

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

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Parish Bulletin

10th & 11th February 2018

The Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

Readings

Leviticus 13: 1-2.44-46 1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1

Mark 1: 40-45

Psalm Response

You are my hiding place, O Lord;
you surround me with cries of deliverance.

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
12th February - 18th February

Monday

Mass in St Paul's at 10am

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Mass in St. Margaret's at 10am & 7pm

Mass in St. Paul's at 10am

Mass in St Francis Xavier'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

Clergy: If you need to contact the parish clergy urgently please call contact Deacon Bill on 521208, or for parish business please call Angela in the parish office on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday between 10am and 12 noon.

Ash Wednesday: This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th and is a day of fast and abstinence – I would suggest all you romantics celebrate St Valentine's Day the previous weekend! There will be Mass in all three Churches at 10 a.m. and then again in the Cathedral at 7 p.m.

Diocesan Mass for the Sick: This Mass will take place in St. Margaret's Cathedral on Sunday February 11th at 4 p.m. All who wish to avail themselves of the Sacrament of the Sick – due to ill health or advanced age – are asked to make themselves known before the Mass to one of the Galloway Lourdes Hospitalité representatives. All are welcome.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1275.67; St. Paul's - £771.75; St. Francis Xavier's - £239.30.

Christian Aid: St. James' Concert Party presents 'A Touch of Tartan' on Wednesday 14th February at 7.30 in St. James Church Hall. Tickets £5 (including tea/coffee). All proceeds to Christian Aid. All welcome.

Movies most definitely worth watching: There are two movies on the parish Facebook page (RC Ayr) and the parish website (www.rcayr.org.uk) which are most definitely worth watching: The Wall, a film about the process of passing through the Separation Wall between Bethlehem and East Jerusalem, and Bishop Nolan speaking about schooling in Jerusalem during his visit to the Holy Land with the Coordination Group last week. If you get the chance please watch them.

Lenten Course: As a part of our preparation for Easter we are presenting a Cafe Course on Mary titled: "Let it Be done unto me according to your Word". It will take place on Tuesdays in St. Margaret's Hall after Mass and the Rosary and again at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday evening starting on the 20th, February. Mary once gave us the Saviour of the World, today she helps us to be filled with the Spirit of God. Everyone is welcome.

Sacramental Meeting: A meeting will be held in St. John's Primary on Thursday 15th February at 6pm for the parents of children celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Lent.

Diocesan Priesthood: Thinking about Diocesan Priesthood in 2018? For more information please contact your Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Willie Boyd, St Mary's, Irvine on 01294 279130 or email wh.boyd@btinternet.com Or e-mail the Priests for Scotland Office at office@pfs.org.uk

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

Sacraments of Initiation: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on our young people in St. Margaret's Cathedral on Thursday February 22nd at 7 p.m. First Holy Communion will be celebrated during the month of May. If you know of anyone who has been missed in the process, of any age, please ask them to contact the parish office.

SCIAF Lenten Boxes: Every year we support the SCIAF 'Wee Box' Lenten Campaign by taking a 'Wee Box' home and using it for our Lenten alms-giving – the boxes for this year are available NOW at the back of the Church. Please take one home with you and be as generous as you are able to be – once again this year the UK government will match whatever is donated with equal funding.

Administrative Assistant SPRED Galloway – 12hrs per week: We are looking for a responsible Administrative Assistant to perform a variety of administrative and clerical tasks. The position is based in Ayr and is initially for a six month period (extended subject to requirement and funding). For further details or to request an application pack please contact Helena Kerr on 01292 263196 or email: spredgalloway@talktalk.net

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.

Saint Margaret's

Short-cut: Could we ask those who use the short-cut via the back garden of the house to come and go from the Cathedral to please make sure the gates are securely closed behind you – Fr David now has a dog who may decide to go exploring if you don't do so!!! If the double metal gates are closed you can still access the garden through them – they are not locked.

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.

Mile of Coins: 50% for SCIAF and local charities, 50% to parish improvements. Last week we added £59.50– 1.65 yards. 609.70 yards to go.

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

Saint Paul's

Children's Liturgy: We now have only two volunteers to do this ministry. Unfortunately, if nobody can help with this it will mean we can no longer provide a children's liturgy for the parish. Most families have found this to be a good experience for children and volunteers who have done it in the past have found it enjoyable and by no means onerous. It would be a great pity to lose such a meaningful part of our mass for children and I hope there may be some parents, carers or grandparents who may like to help.

Art Club: The group meet in the hall on Monday at 1.30 p.m. - 3.30 p. m. New members welcome.

Mother & Toddler Group: The group meet on Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the hall.

Tuesday Club: The group meet on Tuesday in the hall at 2 p.m. New members welcome.

Tea/Coffee: In the hall after Mass.

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.

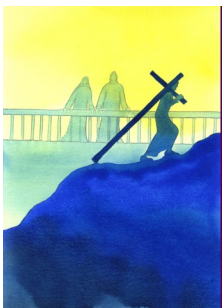
Fr. David's Mass intentions this coming week are:

Monday – Eileen Murray; *Tuesday* – Sr Catherine's Godson; *Wednesday* – Special intention;

Thursday – Isabel Johnston; *Friday* – Special intention;

Saturday – Sam Malkey; *Sunday* – for the parishes.

Even though Fr David will not be in the parish this week he will celebrate Mass each day.



Lent 2018
Online Retreat
www.lentretreat.uk

A retreat for Lent is being offered online, with weekly meetings on Sundays at 4.30pm in St Quivox Church, Prestwick starting on the 11th February.

Please see poster for details or contact Eileen on 01292 267045

6th Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year 'B'

Leviticus 13: 1-2,44-46

1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1

Mark 1: 40-45

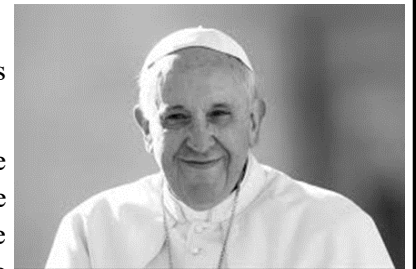
I recently had the great privilege of meeting a Belgian woman who founded a leper colony in Southern India and she told me all about the amazing work and creativity of the people who live there. Things are very different in the world now from the time when Jesus lived. Though, I believe, sadly leprosy is still spreading in some parts of this world, even though there is more medical help, more knowledge and a greater possibility of helping without becoming a pariah catching the awful disease. The Gospel today shows us how far Jesus was prepared to go in helping those in misfortune. It also shows how an incautious tongue, yesterday or today can cause real hardship.

When asked by a leper to heal him, Jesus took pity on him, stretched out his hand, touched him and healed him immediately. That is the beautiful, self-giving witness of Jesus who came for those who were outcast. He knew the Leviticus instruction which is today's first reading. The leper is unclean. He must live outside the camp. Yet Jesus touched him. Aware of the danger of the news spreading, he sternly ordered the man not to talk about the cure – but he did! And so Jesus had to avoid going to towns and had to stay outside in places where nobody lived.

What a lesson! How far are we prepared to go in becoming pariahs, despised, shunned because of our views or way of life or association with ne'er-do-wells? For example, would you be willing to shake the hand of someone who you knew was HIV positive or who had full blown AIDS? Would you be able to overcome your prejudice and help those in need? And on the other tack, do we sufficiently guard our tongues or are we liable to gossip, tittle-tattle or even take away people's characters? Jesus challenges us here – let us take up that challenge ourselves.

Words of Pope Francis

At the General Audience in Vatican City on Wednesday February 7th Pope Francis continued his catechesis on the Eucharist:



Dear brothers and sisters: In our catechesis on the Eucharist, we now turn to the +94culmination of the Liturgy of the Word in the Gospel and in the homily. The Gospel sheds the light of the mystery of Christ on the scriptural readings that precede it. By our acclamations and the rites that accompany its proclamation, we venerate the Gospel as the living and saving word of God, who speaks to us in the midst of the liturgical assembly and awaits our response. This dialogue between the Lord and his people continues in the homily, which seeks to make God's word incarnate in our hearts and in our lives. The homily draws us more deeply into the mystery of the communion in Christ that we celebrate in the Eucharist. The homily makes demands on both the homilist and the congregation; both must be disposed to consider how the word of God applies to the here and now of our lives, even when its summons to conversion proves challenging or painful. *(Here Pope Francis departed from his prepared text to remind homilists that they must be well-prepared, direct and concise – certainly under 10 minutes!)* Familiarity with the Gospel through private reading and reflection can enable us appreciate ever more fully the beauty and richness of the readings of each Sunday's Mass.



Fr. Gabriel Onoyima CSSp

It is with great pleasure that I let you know that Fr Gabriel Onoyima CSSp (a Spiritan or Holy Ghost Father) will be coming to live and work in our three parishes from the beginning of March (5th). Fr Gabriel will live in the Cathedral house and work with Fr David and Deacon Bill for a period of approximately six months while he gets to know our Diocese with a view to being joined later in the summer by a brother Spiritan priest who together will then form a new community somewhere in the Diocese of Galloway. I am sure you will all make Fr Gabriel very welcome. Please keep him in your prayers.