



St. Mary's R. C. Church

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St. Paul's R. C. Church

Backmuir Road, Hamilton, ML3 0PX
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Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest

Charity Number - SC011041

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Newsletter

Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year

November 17th 2019

Church Services

Sunday Mass at St. Mary's:

Saturday Vigil, 5.30pm
10am, 11.30am

Sunday Mass at St. Paul's:

Saturday Vigil, 4pm
10.30am

Weekday Mass:

St. Mary's, Monday and Wednesday at 10am
St. Paul's, Tuesday and Friday at 10am

Rosary prayed each weekday after the Morning Mass.

Confession:

St. Mary's, Monday Morning after Mass and Saturday at 5.10 pm
St. Paul's, Tuesday Morning after Mass and Saturday at 3.40pm.

Monday 7pm: Novena at St. Mary's in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's in the side chapel Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from after Mass until 2pm, and at St. Paul's on a Tuesday from after Mass until 2pm

This is a sacred space for those who would like to pray in silence before the Blessed Sacrament

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN): this weekend we have a special visit from Mr. Michael Willis who will make an appeal on behalf of ACN, which is a pontifical foundation and accountable to the Holy See. The purpose of the charity is to support the suffering church around the world. The recent bombings in Sri Lanka highlight the terrible persecution faced by our brothers and sisters in Christ. When a tragedy like this takes place in the Catholic Church, the people naturally look to the Bishop of Rome for guidance and assistance; this special charity allows Pope Francis to reach out to suffering members of the church.

The support which ACN offers is not just humanitarian but pastoral; in the last financial year the charity distributed 1.5 million Mass stipends for 43,000 priests; it helped train over 11,000 seminarians; many of these vocations are emerging from the blood of martyrs. ACN supported over 150 Missionary Orders and undertook 1,647 construction projects to fund churches, seminaries, pastoral centres. *We will donate our second collection on 16th and 17th November to support the work of Aid to the Church in Need.*

Motherwell Diocese Annual Education Mass: please join Bishop Toal and our Catholic teachers in Motherwell Cathedral on Tuesday 26th November at 7pm. It is an opportunity to offer thanks for the work of our schools and to pray for our teachers and pupils throughout the Diocese.

We will mark Education Week at St. Mary's at 10am Mass on Sunday December 1st and the pupils preparing for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be present with their parents.

Are you thinking about Christmas cards yet? Please take time to look in the stall at St. Mary's and at St. Paul's where you will find a good selection of cards, calendars and other items too.

Please join us this week for a coffee morning, a thank you for the Missio visit to Uganda

St. Andrew's Night, Dinner and Social Evening, Friday 22nd November in Parish Hall at 7pm, tickets £16: tickets are now available; please come and join us for this enjoyable evening.

Annual Mass for Deceased Members of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, Wed 27th Nov at 7pm: please join us for this special liturgy in St. Mary's and afterwards for some refreshments in the hall; those who have suffered bereavement in their family during 2019 are especially welcome for this liturgy of remembrance. *Please join us. There will be no 10am Mass on Wed., 27th Nov..*

During the month of November we remember in a prayerful way the faithful departed, the deceased members of our families and friends and neighbours. It is a special month in the life of the church community, precious days of thanksgiving and prayer.

November lists are available at the back of the churches and you are invited to write down the names of those you wish to remember in a special way. Many people enclose a small donation in the envelope in thanksgiving for treasured memories. We have the tradition here at St. Mary's and St. Paul's of donating these gifts to the poor. This year our remembrance gifts will be donated to Bethlehem Care and Hospice Trust which seeks to provide much needed care to the poor of Bethlehem, this town that is so precious to us all.

Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy: this special liturgy will take place in Motherwell Cathedral on Thursday 5th December at 7pm. This year we remember Bishop Joseph Devine, Canon Andrew Reen, Canon John Healy and Fr. Brendan Smith who died this year. We also remember the anniversary of Bishop Francis Thomson, who died on 6th December 1987. *All welcome.*

St. Mary's Music Group: it was good to have the music group with us last weekend for the 10am Mass; if you would like to join the group, playing an instrument or singing then you will be made very welcome. Why not come along to the next rehearsal in the parish meeting room on December 17th, 7-8pm?

The Glasgow Phoenix Choir: "A Christmas Celebration, A Feast of Seasonal Music", in Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Friday 13th December, 7.30pm, Box Office Tel: 0141 353 8000; people from the parish have enjoyed this concert in past years and recommend the evening.

Credo, St. Mary's and St. Paul's Faith Sharing Group meets this Tuesday, November 19th in the parish meeting room at 1 o'clock. The group meets to reflect and share on some aspect of the Catholic Faith and then enjoy some tea and cake together. *New members always welcome.*

St. Mary's and St. Paul's Walking Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 11am and walks for around one hour, starting from the Museum and returning there to have some tea and coffee. The walking group proves to be popular and new members are always welcome.

SCIAF Christmas Real Gifts make great presents for family and friends; the parish catalogue is now available at the back of the church. You can also visit www.sciaf.org.uk/realgifts.

Please pray for our parishioners who are ill at home or in hospital.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Ellen Martin, Patrick Brannan, Ann Rafferty, Maureen Heraghty, Jean Dunlop, Mary Carr, Hannah Dragoonis, Margaret Mannering, Patricia Smith, Harry Hynds, Paul McGowan, Patrick McMahon, Kitty Curran, Paul McCallum, Nancy McCluskey, Iride Kane.

Special Remembrance: Eddie Power, Margaret Burke, Bill Cannon, John Malone, Esther McManus, Mabel Lyons, Anna Sharpe, Margaret Phairs, John O'Neil, Anna and Alex Darragh, Anna McCool, David O'Donnell, David and Mary Donnelly, David Donnelly Jnr., John and Irene Docherty, Mary Toner and all our deceased relatives and friends and benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.