

**MINISTERS FOR SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS OF THE EUCHARIST THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK**

	READER	BIDDING PRAYERS	EUCARISTIC MINISTERS	PASSKEEPERS	ALTAR SERVERS	MUSIC	SUPERVISOR FOR YOUNG LIT
Sat 22 Mar 9 pm <i>Easter Vigil</i>	Alex Meek Roddy Wright Jim McDermott Mathew Reilly Robert Mackie Elizabeth Meek	Michael Lewis	Margaret Reilly Dennis McCaffery	Alex Kelly John Sabbatini Robert Mackie	Patrick & Roisin McCallum, Jonathan Lewis, Paul Strang, Owen and Phoebe McDowall	Nicola Lawrence Choir	
Sun 23 Mar 9.30 am <i>Children's Mass</i>	Rachel Campbell Sam Currie	Emily Kiltie	Betty McCaffery Margaret Kiltie	Jim Campbell Tony Kerrigan	Chloe & Jodie Brownlee, David Welsh, Zak Roy	Donna McKay Gerry Murphy Children's Choir	
Sat 29 Mar <i>2nd of Easter</i>	Alex Meek	Nancy Flanagan	Ellen Hawkes David Malone	Alex Kelly Robin Donald	Justin McQuillan, Rhiain Collins, Ross Malone, Connor Menzies	Nicola Lawrence Choir	
Sun 30 Mar <i>2nd of Easter</i>	Stuart Green	Marian Davidson	David Strang Elizabeth Meek	Chic McDermott Dennis McCaffery	Sam Currie, Liam Men- zies, Owen & Phoebe McDowall	Donna McKay Gerry Murphy	Rod McDowall

**CHANGE OF SAFE WALKING DISTANCE FOR PUPILS ATTENDING THEIR CATCHMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM ONE TO TWO MILES**

Following South Ayrshire Council's decision to change the safe walking distance for pupils attending their catchment primary school from 1 to 2 miles, the Department of Education, Culture and Lifelong learning are currently identifying those pupils who will be affected by the change in policy.

This is a complex process which involves calculating the distance from school of all pupils currently receiving school transport in order to identify those pupils who will no longer be entitled to free school transport. The department has the responsibility to take safety into account when determining the walking route from home to school. All parents whose children are no longer entitled to free transport will be informed by letter towards the end of April.

Especially in more urban areas, this change in policy will have a disproportionate impact on Catholic pupils whose parents exercise their right to denominational education in the local Catholic catchment school. Catchment areas for denominational schools are generally much wider and pupils have to travel further to school.

Bishop Cunningham and St Cuthbert's Parent Council have already registered their protest about this change of policy. Parents of Catholic pupils in catchment primary schools are invited to write to the Director of Education and Councillors and register their concerns. You might wish to use the text given below:

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

As a parent of a child at St Cuthbert's Primary, Maybole, I am concerned about the change of safe walking distance for pupils attending their catchment school from one to two miles. My concern is not only for my own child, but for all South Ayrshire pupils affected, and especially Catholic pupils and their parents who exercise their right to denominational education. Because denominational catchment areas are generally much wider I strongly feel that Catholic pupils will be disproportionately affected by this change.

I ask that you make my concern known to the wider Council.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Recipients of this letter would include:

Mr Mike McCabe, Director of Education, Culture and Lifelong Learning

*Local Councillors:*

Brian Connolly (Brian.Connolly@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Sandra Goldie (Sandra.Goldie@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Ann Galbraith (Ann.Galbraith@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Mairi Low (Mairi.Low@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

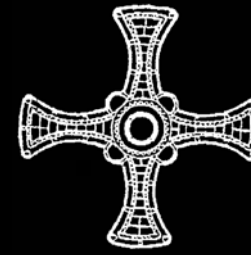
*Leaders of the Political Groups*

Conservative: Hugh Hunter (Hugh.Hunter@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Labour: Douglas Campbell (Douglas.Campbell@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

SNP: Nan McFarlane (Nan.McFarlane@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

All at this address: South Ayrshire Council, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, KA7 1DR.



# Parish of Our Lady and St Cuthbert

The Catholic faith community serving North Carrick



Parish Priest: **Father Stephen G McGrattan**

Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Presbytery, 28 Dailly Road, Maybole, KA19 7AU

Telephone: 01655 882145

Fax: 01655 882173

Email: info@olasc.org.uk

Web: www.olasc.org.uk

Church hall and bookings: Tom McCahill (882884)

**Sunday Masses**

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm. Sunday 9.30 am

**Weekday Masses**

no weekday Mass this week

**Celebration of Word and Communion**

Mon-Fri at 9 am

**Sacrament of Confession**

After Vigil Mass and when requested

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Forms available at the back of the church

**Sacrament of Marriage**

At least six months notice is required

**Mass intentions this week:**

Sat: Archie Scobie (Ann)

Sun: Marc Devlin (Ann)

**PARISH PRAYER**

Lord our God,  
we the people of Our Lady and Saint Cuthbert's Parish  
offer ourselves to you to be your people in this place,  
to be your Church in this community,  
to be agents of peace and forgiveness and love.  
Help us to face what the future holds,  
and to make new beginnings in your name.  
Amen.

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Lord, make me a better person: more considerate toward others,  
more honest with myself, more faithful to you.

Help me to find my true vocation in life and grant that through it  
I may find happiness myself and bring happiness to others.

Grant, Lord, that those whom you call to enter priesthood  
or religious life may have the generosity to answer your call,  
so that those who need your help may always find it.

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD SUNDAY 23rd MARCH 2008**

He is Risen! The cry echoes through the centuries bearing witness to who Jesus is – our Saviour and our God. The resurrection dwarfs the indignity of the cross. It transforms the barbarity of mankind into the triumph of the love of God for his creatures.

It is a very Trinitarian event. God the Father's plan to rescue mankind from eternal death has come to fruition, God the Son by his obedience to death even on a cross has paid the full penalty for man's sin and redeemed the whole of creation, and God the Holy Spirit, using the almighty power of the godhead has broken the stranglehold of death over the body of Christ and our mortal bodies. Death has truly lost its sting – it is simply the doorway to eternal life with God.

No wonder this feast is the greatest in the Christian calendar. No other religion in the world has anything like it. God willingly took on mankind's life and just as willingly laid it down again, in order to bring his people home. In the Garden we had been separated, now the love of God calls us back to the bosom of the One who made us. The heart of God is satisfied.

Items for inclusion in this newsletter should be given in writing to David Kiltie (882644 or david.kiltie@virgin.net)

Last week's collection: £605.75.  
Thank you.

**Fr Stephen will be on holiday from Monday 24th March to Thursday 3rd April. Should you need the service of a priest in an emergency please contact Monsignor Joseph Boyd on 01292 610928 or 07770 768007.**

**COLLECTION ENVELOPES AND PARISH GIVING 2008-2009**

The collection envelopes for the coming financial year, beginning on the first Sunday of April, are now available at the back of the church. Please take them with you. They are placed in alphabetical order, for those who use the gift aid scheme on the left side and then those who do not use the giftaid scheme on the right side. If you do not use envelopes and would like to use them please speak to Fr Stephen.

To make best use of the giftaid scheme, the collection envelopes contain a separate envelope for all special collections this coming year. This will save having to fill in your name and address on the back of the giftaid envelopes we put on the end of the pews on a Sunday when there is a special collection. The special collection envelopes are inserted on the date of the special collection to act as a reminder. On those Sundays, please bring both envelopes to church.

Until six months ago we took a regular monthly building fund collection. At three times during this coming year, appropriately chosen not to coincide with other special collections, a building fund collection will be taken up. This will help the parish continue the demanding task of bringing our buildings up to date and maintaining the fabric of our buildings. Please give what you are able.

I hope this envelope system helps simplify and better organise the calendar of giving to the parish.

Very soon, I will write to all the people who give using the giftaid scheme and ask you to complete a Giftaid Declaration Form. I know you have completed one in the past. However, the parishes now operate with a new registered charity number — that of Galloway Diocese — and the form should be completed again. **It is essential that you return this form for the parish to reclaim the tax you have already paid on your contribution to Our Lady & St Cuthbert's.** I will also include a calendar of giving for the year 2008-2009 with the letter I write.

Thank you very much for your continued generosity. A statement of accounts for 2007 will be published very soon in the updated Parish Directory for 2008.

Fr Stephen McGrattan

**SMALL REGISTERED CHARITIES AND CHURCHES TO PAY WATER CHARGES**

The Scottish Government is leading a consultation proposing to remove the relief from water charges for registered charities (including churches), whose annual income is less than £50,000. Churches and charitable organisations in Scotland provide many pastoral, social and community services that are of immense benefit to Scottish society. One of the reasons they are able to do this is that they are exempt from water charges.

Bishop Cunningham has asked that you write to your MSP to express your concern about this matter. The MSP for Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley is Cathy Jamieson MSP, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. You may wish to use the following text in your letter:

Dear Ms Jamieson,

As a parishioner of Our Lady and St Cuthbert's Church, Maybole, I am extremely concerned by recent proposals to remove the relief from water charges which charities currently enjoy. Churches and other charitable organisations in Scotland provide many pastoral, social and community services that are of immense benefit to Scottish society. One of the reasons they are able to do so is that they are exempt from water charges.

Removing this provision from the charitable sector would have many disadvantages and could undermine the core activities, which greatly benefit many local communities.

I ask you to make my concern known and to urge the Scottish Parliament not to remove this provision and to allow Scotland's churches to continue to provide the social capital which enhances our national life in so many ways.

Last Sunday our Passion or Palm Sunday celebration started a little differently. As there was some slight rain, rather than gathering outside the church for the traditional blessing of palms they met in the church hall.



The Gospel of the triumphant entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem was read, and then there was a procession from the hall outside and then back into the church. Immediately afterwards, the theme changed radically with the reading of the Passion from St Matthew's gospel.



One of the beautiful liturgies in Holy Week invites Christians from all the churches in Maybole to join parishioners here for the Stations of the Cross and to reflect on the final journey Christ made for us in total self-emptying love. Robert Malone and Rev David Whitemann are pictured leading the stations.



**JUNIOR PARISH COUNCIL:** The next meeting will be on Sunday 6th April at 5.30 pm in the parish house. Among the items on the agenda will be the events organised for the young people of the parish. Recently, a trip was arranged for the young people to go to Kelvingrove Museum in Glasgow. Even though the trip was advertised 3 weeks before the event, only 2 people signed up for the trip (including last minute withdrawals) and it was cancelled. A lot of preparation goes into preparing these trips and people are not going to take part then we will need to ask whether we continue them in the future. Fr Stephen asks the young people to think seriously about this so we can share ideas at the meeting.

**YOUNG PEOPLE:** Fun day in Millport on Easter Monday, 24th March 2008. Meet at the Largs ferry point at 11 am. A day of cycling, egg hunt, sandsculptures and games, returning to Largs for 6 pm. Bring a packed lunch. Young people of all ages welcome (under 16s must have a parental consent form from the youth office: 01294 463461 or gyo@gallowayyouth.com)

**DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY YOUTH EVENINGS** are beginning again! Come along to St Mary's, Ardrossan Road, Saltcoats to meet young people your own age, have a

good laugh, and pray and discuss your faith in a non-threatening totally supportive way. The evening begins on March 30th with Mass at 6.30 pm followed by time together in the hall ending at 9.30 pm. Bring a friend or two. (Other evenings to be held on 27th April, 8th June, 29th June.)

**CHILDREN OF FAITH:** Will meet again on Sunday 20th April at 5.00 pm in the parish house.

**MAYBOLE CHARITY SHOP:** The parish has the charity shop during the first week of May. Please bring to the church or hall anything second hand of good quality that can be sold. Clothes sell particularly well.

**PPC ELECTIONS:** We welcome Maureen Hay, Laura Kiltie, Tom McCahill and Jean Harvey to the parish council. Thanks to all who stood for election.

**SCIAF:** thank you for your generosity now and always. Last year, throughout Scotland, the parishes raised £870,000 for SCIAF through collections and the WEE BOX. Over 100 projects are funded in 20 countries. Please bring you SCIAF box to church **before next Sunday.** After that date you will need to send your contribution to SCIAF yourself. Remember to fill in the giftaid space. Your final (now post-) Lenten penance can be to count the coins and put a

cheque or notes in the box to the value — please do your own counting to save hours of time for the counters!

**NEW CANONS FOR THE DIOCESE:** Bishop Cunningham has bestowed the honour of Canon to Fr Patrick McSorley of Prestwick, Fr Matt McManus of Ardrossan, Fr Michael Farrington of Dumfries, and Fr Patrick Keegans of Ayr. The new Canons will be installed at a Mass in St Margaret's Cathedral on 24th April at 7.30 pm.

**PPC RETREAT:** The parish council retreat, for all parish council members, takes place in the Notre Dame Apostolic Centre, Skelmorlie, from the evening of Friday 25th to the afternoon of Sunday 27th April.

**A MUSIC MINISTRY DAY** is being held on Saturday 12th April at St Margaret's Cathedral, Ayr, from 10 am (for a 10.30 am start) to 3.30 pm. The day will be led by Noel Donnelly, who has been actively involved in Catholic music for many years and is well known as a composer and liturgist. The day will be informal, with plenty of opportunities for meeting with other musicians. We will be looking at music for the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharist, and also at plainsong. The day will end with sung Vespers of Our Lady.



**A big thank you to everyone who helped prepare and decorate the church for our Easter and Holy Week celebrations. Thanks also to all of you who have taken part in our celebrations and helped the community to pray by reading, serving, singing, playing instruments, cleaning, passkeeping and all the other things that are done to make our liturgies beautiful. It is a tribute to the faith and energy of the parish that we can come together and share the body and blood of Christ and fulfil his command to "do this in memory of me". Happy Easter!**



**HALL DIARY**

- Tue 25 March, 6-9.30pm  
C/K Dancing
- Thu 27 Mar, 5.45-8.30 pm  
Youth Club
- Sat 29th, 1-5 pm  
Bingo/Social Day for Elderly Citizens
- Hall keeper: Tom McCahill  
(882884)