



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

**Newsletter**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**May 8th 2022**

*My dear parishioners,*

I hope this finds you well. I look forward very much to celebrating the liturgy with you this weekend on what is traditionally known as *Good Shepherd Sunday*, which is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The image of the Good Shepherd is surely one of the most tender images we have of the Lord Jesus, who gives his life for his flock.

Over the years of ministry this day of prayer for vocations has come to mean a great deal to me. As we witness the terrible war in Ukraine and the horrendous suffering it is causing, it is clear that our primary vocation is to be a good human being, a source of sincere charity towards all people, our brothers and sisters on this beautiful planet which is home to us all. *But how to be such a source of goodness?*

For those of us who are Christians, today's gospel from John invites us *to listen and to follow*; these two verbs suggest the fundamental characteristics of our active life of faith. The following of the Lord Jesus derives from really listening to him and then living out what we have heard; we act as disciples only after hearing and inwardly accepting the Good Shepherd's teachings in order to put them into practice each day. It is not such a big step to say then that we are all called to be *little Good Shepherd's* of one another, and in this way faith and life merge into each other.

I have mentioned to you before that the Catholic priest is a witness to great human kindness and often on a daily basis; it is clear that pastoral care is not limited to the clergy! But we do have our place in the body of Christ. The life of a priest is one of humble service to the Lord's flock, a beautiful ministry of Word and Sacrament, which helps to nourish, accompany and build up the Lord's flock; we could say it is a vocation within the vocation to be a good human being and a good Christian. So on this day when we celebrate *Vocation*, let us indeed pray for vocations to the priesthood, and may the Lord hear our prayer.

Father O'Brien

**Sincere condolences** to Mrs. Margaret Scott on the death of her husband George, whose funeral service will take place at South Lanarkshire Crematorium on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon.

**I offer here the times of the liturgy in the days ahead:**

**Saturday May 7th**

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

**Sunday May 8th**

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Monday 9th May Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

*Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at 7pm*

Tuesday 10th May, Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Wednesday 11th May, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Thursday: Requiem for Canon Willie Dunnachie, Motherwell Cathedral at 12 noon.

**Saturday 14th May**

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

**Sunday 15th May**

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Monday 16th May, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday 17th May, Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Wednesday 18th May, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

**CREDO**, the parish prayer group meets this Tuesday, May 10th in the parish meeting room, beginning at 1pm and concluding with some tea at 2.30pm. The group welcomes prayer requests from parishioners and a box is available at the back of the church for you to place such requests.

**Please remember in your prayers the pupils from St. Mary's Primary who will be celebrating these special sacraments:**

**First Holy Communion at St. Mary's:**

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 11am

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 11am

**Confirmations at St. Mary's:**

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 7pm

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**Those who are ill:** Rosemary Scanlan, Jane Grieve

**Recently Deceased:** George Scott, Jacob Clinton, Marjory Mulroney, Ann Cassidy, Moira Fallone, Michael McLaren, Nancy O'Donnell, Margaret Torrance, Norman Millard, Lukas Ganch

**Special Remembrance:** Bettina Julie Miller, Anne and Tommy Quay, Marie Whalen, Sonny Dalton, deceased members of the McKenna and Dalton families and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace*.