

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

DEACON - Rev. Bill Corbett (01292 521 208)

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Parish Bulletin

2nd /3rd March 2019

Readings

Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58
Luke 6: 39-45

Response

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

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 4th March - 10th March

Monday

Mass in St Paul's at 10am

Tuesday

Mass in St Margaret's at 10am

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 (Funeral)

Friday

Mass in St. Margaret's at 12 noon

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

Sacramental Preparation Meeting for Parents:

These meetings take place in the Cathedral Hall at 6.30 p.m. First Eucharist - Wednesday March 13th.

Annual Mission Appeal: Each year every parish in Scotland has to host a Mission Appeal from a Religious Order or Congregation. This year we are hosting the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco and so Sr. Ella Flynn FMA will be with us at all Masses THIS weekend, March 2nd/3rd, to make the Appeal. Please be as generous as you can in supporting this great work.

Rite of Enrolment: The children who are preparing to receive First Holy Communion in May will take part in the Rite of Enrolment at all Masses next weekend – the 1st Sunday of Lent.

Lenten Course: As a part of our preparation for Easter we are presenting a Cafe Course “Catholics Listening to God”. It will take place on Tuesday mornings in St. Margaret's Hall after Mass and the Rosary

Lenten Mass: During the Season of Lent there will be an additional Mass in the Cathedral on Wednesday mornings at 8.15 a.m. While this is particularly focused on the schoolchildren, their parents and all who work in the town, everyone is welcome to use this Mass as part of their Lenten preparations. These Masses will take place on March 13th, 20th and 27th, and April 3rd, 10th and 17th.

Lenten Stations of the Cross: These will be celebrated in St. Margaret's and St. Paul's on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. in Lent.

Saturday Exposition and Benediction: The next Saturday Exposition and Benediction will take place on Saturday March 30th from after Mass until Benediction at 5 p.m. The theme of the March prayer day is “Refugees and Exiles”. Please sign up to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never alone – sheets will be available at the back of each Church from next weekend.

Weekly Collections: Thank you for your continuing generosity towards your parish community through the weekly collection. The offerings last weekend were: St. Margaret's - £1106.24; St. Paul's - £625.39; St. Francis Xavier's - £182.00.

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.

THINKING ABOUT DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD in

2019? The Catholic Church in Scotland is now inviting enquiries from those considering applying for seminary. For more information please contact your Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr. Martin Chambers (martin.chambers@gallowaydiocese.org.uk) or e-mail Priests for Scotland (office@pfs.org.uk)

Rite of Election: The adults from all over the Diocese who are preparing to be fully received into the Catholic Church at Easter will take part in the Rite of Election in the Cathedral at 3 p.m. next Sunday, March 10th – the 1st Sunday of Lent. We have three people from our parishes who are journeying through the RCIA process and who will be participating in this celebration and they would love to have you present in the Cathedral to support them. If you are not sure who our three are then come along to the Mass and find out!

SCIAF Lenten Campaign: The annual ‘Wee Box’ campaign launches in just a few days time. Your very own ‘Wee Box’ is available to take home, fill and return to the Church before Easter. We will have a speaker from SCIAF on the 4th Sunday of Lent (SCIAF Sunday – March 30th/31st) to tell us much more about this year's Lenten campaign and the work SCIAF does on our behalf.

Diocesan Pilgrimage in the Footsteps of St. Paul: Bishop Nolan will lead a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Turkey from October 10th - 17th 2019, visiting the sites of the Seven Churches of Asia Minor. Flights are direct from Glasgow and bookings are now being accepted. Further information and Booking Forms can be obtained from Fr. David Borland – when he returns from the Holy Land. This is the first time the Diocese has offered a pilgrimage to these destinations.

World Youth Day – Lisbon 2022: Please see the flyer for more information about the Fund we hope to set up to send three of our young people to this event.

Holy Land: Fr. David is currently in the Holy Land visiting some Projects and having a holiday – he is celebrating his Sunday Mass for the Parishes on top of the Mount of Beatitudes. Please continue to keep the Christians in the Holy Land in your prayers.

Baptism Preparation Course: The next course for parents requesting Baptism for their children will take place in April. The parents of children requesting the Sacrament for their children between April and July need to attend.

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.

Saint Margaret's

Stewart Hay R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Stewart Hay who died recently. Stewart's Funeral Mass will be on Thursday March 7th 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

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

Mother & Toddler Group: The group meet on Tuesday morning at 10.30 a.m.

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

Tuesday Club: The group meet in the hall on Tuesday at 2.00 p.m. New members welcome.

Saint Francis Xavier's

Friday: The Holy Rosary is recited at 10 a.m. on Friday morning.

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

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

Day of Prayer and Fasting in Acknowledgement for the Abuse of Minors

Pope Francis has called on Catholics around the world to use the Friday after Ash Wednesday as a day of Prayer and Fasting for the acknowledgment of the sins of clerical abuse in the Catholic Church. This falls on March 8th. Bishop Nolan will preside at a Mass of Acknowledgement and Reconciliation in St. Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr, at 12 noon on this day. All are welcome. Please note that this will be the ONLY Mass in Ayr on this day – there will be no Mass in St. Paul's at 10 a.m.

Wednesday March 6th is Ash Wednesday

Mass with the distribution of Ashes will be celebrated at 10 a.m. in all three of our Churches, and then at 7 p.m. in St. Margaret's. There will also be a Service in St. John's Primary School for the children. Ash Wednesday is a day of Fast and Abstinence

Why do we put ash on our forehead? Ashes are applied to our forehead in the sign of the cross as the words, "Repent, and believe the Gospel" emphasizing our call to continual conversion and holiness of life. This act symbolizes our mortality as well as our need for ongoing repentance. It is a reminder that this life is short and merely a foreshadowing of what we shall become through the redemption of Jesus Christ on the cross. The work of our redemption will not be complete until we are raised from the dead, in resurrected bodies like his own and called to the eternal communion of heaven.

Where do the ashes come from? The ashes for Ash Wednesday normally are made from blessed palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. The ashes are sprinkled with Holy Water before distribution.

When do I wash the Ashes off my face? There is no specific instruction on how long ashes are to be worn. You can, in fact, wash them off immediately after the service if you want. Many people choose to wear their ashes for the remainder of the day both as a reminder of their own mortality and as a witness before those around that they are a follower of Christ and are entering into a season of examination and abstinence.

The Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year ‘C’

Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7

1 Corinthians 15: 54-58

Luke 6: 39-45

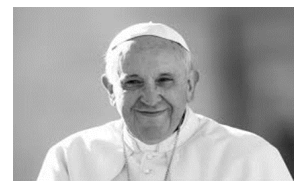
Pause this weekend for a look at a part of our human existence which is with us day and night – the content of our conversation. In this, include also thoughts. The first reading is a colourful description which certainly comes home to me. *‘In a shaken sieve, the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of other people appear in their talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of people is in their conversation, a person’s words betray what he/she feels.’* And this is complemented by the final sentence of the Gospel: *‘A person’s words flow out of what fills the heart.’*

Each of us is capable of producing good things for the enrichment of the community. These good things or ‘fruits’ may be very different in the same way that an apple is very different to a banana. Yet without our gifts the community is impoverished. A good community is one that allows people to grow. One which allows them to use their gifts and finds a place for these gifts within the community as a whole.

This is not always the case however. For example it is interesting that even at prayer we are often beset by distractions. These are by no means all holy thoughts. The space we set aside especially for God can get invaded by the thoughts of others, by grievances, disagreement with others, personal, family and work problems. These are not all bad but they show how flighty the mind can be. Let me give you my personal experience. I catch myself in what become habits – and to me bad habits. I find my thoughts of a decision by authority, a statement by someone I know, or an action intended to be helpful, come under my criticism *before* coming under any appreciation, admiration, admission of good. I try hard to change my basic reaction from criticism and ‘doing-down’ to welcoming and wanting to help. The wrongness emerges in my conversation. Someone praises a person or a work for example, I agree but say ‘Yes, but ...’ and then comes criticism or worse. This is me! What about you? The world is full of gossip, innuendo, attack, there is too little acclaim, appreciation, support. As a Christian we must let the Lord change us so that we bear fruit, good fruit.

Words of Pope Francis

On Wednesday at the General Audience in the Vatican the Holy Father continued to his series of catechesis on the Lord’s Prayer.



Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the “Our Father”, we now turn to the first of the seven invocations, “hallowed by thy name”. Here we see the pattern of all prayer, which is always made, on the one hand, in *contemplation* of God, and on the other, in a sincere *supplication* for our needs. When we speak to God, he already knows us better than we know ourselves, for even if God is a mystery to us, we are not an enigma in his eyes. He is like a mother for whom a simple glance enables her immediately to perceive the condition of her children. A first step in prayer, then, is to entrust ourselves to God and his providence. This leads us to pray: “Hallowed be thy name”, where we not only express our trust in God’s greatness, but also ask that his name be sanctified in us, in our families, our communities and the whole world. We can do this because it is God who sanctifies and transforms us by his love. Prayer casts out every fear, since the Father loves us, the Son lifts up his arms to support ours, and the Spirit works in a hidden way for the redemption of the world.

New Email Address for the Parishes

In line with the new GDPR regulations we have had to change our email address for the parishes. Our new address is: rcayr@gallowaydiocese.org.uk Please ONLY use THIS email address from now on. Our old address will be monitored for a couple of weeks and then switched off and we will have no further access to any messages that come through on it.

Fr. David’s Mass intentions for this week:

Monday – Ned O’Neil; *Tuesday* – Jenny O’Neil; *Wednesday* – Maureen Austin; *Thursday* – Winifred Kerr;
Friday – Special intention; *Saturday* – James Boyd; *Sunday* – for the parishes.
Please note Fr. David’s Masses on Monday & Tuesday will be celebrated in the Holy Land.

Fr Stan’s Mass intentions for this week:

Monday – Mary Freeburn; *Tuesday* – Jenny O’Neil’s family; *Wednesday* – Mary Freeburn; *Thursday* – Mary Freeburn;
Friday – Mary McCaig; *Saturday* – Denis Taylor; *Sunday* – Mary Freeburn.