



St. Mary's R. C. Church

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP
Tel: 01698 423552



St. Paul's R. C. Church

Backmuir Road, Hamilton, ML3 0PX
Tel: 01698 423552

Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest

Charity Number - SC011041

www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org

Newsletter

Thirty third Sunday of the Year

Nov 15th 2020

The parish has received the following Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Tartaglia to mark Catholic Education Week (16th-30th November): It is printed here for your reflection;

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year around this time, we celebrate Catholic Education Week. During this week we celebrate: the God-given talents of our young people; acknowledge the hard work and faith witness of the staff in our schools; mark the unique contribution that Catholic Education makes to our families, our parishes and to wider Scottish society and we reflect on the mission of the catholic school in the future.

This year the theme of Catholic Education week is Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth and the Life. This theme reflects the vision and aim of Catholic education that Catholic schools, centred on the person of Jesus Christ, help and accompany young people to discover and follow the Christian vocation to live responsibly with and for others in accordance with the message of Christ and so to build up and transform society for the better.

This is a message to which our young people readily respond, as can be seen by the high levels of participation in the Pope Francis Faith award and the Caritas programme.

This has been a strange year for our schools. Few of us will remember in our lifetime a period characterised by uncertainty, disruption and even fear. Everything that formed the fabric and pattern of our lives has felt the impact of the restrictions caused by the pandemic. Families have been unable to share the joy of family celebrations and have been denied the opportunity to come together to mourn. Our young people were separated from their friends and teachers, and their learning and exams were interrupted. Our churches have also suffered with parish communities unable to gather for many weeks. Even now our numbers are limited and we long to see a time when everyone will be able to join together again and sing our hymns of praise.

It is precisely in times such as these that we search for certainty and direction, and the theme of this year's Catholic Education Week reminds us where it can be found. In recognising Jesus as the Way, we need no longer worry about which direction we take and where that will lead; in following Jesus' teaching and example we will inevitably come to the Father. At a time when it can be difficult to discern what is genuine, we find in Jesus a Truth to which we can hold firm. It is living in relationship with God that we find the fullness of life for which God created us, and the promise of eternal life.

The Charter for Catholic Schools, which outlines ten characteristics of a Catholic school propose a rich vision of Catholic education and emphasises the church's mission to transform society through the love, service and justice we find in the life of Jesus, and reminds our pupils and teachers that they are part of the church in action. These characteristics do not happen by accident. Acknowledging Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life is intrinsic to Catholic education

and along with liturgy, prayer, and learning is a central and defining mark of the Catholic school as an educational community of faith.

I encourage you then to give thanks for Catholic education and to pray for its ongoing success. I ask you to support the work of the Scottish Catholic Education Service and all that it does on behalf of our church, our young people and our families to promote the positive contribution of Catholic schools in Scotland. I encourage you all to speak positively on behalf of Catholic Education, sharing the good news that Catholic schools remain good for Scotland,

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+Philip Tartaglia

Archbishop of Glasgow

A Message from Bishop Toal:

November is the month when, by tradition, we pray for the eternal rest of our deceased relatives and friends. This year, in all our churches, we remember especially those who have died during the pandemic. We also pray for those who have lost someone they loved, for those who were unable to say goodbye, and for those who are suffering the pain of grief. We pray for confidence in the loving mercy of God, for faith in the Resurrection to new life and for the hope of being reunited in God's kingdom.

November Lists: you are welcome to write down the names of your deceased relatives and friends and bring them in an envelope to be placed before the altar during this special month of remembrance for our faithful departed. Many of you include a donation (which you do not need to do); for many years we gathered these donations together and sent them to Fr. Martin Kelly to help with his ministry in Peru. Since his retirement we have sent them to a small Catholic Charity called IRT (International Refugee Trust) which seeks to support some of the most disadvantaged people in our world. So we will do the same again this year; as we remember our dear departed relatives and friends with thanksgiving, let us give others a chance at life.

This weekend we complete our parish celebration of First Holy Communion. I look forward very much to welcoming our young parishioners and their families for this special occasion. Please remember our First Communicants and their families in your prayers,

Christmas Cards are available in the parish meeting room at St. Mary's this weekend; we will need to observe the usual protocols regarding wearing masks, sanitizing of hands and social distancing. Clare Jones will be present to guide you.

Booking for Weekday Masses needs to be done on a weekly basis to allow for Requiems; booking for the coming week will be possible on Saturday evenings around 8pm. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

St. Mary's has seating for thirty-six people (the balcony is not to be used)

St. Paul's has seating for thirty people.

Please think about choosing St. Paul's for your visit as it may well be quieter there, especially on Sunday morning.

The Diocese has recommended that we have a booking system for places at the liturgy; this is for safety reasons and also to ensure that people are not disappointed if they arrive at church and discover they cannot enter. For each service the parish **must** retain details of all those attending to ensure that contact tracing can be carried out if necessary.

Please consult the parish website, stmarysandstpaulshamilton.org, to book a place through Eventbrite or by phoning the church house. Details of our services will be given on the parish

website, but please be aware that timings for Mass on the Sunday are different to our normal programme:

Sunday services at St. Mary's: Saturday Vigil at 5.30pm and Sunday Morning at 10.30am
Sunday Services at St. Paul's: Saturday Vigil at 4pm and Sunday Morning at 9.15am.

The weekday Masses this week will be at St. Mary's:

Monday at 10.am; Requiem for Mr. Giuseppe Clemente

Tuesday at 10am

Wednesday at 10am;

Monday, 23rd Nov at 10.45am; Requiem for Mrs. Rosemary Stevenson

Please book through Eventbrite as this makes things easier for the stewards meeting you at the church door.

Please note that Government guidelines state that only 20 people are permitted to attend Requiems. This means that funerals should be looked upon as private family gatherings; thank you for your understanding and co-operation in this matter.

Recently Deceased: Rosemary Stevenson, Michael McCafferty, Giuseppe Clemente, Catherine McArthur, Kevin Shallow, Eugenio Palazzo, Arthur Pollock, Catherine McCready, James Brown, Patricia Hendry, Jane Mulraney, Agnes Weir, Heather Stronach, William Lamont Baillie, George Hosie, Tessa McDade, John Coffey, Arthur McCool

Special Remembrance: George Stewart, Brian and Margaret Bonnar, George Terrett, Patrick Cavanagh, David O'Donnell, Ruth (Muldoon) Hawkin and our own deceased relatives and friends and all the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's through the years, *reqiescant in pace.*