



**St. Mary's R. C. Church**

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



**St. Paul's R. C. Church**

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Tel: 01698 423552

**Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest**

**Charity Number - SC011041**

**[www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org](http://www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org)**

## Newsletter

## Second Sunday of Advent

December 8th 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*

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**Today we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent:** John the Baptist makes the first of his two Advent appearances; when John sees Pharisees and Sadducees approaching for baptism, his words are uncompromising. He warns that their request for baptism must be accompanied by the signs that they have truly embraced the values of the Kingdom of God.

**In Advent the Church prepares to celebrate the Nativity,** when we recall Christ's first coming. As we remember so also we look forward in faith to his Second Coming at the end of time. It is a period of joyful hope. The hope of Advent is expressed during the first part of Advent with the concentration on the Second Coming, while the first coming is recalled particularly from the 17<sup>th</sup> December, when Christ is seen as the fulfilment of the hope of Israel. Throughout Advent purple is used for seasonal celebrations. The use of flowers and musical instruments should be restrained until Christmas. The Gloria is not said unless noted.

Let us pray that we have a prayerful and joyful Advent, moving toward the celebration of Christmas with renewed trust in God's love for us, evident in the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus.

**Monday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: please join us at St. Mary's for morning Mass at 10am.** The Immaculate Conception is a mystery of our Faith. It is one of several points where Our Lady was treated in a privileged way by Almighty God, emphasising her unique place in his plan of salvation. As a doctrine of the Catholic Church it was only promulgated in 1854, but had been a strong popular belief for centuries. Our own Blessed John Duns Scotus (1266-1308) was one of the greatest champions of this dogma. When Bernadette of Lourdes was told by the parish priest to ask the lady who was appearing to her at the Grotto for her name, the reply she received was, *"I am the Immaculate Conception."*

*O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee!*

**St. Mary's and St. Paul's Parish, Christmas Lunch for our senior parishioners, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> December in Carrigan's Restaurant, Eddlewood Toll, Hamilton at 2.30pm:** please fill out the form at the back of the church and join us for this very pleasant afternoon in the company of your friends from the parish. If you have just reached this lovely new stage of life then you are warmly welcome to join us. *It is good to know that you are not alone!*

**Are you thinking about Christmas cards?** 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.

**St. Paul's Primary School, Nativity Dec 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm:** Primary 1 take the leading role in "Away in a Manger" and will be supported by the Primary 2 choir; tickets cost £1 and should be bought in advance from the school. Raffle tickets for a large Christmas hamper will also be on sale at the shows. Please come along!

### **Christmas Masses at St. Mary's and St. Paul's Hamilton:**

#### **Services at St. Mary's Church**

Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December:

Vigil Mass at 4pm

Night Mass at 8.30pm

Christmas Day Mass at 10.30am (*Please note there will be no Mass at 11.30am*)

#### **Service at St. Paul's Church**

Christmas Day Mass at 10.30am

*Please note there is no Vigil at St. Paul's on Christmas Eve; there is no 10am Mass at St. Mary's on Christmas Eve.*

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am, Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, Mass at St. Paul's at 10am**

**Wednesday January 1st 2020, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 11am; Mass at St. Paul's at 11am**

#### **Confession**

Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> December: after Morning Mass at St. Mary's and in the evening at 6.15pm

Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December: after Morning Mass at St. Paul's

**A Message from Drama Kirk about the Reindeer Parade and Nativity:** 'the parade begins at 12.30pm on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> and begins at the bottom cross; we will follow Santa and his reindeer up the street. The nativity characters will be part of the parade and the performance will take place at the top cross as soon as the reindeer are secured in their pen. The script is a delightful tale of Christmas from the perspective of the stars. Please do come along and support it and bring your family and friends and enjoy a lovely festive treat'.

**Credo, St. Mary's and St. Paul's Faith Sharing Group** meets this Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 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.*

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

**Please pray for those who have died recently:** Fr. Colm Morris, John Corns, Keith Laikowski, Vincent Pizzuto (USA), Rose Hutcheson (Blantyre), Veronica Mackle, James McCearney (Paris), Daniel McAtamiey, Henry Magill, Lena Capaldi (Ayr), Philip McCaffrey, Helene Coyle, Catherine Rodden, Frederick Hoey, Freddie Franchitti

**Special Remembrance:** Cornelius (Neil) McMurray, Michael Bridges, Agnes, William and Mary Bridges, John Fitzpatrick Jnr, Daniel and Margaret McGinnes, Monica Dobson, Catherine Carney, and all our deceased relatives and friends and benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.