the General Audience on Wednesday in St Peter’s Square Pope Francis returned to his series of catechesis on the ‘Our Father’. After the reading of 1 Peter 5: 6-9a he said:



Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the “Our Father”, we now consider the final petition: “Deliver us from evil”. This recognises that life is fraught with difficulties, that evil is present in all of our lives, and so this final cry of the “Our Father” powerfully confronts the complete range of evil. Jesus himself, moreover, has experienced the full impact of evil in his passion: not only death but death on a cross; not just loneliness but scorn; nor merely bad-will but cruelty. The “Our Father”, resembles a symphony that seeks to be fulfilled in each one of us, for however much we may be subjected to wickedness, Jesus will come to our aid. And his prayer on the cross – “Father forgive them for they know not what they do” – bequeaths us the most precious patrimony: the presence of the Son of God who delivers us from evil. Indeed, from here flows the gift of his peace, which is stronger than every evil; and herein lies our hope!

Daughters of Charity

It is with great sadness that we inform you that the Daughters of Charity have announced the closure of their Convent in Fotheringham Road, Ayr, and that Sr. Marie and Sr. Kathleen will be leaving us. The closure will take place by the end of July this year. Bishop Nolan will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral on Monday June 17th at 7 p.m. for the great work the Sisters have done over the years in our parishes and diocese. Please pray for Sr. Marie and Sr. Kathleen as they embark on new ministries elsewhere.

EU Settlement Scheme

Please see the Bishops’ Conference of Scotland’s statement on the above scheme – which contains details of how to apply. EU (European Union), EEA (European Economic Area) and Swiss citizens living in the UK must apply if they are to protect their existing rights and their place in our society, and they must do so before 30 June 2021. Useful email address: www.eucitizensrights.campaign.gov.uk Helpline telephone number: 0300 123 7379. I was recently talking to a friend from primary school who came to this country as a child 50 years ago from Italy and she has had to apply – so please make sure you know if this Scheme applies to you. Please also do your best to ensure that those whose first language is not English are aware of the Scheme too.