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

DEACON - Bill Corbett

RELIGIOUS - Sister Marie (01292 270 408)

PHONE - 01292 263 488

ADDRESS - 27 John Street, Ayr, KA8 0BS

MAIL - rcchurchesayr@gmail.com

WEB - www.RCAyr.org.uk

FACEBOOK - @RCAYR

TWITTER - @RC_AYR

Parish Bulletin

12th/13th August 2017
19th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year 'A'

Readings

1 Kings 19:9.11-13, Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14: 22-33

Psalm Response

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help

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
14th - 20th August

Monday
Mass in St. Paul's at 10am (Funeral)

Tuesday
Mass in St. Margaret's at 10am & 7pm
Mass in St. Paul's at 10am
Mass in St. Francis Xavier'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 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

Parishes of the R C Diocese of Galloway -
Registered Charity No. SCO10576

Discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate? If you have been able to view the two films 'Why I choose to be a priest' and 'Ordinary men – extraordinary lives' which I drew your attention to last week then you will realise that God **is** calling people to serve the Church in Galloway as ordained ministers. The task we have, every one of us, is to encourage people to hear and respond to this call. If you think someone has a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate why not approach them gently and speak with them about it?

Weekday thoughts on the Sunday Gospels: This is the title of Bishop Taylor's new book which is ON SALE NOW! Running to 227 pages and costing £10, this book is something we would all benefit from reading. Copies are available to purchase at the back of the Churches.

St. John's Tower: A new book has been written to promote St. John's Tower. "The Tale of a Scottish Tower," is a fun, fictional story informed by historical facts, suitable for ages 8 to 108! Signed copies will be available for £5 in the Cathedral hall after mass on 13th and 20th August, or direct from the author, Yolanda McCall. Tel: 280420.
The Tower of St. John the Baptist is the surviving bell tower or Ayr's original parish church. Fr. John McLean and Yolanda McCall will lead a guided tour of the tower on **Sunday 20th August**. Meet at St. John's Tower in Citadel Place, Ayr, at **2pm.**

Annual Mission Appeal: We thank Sr. Eleanor Breen O.S.F. of the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception who made the annual missionary appeal at to all Masses last weekend, and thank you all for your generous response: St. Margaret's - £2047.38; St. Paul's - £1201.52; St. Francis Xavier's - £162.92.

Schools return: For many parents this is a joyful week – the children go back to school! We wish them, and all the staff, a very happy and successful new school year and hope that everyone had a marvellous summer break. Say a special prayer for both primary one and secondary one as they begin a completely new stage of their lives.

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

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1030.13; St. Paul's - £624.68; St. Francis Xavier's - £126.40.

Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary: This is celebrated on Tuesday August 15th and is a Holyday of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 10 a.m. in all three churches and at 7 p.m. in St. Margaret's Cathedral.

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Whithorn: Our diocesan pilgrimage will take place on Sunday August 27th with Mass being celebrated on the beach near St. Ninian's Cave at 4 p.m. and in the village Church at 4.45 p.m. Lists are now on the noticeboard for you to add your name in order to reserve your seat on the coach. This annual event is always a wonderful occasion so try to go along if you can.

National Pilgrimage to Carfin: This will take place on Sunday September 3rd and during the pilgrimage the Consecration of Scotland to the Immaculate Heart of Mary will take place. John Byars from Prestwick is organising a coach for the pilgrimage so if you would like to reserve a seat please call John on 07842 651612. See Poster for pick-up times and places.

National Youth Pilgrimage to Iona: Young people aged 14-25 from Scotland are invited to travel on pilgrimage to Iona on Sunday 10th September to visit the Abbey where St Columba and his monks lived in the 6th century. The Galloway group will travel by coach to Oban on Saturday 9th September where they will stay overnight in a youth hostel, travelling on to Iona and returning home on the Sunday. Cost £30. To register and for more information please email Fr Stephen McGrattan at info@stephenmcgrattan.org.uk.

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.

Attention all walkers! Please remember that the group walking the St. Ninian's Way will be leaving at 9 a.m. from the Cathedral on Saturday August 19th to walk to Maybole - the next stage of their walk. They would love it if some parishioners from Ayr were able to walk with them on this leg of their pilgrimage - just turn up, suitably dressed, and join them.

Fr. David – summer holiday: Fr David will be having a couple of weeks off (with the exception of next weekend) from Wednesday. If you need to contact a member of the clergy in a hurry then please call Deacon Bill on 521208. Angela will be in the parish office on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday as normal between 10 a.m. and 12 noon for routine parish business. Contact her on 263488 or on the parish email address.

Saint Margaret's

Maureen Robinson R.I.P.: Please pray for Maureen Robinson, our organist David's mum, who died suddenly on August 4th. Maureen's funeral will take place in St. Quivox parish, Prestwick, on Monday at 12.45 p.m. May she rest in peace.

Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrimage Statue: A full-sized replica of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima is visiting the Cathedrals of Scotland during this 100th anniversary year of the apparitions at Fatima. The statue will be welcomed to St. Margaret's on Saturday 23rd September and will be with us, or other churches within the diocese, for two weeks.

Children's Liturgy Leaders and Volunteers: Once again we are desperately short of Leaders and Volunteer helpers for the Children's Liturgy on Sunday morning and the burden is now falling heavily on only a few people. This is an essential ministry on a Sunday morning and I ask you to consider if you could become part of this team – please speak to Teresa Drotar if you can help. Leaders need to complete the necessary Safeguarding checks and training. If you are not sure what is involved and what you would have to do, why not ask to sit in one Sunday morning and observe?

The Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday 27th August.

Tea/Coffee: Tea & coffee is available in the hall every Sunday after Mass.

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 £53.15– 1.48yards. 647.41 yards to go.

Saint Francis Xavier's

Mary Ann Smith R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Ann Smith, formerly of Waterside, who has died in Dundee. Mary Ann's body is being brought home for cremation and the Service will take place on Friday at 2.45 p.m. May she rest in peace.

Service of the Word and Holy Communion: This will be held on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

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

Saint Paul's

Billy Currie R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Billy Currie of Millbrae Court who died last weekend. Billy's funeral took place on Friday. May he rest in peace.

Ann Finnegan R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ann Finnegan of Creggan Bahn Court who died this week. Ann's funeral will take place on Monday August 14th at 10 a.m. and thereafter to the Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

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

RCIA

The RCIA, or the Rite of Christian Initiation, is the process through which people become full members of the Church. This process typically takes a number of months and begins in the autumn of one year, reaches a climax at the Easter Vigil of the following year, and then continues on a joyful plateau for the rest of the persons life of faith.

We will have a meeting in September to answer any questions those thinking about joining the Church might have and to look forward to the year ahead, so if you know of anyone who is thinking about taking such a wonderful step then please talk to them about faith and invite them to come to Sunday Mass. The date of the meeting will be published as soon as possible.

Mary's Meals – Rags to Riches Collection: Mary's Meals will send their van to both St. Margaret's and St. Paul's on Sunday September 3rd to collect all your unwanted fabrics and clothing to turn into funds to continue their great work of providing meals for hungry children in the developing world. This is one of the main ways we can support Mary's Meals in this very necessary work.

150th Anniversary of the opening of Our Lady and St. Patrick's Church, Birniknowe, (Auchinleck): Bishop Nolan will celebrate Mass at the original church site on Sunday, 20th August, at 2:30pm to mark the 150th Anniversary. Refreshments afterwards in the present church hall. A welcome is extended to all.

Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage 2017: The National Pilgrimage for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair will take place on Sunday 17 September at 2pm (Mass 4.30pm: Preacher Fr. Richard Reid CSSR), St Patrick's Church, 5 South Gray's Close, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1TQ.

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

Monday - Ann Finnigan; *Tuesday* – Margaret & Tommy Henaughen; *Wednesday* – Mairi McColgan; *Thursday* – Isabella McWilliam; *Friday* – May O'Rourke; *Saturday 4 p.m.* – Special Intention; *Saturday 6 p.m.* – Ian Drury; *Sunday 9.30 a.m.* – Claire Berretti; *Sunday 11.30 a.m.* – For the parishes

Please note the Wednesday – Friday Masses will be celebrated away from the parish. Bishop Taylor will have his own Mass intentions for those days.

The Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year 'A'

1 Kings 19: 9.11-13 Romans 9: 1-5 Matthew 14: 22-33

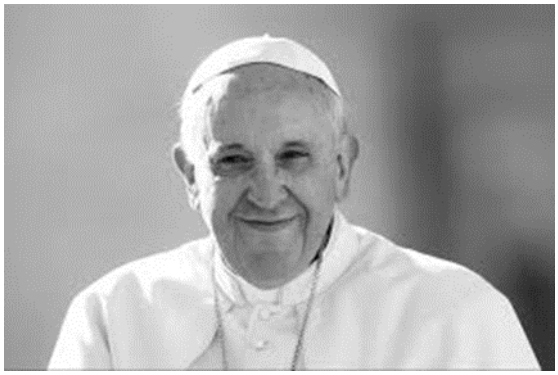
The faith is under attack, from all sides and at all times. We are pushed this way and that by the storms of doubt, ridicule and apathy. We look to God to use his power and to come to our aid. He is not in the great forces but the gentle breeze that speaks to our heart. When we listen to him and welcome his word with faith then we are strengthened and saved.

In the Gospel of St. John, Jesus is reputed to promise peace of his kind and in his way. It is also reported that God says, 'Your ways are not my ways'. No wonder we can, as it were, throw up our hands and give up hope in God as the God of peace and love.

As we recall two horrific and brutal bombings at Hiroshima (6th August) and Nagasaki (9th August) in 1945, we are recalling what is part of history. It is claimed these horrors ended the Second World War, but nobody claims that they ended war or made peace.

Right! No glossing over history or our continued failure to breed peace. Let us put blame on no-one, to get it safely off our chests. Rather, pray deep in your hearts for peace. If the peace of Christ enfolds you and me, there can be a deeper peace which spreads out. A little spark can set-off a vast forest fire or burn a huge building or complex and sadly, as we know only too well from recent events, ruin peoples' lives. One little spark. And is it not the same at home? A spark starts an argument and can lead to estrangement and, alas, marriage breakdown. It is the same in neighbourhood communities. Some people are more powerful in working for peace than you or I may be, but each of us has a part to play. We can all call on the Lord in prayer to calm the storms that assail us, we can all ask the Lord in prayer to calm the storms that assail those that we love, and we can all ask the Lord in prayer to calm the storms that assail the world. We can all pray to the Lord at all times for peace and calm.

Weekly Words from Pope Francis



After his break from the General Audience during the month of July, Pope Francis has begun again meeting the thousands of pilgrims who travel to the Vatican City to listen to him. In his General Audience on Wednesday August 9th he continued with his catechesis on Christian hope after the proclamation of the Gospel from Luke 7: 44-50.

Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our continuing catechesis, we now consider God's mercy as the driving force of Christian hope. When Jesus forgives the sinful woman, his action causes scandal, because it overturns the dominant attitude of the time. Instead of rejecting sinners, Jesus embraces them, those who are outcast, "untouchable". With a compassion that literally causes him to tremble in his depths, he reveals the merciful heart of God. This astonishing attitude to those in desperate situations, even those who have made many mistakes in life, marks our Christian identity with the stamp of mercy, and gives a sure foundation to our hope. We who have experienced God's forgiveness should avoid the danger of forgetting that this mercy was purchased at a great price: Christ's death on the Cross. Our Lord died not because he healed the sick, but because he did what only God can do: forgive sins. This divine mercy both transforms us and renews our hope. Our Lord, who rejects no one, graciously bestows upon us the mission to proclaim his mercy to the world.

Readers, Psalmists, Extraordinary Ministers

We have a small, but committed, group of volunteer Readers, Psalmists and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, and we thank them all for their willingness to serve our parish communities in these ministries, but we could certainly do with more volunteers to fill these roles. The purpose of this piece is not to ask you to volunteer, or to give you time to think up an excuse as to why you can't do it, but simply to ask you to pray, to pray that more people from within our parish families will step forward into one of these ministries. If we all pray for this then I am sure that many people will come forward over the next few weeks and offer themselves in the service of our parishes. Thank you.