

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

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Parish Bulletin

4th/5th May 2019

Readings

Acts 5: 27-32.40-41

Apocalypse 5: 11-14

John 21: 1-19

Response

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

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 6th May - 12th May

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

First Holy Communion: The children and their families begin the First Communion celebrations at all Masses this weekend and then these continue throughout the month of May. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they take this further important step on their faith journey. Please offer a warm welcome at all our Masses to the children and their guests – and try not to get too upset if they take ‘your seat’! Please also note that the distribution of Holy Communion in St. Margaret’s will begin from the front of the Church during May.

This week’s first Communicants are: St. Francis Xavier’s – Clara and Sally Rooney; St. Margaret’s – Abbey Kerr, Connor Mack, Ava North, Jonathan McClung, Eilidh Connor, Cassie Downie, Malachy Mitchell, Michael Thomson, Oliver Burborough and Lena Lelonkiewicz; St. Paul’s – Maya Grudzinska.

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.

St John’s Parent Council: Thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning last weekend. We raised £350.00.

Holy Hour for Vocations: Next Sunday, May 12th, is referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday and is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We will have a Holy Hour in St. Margaret’s at 6 p.m. to pray that the Lord will send more labourers to his harvest. Please try to come along.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret’s - £1012.49; St. Paul’s - £834.16; St. Francis Xavier’s - £177.20.

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.

Diocesan 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. The estimated cost of the Pilgrimage will now be £1,000, based on two people sharing a room. Flights will be direct from Glasgow, accommodation will be on a half-board basis in 4* hotels, and a full spiritual programme will be provided. If you would like to ‘express an 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 22 people have signed up to take part in this fundraising effort and this should allow us to sponsor 1 ½ young people to attend WYD!

Missio Scotland Emergency Appeal for Sri Lanka: Following the terrible attacks on Easter Sunday at churches in Sri Lanka, His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith, the Archbishop of Colombo, and Father Tadeusz J Nowak, OMI, the Secretary General for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in Rome, are appealing to Catholics worldwide for emergency funds to help rebuild lives of those affected and the damaged Churches in Sri Lanka. Donations can be sent directly to the Missio office: 4 Laird Street, Coatbridge ML5 3LJ, or by going to the website: www.missioscotland.com where donations can be made online using PayPal or a debit card. Whatever is raised will be sent to the Church in Sri Lanka through the Papal Nuncio in Colombo.

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 or for further information, please contact the SPRED Office on 01292 738068 or email info@spredgalloway.org.uk

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2019: Booking forms are now available – see Poster for further details.

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**

Saint Margaret's

Alex Porter RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Alex Porter of Doonholm Road who died recently. Alex's Funeral Mass will be on Friday May 17th at 10 a.m.. 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.

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

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

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.

Tuesday Club: The Tuesday Club resumes on Tuesday 7th May 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.

Statue of Our Lady of Aberdeen

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 7th 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 weekend Masses in St. Margaret's.

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.

Third Sunday of Easter – Year ‘C’

Acts 5: 27-32.40-41

Apocalypse 5: 11-14

John 21: 1-19

The NEW commandment of love: we are to love with the love of Jesus himself. This is the love that overcomes all obstacles and gives us a newness of life in joy. Throughout the story of Christianity, the name of Jesus has been centrally powerful. Joseph was the first to hear the name spoken by an angel in reference to Mary: *‘She has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a Son and you must name him Jesus because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.’*

In the first reading today though we have not reached Pentecost we are reminded of the work of the Holy Spirit and the power of the name: *We are witnesses of all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him. They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus.*

Now it is good for us to take this opportunity to reflect on the power of the name and of our own use of it. A cherished memory of mine was the night when I was beside a teenager who was very near death from cancer. He kept saying: ‘Jesus, Jesus!’ Then he turned his head to me and said: ‘I’m not swearing, I’m praying.’ Each of us has the possibility of using the Holy Name as often as we want, alone or added to a phrase like ‘Come, Lord Jesus.’ If we can make this into a habitual prayer in our lives, we will find it beautiful, powerful, soothing, stimulating, loving and challenging. I certainly advocate that you should take up the practice if you do not have it or constantly continue if you have.

Words of Pope Francis

At the General Audience on Wednesday in St Peter’s Square Pope Francis continued his ongoing catechesis on the ‘Our Father’. After the reading of 1 Corinthians 10:13 he said:



Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the “Our Father”, we now consider the penultimate invocation: “Lead us not into temptation”. Here our dialogue with God enters into the drama of the battle between our freedom and the snares of the evil one. It is not easy to accurately capture the exact meaning of the original Greek, but we can certainly say that God does not seek to put temptations in our way. Both tribulation and temptation, moreover, are mysteriously present even in the life of Jesus, and this experience makes him completely our brother. In the desert and in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus overcomes any temptation to abandon the Father’s will. When we in turn are tempted, we know that we are not alone: for Christ has already taken on himself the weight of our cross, calling us to carry it with him and to entrust ourselves to the Father’s faithful love.

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.

Fr. David’s Mass intentions for this week:

Monday – William Devine; *Tuesday* – Mary Devlin; *Wednesday* – Special intention; *Thursday* – Peter Penman;
Friday – Charlie McFarlane; *Saturday* – Ian Kerr; *Sunday* – for the parishes.

Fr Stan’s Mass intentions for this week:

Monday – Special intention; *Tuesday* – May Rooney; *Wednesday* – Special intention; *Thursday* – Special intention;
Friday – Pat Hedrick; *Saturday* – Tom Doolan; *Sunday* – Olive Hedrick.