

ST MARGARET'S CATHEDRAL - Ayr, KA8 0BS

Saturday Vigil: 6pm Sunday: 9.30am
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 10am
Rosary: Tuesday after Mass
Exposition & Confession: Thursday after Mass

ST PAUL'S - Ayr, KA7 3RF

Sunday: 11.30am
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10am
Exposition & Confession: Friday after Mass

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S - Waterside, KA6 7JF

Saturday Vigil: 4pm Rosary: Friday, 10am
Service of the Word & Holy Communion: Wed, 10am



RC AYR
NEWSLETTER

PRIEST - Fr David Borland

DEACON - Bill Corbett

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Parish Bulletin

18th/19th February 2017

The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year 'A'

Readings

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18 1 Corinthians 3:16-23
Matthew 5:38-48

Psalm Response

The Lord is compassion and love.

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

20th—27th February 2017

Monday

Mass in St. Paul's at 10am

Tuesday

Mass in St. Margaret's at 10am

Wednesday

Mass in St. Paul's at 10am

Mass in St. Margaret's at 12 noon (Funeral)

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
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

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: The next diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place between July 3rd – 10th 2017. Booking Forms are now available from the back of the churches.

Diocesan pilgrimage to Rome: The next diocesan pilgrimage to Rome will take place between September 10th—17th 2017. Booking Forms can be obtained by contacting Alba Tours Ltd on 01698 262941.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on 54 children in St. Margaret's Cathedral on Thursday at 7 p.m. Unfortunately, due to the seating capacity of the Cathedral, there will be no tickets available over and above those given to the children and their families – only those with tickets will be able to come into the Cathedral that evening.

Ash Wednesday – March 1st: Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence. Masses with the distribution of Ashes will be celebrated in St. Margaret's, St. Paul's and St. Francis Xavier's Primary School at 10 a.m. There will be two Services with the distribution of Ashes in St. John's Primary School at 1.30 p.m. and 2 p.m., and the final Mass of the day with the distribution of Ashes will be in St. Margaret's at 7 p.m.

Fasting in Lent: A guided fast is again being offered. Please see the flyers at the back of the church. We will be fasting from 17th to 23rd March, meeting every evening in that week for help with the fasting as such and for a quiet Scripture mediation. The fast is primarily a spiritual opportunity, but also a chance to spring-clean physically and to enjoy the group meetings. An **information evening** for all those who are curious will be held **after the evening Mass on Ash Wednesday**. This evening is important, but of course not binding. If you would like to fast but cannot come to the information evening, please phone Eileen Opiolka on 01292 267045

Quiet Day: A warm invitation to a Quiet Day to mark the beginning of Lent. It will be held in St. Margaret's Cathedral hall on Saturday, 4th March. Please take a flyer with you for the details.

Rite of Election: The Rite of Election for those becoming full members of the Catholic Church at Easter this year will take place in St. Margaret's Cathedral at 3 p.m. on Sunday March 5th – the first Sunday of Lent. These brothers and sisters come from all across our diocese and have been preparing for this next stage on their faith journey for many months. If you are able to come and offer your support and encouragement to them with your presence at this Mass it will be greatly appreciated. There will be a social gathering in the Hall afterwards to which everyone is invited.

Weddings in 2017: There are a number of weddings booked for our churches in 2017. Unfortunately I only have names in a diary, I have no contact details! If you have a wedding booked for this year and have not yet met with Fr. David would you please call him on 1292 263488 to arrange a meeting so that final arrangements can be made. Thank you.

Taizé Retreat: "Inner Life and Solidarity" is a retreat for people aged 16-35 which takes place in Birmingham from Friday 28th April – Monday 1st May and it is led by Brother Paolo and the Taizé community. In the wake of a number of international events which have underlined divisions in our societies, this retreat will celebrate the commitment lived out by Christians and others of goodwill. Transport, accommodation, meals and registration all included for £100. For booking and information contact info@stephenmcgrattan.org.uk.

World Day of Prayer: World Day of Prayer is on Friday 3rd March at 2 p.m. in Newton Wallacetown Church, Main St, Ayr.

Race Night organised by QMA Parent Council: A Race night will be held on Friday 24th Feb in the Ayr United Hospitality suite. Arrive 7:00pm, first race 7:30pm. Tickets £8 which includes supper. Tickets from Anna Morrison/Catriona Pentleton/Donna McKay/school office. If you can't make it then why not 'buy a horse' for £2 and you may win a bottle of wine! Races can be sponsored by businesses for £20. Money raised will be used to support pupils of QMA. Thanks for your generosity.

Spring Dance: A Spring Dance in aid of SPRED will be held on Saturday 25th February at 7 p.m. in St. Margaret's Hall. Light Supper provided, bring your own bottle. Tickets £10 available after Mass or contact the SPRED Centre on 01292 263196

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1360.16; St. Paul's - £821.86; St. Francis Xavier's - £128.00.

The SCES special collection was St. Margaret's - £761.11; St. Paul's - £296.68; St. Francis Xavier's £78.24.

Safeguarding Update & Level One Training

I would remind all volunteers in the church that, if their role in the community requires it, they must complete a PVG check AND the Level One Diocesan Safeguarding Training **before** they can begin any voluntary role – if you are in any doubt what that means then speak to one of the Safeguarding Team whose photographs and contact details are now on the notice boards.

Safeguarding Training Level One for our Deanery, lasting 90 minutes, is in:

St Paul's Church Hall, Ayr, on Saturday 25th Feb at 12 noon
St. Quivox Church Hall, Prestwick, on Tues 28th Feb at 7 p.m.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

If you need the assistance of the St Vincent de Paul Society please phone 07722 707076. 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.

Youth For Lourdes

The Youth for Lourdes group are organising a St. Patrick's Day Ceilidh in St. Margaret's Church Hall on Saturday 18th March at 7pm to raise funds for their pilgrimage in July. It is bring your own bottle. A buffet will be provided. Tickets cost £10 and are available at the back of the church.

There will also be 2 raffles, one of which will be for a signed Celtic top! Raffle tickets for the Celtic top will go on sale this week at £1 a ticket. Anyone who would like raffle tickets contact Meghan Hamilton 07932 731519

Saint Margaret's

Fabric & Finance Committee: Could I ask those who were previously members of the parish Fabric & Finance Committee to come to a meeting in the Cathedral House on Tuesday February 21st at 7 p.m. to let me know what their role was previously.

Music Group: We would like to form a music group with our young people, to play once a month at Mass. If you can play an instrument, or sing we would love to hear from you. Please give your name and phone number to either Fr. David or Sr. Marie if you would like to be part of it.

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.

Weekly Social Gathering: This takes place in the Hall on **Thursdays from 11.30 a.m. until 1.30 p.m.** All are welcome to drop in.

Mile of Coins: 50% for SCIAF and local charities, 50% to parish improvements. Last week we added £67.25 – 1.86 yards. 688.39 yards to go.

Food Bank Collection: The next food bank collection will be next weekend. Please leave donations in the Church on Saturday evening but in the hall on Sunday morning.

John McNeil R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mr John McNeil who died recently. John's funeral Mass will be on Wednesday at 12 noon and thereafter to Ayr Cemetery. May he rest in peace.

Catherine Coyle R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Catherine Coyle of Gould Street who died recently and whose funeral Service will take place in M L Williams' funeral parlour on Tuesday February 28th at 12 noon and thereafter to Ayr Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

Elizabeth Thompson R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth Thompson who died recently. May she rest in peace.

Saint Paul's

Sick & Housebound parishioners: We are struggling to get a complete list of the sick and housebound parishioners within St. Paul's parish community. If you know of anyone who is not being visited would you please write their name down and give it to Fr. David or Deacon Bill. Thank you.

Fabric & Finance Committee: Could I ask those who were previously members of the parish Fabric & Finance Committee to come to a meeting in the Cathedral House on Wednesday February 22nd at 7 p.m. to let me know what their role was previously.

Repository: New stock of Cards/Gifts for Easter, Confirmation and First Communion are now available in the Repository.

Mother & Toddler Group

The Mother & Toddler group meet in the hall on Tuesday at 10.30am.

South Ayrshire Foodbank

For information re the next collection date, please refer to the notice in the porch.

Free to a Good Home

There are a variety of Faith books available in the Altar Servers Room. Please take as many as you would like.

Saint Francis Xavier's

Wednesday: There will be a Service of the Word and Holy Communion in St. Francis Xavier's on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Holy Rosary: The Holy Rosary is recited in the Church on Friday mornings at 10 a.m.

Fr. David's Mass intentions this week are:

Tuesday – Peter & Marion Wood; *Wednesday* – John O'Neil;

Thursday – Eddie Toher; *Friday* – Elizabeth van Blank;

Saturday 4 p.m. – special intention;

Saturday 6 p.m. – Winifred Kerr;

Sunday 9.30 a.m. – Margaret Ogilvie;

Sunday 11.30 a.m. – for the parishes.

If you ask for a Mass intention to be said, but do not see the name on this list, please understand that I may have had to ask another priest to say that Mass because of the huge number of requests that are being made for me to say Masses. Be assured that Mass will be offered for your requested intention.

The Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year 'A'

Leviticus 19: 1-2,17-18

1 Corinthians 3: 16-23

Matthew 5: 38-48

There is at work in the world a justice that is greater than the laws of the land, a justice that goes beyond the simple call of an 'eye for an eye'. This is the love which Christ calls us to have at the centre of our lives. Once we love those around us, hatred, vengeance and bitterness are pushed aside. By using Christ as our example of love, we share a love, a joy and a justice that can unify us all with our Heavenly Father.

Does love mean always saying 'yes'? Quite a lot of people in the Church would say it does – particularly when they read today's Gospel. Surely this is quite clear: if people want to trample all over us, we must let them, no matter how badly they are behaving. But hold on! Is this really Jesus' teaching? Because, if it is, then Jesus himself got it wrong when, consumed with zeal, he turned the money-changers out of the Temple. And what about the times when Jesus gets clearly irritated with the disciples and plainly says so?

His commandment to us is, first, to love God and, second, to love our neighbour as ourselves. Of course we cannot love to order, but we can remove the barriers to love. The fact is that we cannot love people unless we are prepared to become involved with them. If we allow resentment at their behaviour to build up in us, we become unable to become involved with them: the resentment is a barrier. In this case, of course, we must turn the other cheek. But we can equally create a barrier between us and others by patronising them and sometimes, when we 'turn the other cheek' what we are really doing is saying 'You are not important enough to me to hurt me' or 'There is no point in protesting the way you behave, because you are so ignorant that you cannot behave any better'. Is that really a loving thing to say or do?

Weekly Words from Pope Francis

In his weekly General Audience in Vatican City on Wednesday February 15th, his Holiness Pope Francis continued his catechesis on Christian hope:

“Dear Brothers and Sisters: As children we were always taught that it is not good to boast. For when we boast about who we are or what we have, we disrespect those who are less fortunate. Yet, Saint Paul surprises us by twice telling us to boast. First, he tells us to boast of the abundant grace we receive in Jesus Christ through the gift of faith. God has created all things as a gift of love, through which he makes known his plan of salvation fulfilled in Jesus. He invites us to make this grace the cause of all our praise and joy. When we do this, we know God's



peace, which flows into our lives and relationships. But Saint Paul also tells us to boast of our afflictions. For God's peace is not the absence of fears, disappointments, or suffering. Rather, it reminds us that God loves us and is always with us. This peace, Saint Paul says, bears patience, for even in the most difficult moments, we know that the mercy and goodness of the Lord remain with us, that nothing can separate us from God. Christian hope then is not based on who we are or what we are capable of, but on God's love for each one of us. May we be instruments of hope, so that our greatest boast will be of a Father who excludes no one, but opens his home to all. And may we be a people who sustain one another with this message of Christian hope.”