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)

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Parish Bulletin

16th/17th September 2017
24th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year 'A'

Readings

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 - 28:7 Romans 14: 7-9
Matthew 18: 21-35

Psalm Response

The Lord is compassion and love,
Slow to anger and rich in mercy.

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
18th September –24th September

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 **12 noon**

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

Retired Priests—Special Collection: There will be a special collection at all Masses next weekend (September 23rd/24th) for the retired priests fund. Gift Aid envelopes for those who pay tax are available at the back of each church.

Discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate? 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?

New Volunteer Readers and Extraordinary Ministers: I am delighted to say that a number of people have told me they are thinking seriously about offering their gifts and talents to the service of our parish communities through these ministries – so it's now time to convert those thoughts to commitments. There are sheets at the back of the Churches for you to sign-up on, and in a few weeks time we will have a training evening for everyone. Thank you.

RCIA Team members: The RCIA process for those who wish to become full members of the Church will begin in early October – thank you to those who have volunteered to be part of the Team. If you are thinking about joining the Church then please call Sr. Marie on 270408 and let her know – she will be co-ordinating the process this year.

Parish Pastoral Council: It is time to re-establish a PPC for the parishes – made up of members from each of our parish communities. Could I ask those who served on the last PPC's of St. Margaret's and St. Paul's/St. Francis Xavier's to come to a meeting in the Cathedral Hall on Wednesday September 20th at 7 p.m. so that I am able to familiarise myself with who has served in the past.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1094.95; St. Paul's - £664.25; St. Francis Xavier's - £150.00

S.V.D.P: A bus will leave from St. Margaret's Cathedral on Saturday 30th September to go to Carfin for the SVDP Mass for the Sick. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church if you wish to go. Times will be confirmed next week.

Emergency Contact: Fr David will return to the parish from the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome on Tuesday morning. In the meantime if you need to contact a member of the clergy in an emergency then please call Deacon Bill on 521208.

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.

Cathedral Sung Evening Prayer for the Feast of St. Ninian: Evening Prayer of the Church will be sung in St. Margaret's Cathedral on Sunday 17th September at 6.00 p.m. You will be very welcome

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.

Concert: A concert in aid of the Ayrshire Hospice will take place in St. Columba's Church, Midton Road, Ayr on Wednesday 27th September 7.30 p.m. -9.00 p.m. Tickets cost £7.50 which include tea/coffee and home baking. Tickets are available from the Ladies Lunch Club Committee or from the Ayrshire Hospice Fundraising Office in Miller Road, Ayr 288488.

SPRED: Sr. Kathleen thanks all those who helped with the SPRED Mass and Teas last Thursday. It was a joy filled evening.

We are currently in need of new Volunteers for our Ayr groups – meetings take place on Monday and Thursday evenings in Queen Margaret Academy.

A couple of our 'friend' members who have special needs do not have a partner. Could you volunteer one evening a week in term time?

We are also looking for a volunteer with Book Keeping skills to assist with our monthly accounts.

Please contact Sr. Kathleen on 263196 or email: spredgalloway@talktalk.net for more information.

SPUC Scotland National Conference, 200 St Vincent St. Glasgow – Saturday 7th October 2017

This event is an excellent opportunity to hear top international speakers and learn about the exciting work being done to promote the right to life. The day commences with registration from 9.30 and ends at 4pm. The day includes refreshments throughout the day and lunch. Tickets are £25 and can be booked on 0141 221 2094.

Foodbank: The Food Bank collections for St. Margaret's and St. Paul's parishes are taken on the 1st Weekend each month.

Visit of the 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.

Programme of Events during the Visit of the Statue

Saturday September 23rd	Votive Mass of Our Lady of Fatima	12 noon
	Recitation of the Rosary & Litany of Fatima	After the Vigil Mass
Sunday September 24th	Recitation of the Rosary & Litany of Fatima	After the Morning Mass
	Evening Prayer of the Church	6 p.m.
Monday September 25th	Recitation of the Rosary & Litany of Fatima	6 p.m.
Tuesday September 26th	Recitation of the Rosary & Litany of Fatima	After the Morning Mass
	Prayer Vigil for Peace	6 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Wednesday September 27th	Recitation of the Rosary & Litany of Fatima	9 a.m.

Please note these events are for everyone from all the parishes. Please also note that there will be **NO MASS** at 10 a.m. on Saturday September 23rd – as there will be Mass to welcome the statue at 12 noon that day.

Saint Margaret's

200 Club: The Annual Subscription of £13 is now due. Payment can be made in the Hall TODAY Sunday 17th September after Mass. There are several spare numbers. Please make cheques payable to St. Margaret's Cathedral.

Tea/Coffee: Hot filled rolls are available in the hall after Mass today.

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 £50.00– 1.39yards. 640.81 yards to go.

Saint Paul's

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

Tuesday Club: The Tuesday Club meet in the church hall every Tuesday at 2 p.m. New members most welcome.

Saint Francis Xavier's

Service of the Word and Holy Communion: In the Church on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

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

Galloway News: The latest edition of the Galloway News is available at the back of the church. Please take a copy home and one for any housebound parishioners.

The Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year 'A'

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 - 28:7 Romans 14: 7-9 Matthew 18: 21-35

In God we have the just judge who has judged us fairly and has found us wanting in many areas. Yet out of his love for us and through the sacrifice that has been made for us by his Son he has forgiven us and wiped the slate clean. We are in our turn called to forgive others. For from this forgiveness of God to us comes our forgiveness The first is total and given in love, as should the second be.

'Forgive us our trespasses'. I hope many of us say the Lord's Prayer each day or more than once a day. But we certainly each know that it is much easier to say 'I forgive you' than it is to forgive right deep down inside. It is as though we continue to hold a residue of unforgiveness weeks, months and years after some insult, injury, unkindness or whatever is supposed to have been forgiven and forgotten. Sadly in families, among friends and even in relation to God there can be a breakdown in communication, a feeling of hurt, bitterness and hate even, which clouds mind, heart and actions.

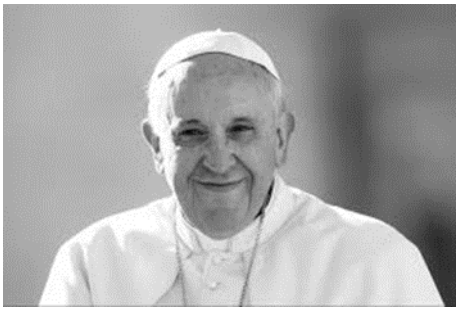
We can break the closest family ties, we can 'walk out on God', because we feel he has neglected us or put something intolerable into our lives like a marriage split, and unexpected death or illness. Love and hate are unimaginably closely linked. Now there are three things to ponder:

I have to work and pray for forgiveness from others, but also to accept forgiveness and to dig out any unforgiveness inside of me.

I can forgive and remain unforgiven. I can be forgiven, and refuse to forgive. I can build a barrier of silence and exclusion or can be excluded by another. True forgiveness may remain refused, but it becomes a rounded forgiveness when all parties join in and have a positive loving forgiveness of all. Try to forgive if there is some broken relationship in your life, and keep on trying till seventy times seven.

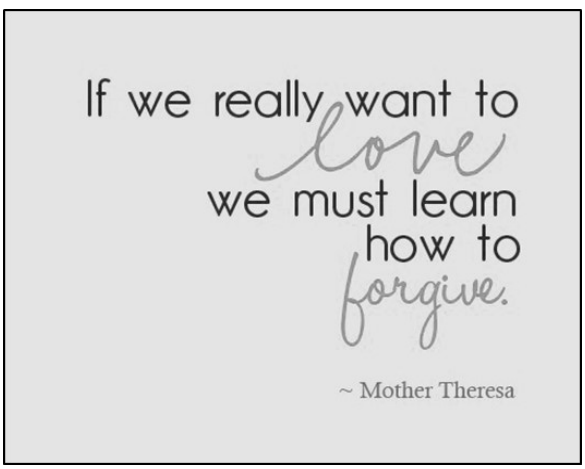
God loves each of us with an everlasting love. He is always loving, always forgiving. We have to believe this and trust his forgiveness of me. I must not 'take advantage' of his love and forgiveness, but open myself to is – respond in all my being with love and forgiveness.

Weekly Words from Pope Francis



During his General Audience on Wednesday September 13th Pope Francis, in the presence of the pilgrims from Galloway.

Dear Brothers and Sisters: My recent Pastoral Visit to Colombia, in the footsteps of Popes Paul VI and John Paul II, sought to encourage the process of reconciliation in that country following a half century of conflict and division. Its motto – *Let us Take the First Step* – was also an appeal to the nation to discover in its deep Christian roots the spiritual resources needed to advance the work of healing and rebuilding. In Bogotá, I was warmly welcomed, especially by the young, who are the future of the country. The Beatification of two martyrs and the reconciliation service celebrated in Villavicencio were particularly moving. In Medellín, the emphasis was on Christian discipleship and mission, exemplified in the help given to youth through the *Hogares* group homes and in the faces of the many young men and women who are responding to Jesus' call to the priesthood and the consecrated life. In Cartagena, the example of Saints Peter Claver and Maria Bernarda Bütler reaffirmed our evangelical commitment to human promotion and the defence of human rights. Through the prayers of Our Lady of Chiquinquirá, Patroness of Columbia, may the nation continue to progress in the way of peace in love, justice and truth.



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

Tuesday – Pamela Jackson;
Wednesday – Bob Watson;
Thursday – Chris Curran;
Friday – Rosanna O'Neil;
Saturday 4 p.m. – Mary Rooney;
Saturday 6 p.m. – special Intention;
Sunday 9.30 a.m. – Paul Lally;
Sunday 11.30 a.m. – for the parishes.

When you ask Fr. David to say a Mass please give him a written note of who the Mass is for. Thank you.