



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

The Baptism of the Lord

January 12th 2020

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

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus: Christmastide comes to a close with the baptism of Jesus in River Jordan by his cousin John the Baptist. Christmas is the joyful celebration of the Saviour coming to earth. Mostly the emphasis is on human acceptance (or rejection) of the Saviour. Now, in this moment of Baptism, Jesus accepts his destiny as the Saviour of the World. Baptism means *immersion* and so the adult Jesus immerses himself in his Father's will, "*not my will but your will be done.*" Hence God's voice: "*This is my Son, the Beloved*"; and the Holy Spirit is uncharacteristically present in a visible form, the dove. In other words, the entire Trinity is present. It is quite a moment of revelation. We can say, therefore: God, the mystery of divine love, is made visible for us in Christ Jesus. Are we ready to follow Jesus through the days and months of 2020, allowing the Saviour to influence our responses to the events of daily life?

Liturgically we move now to what the church calls Ordinary Time, which means we concentrate on the unfolding of the mystery of Christ in all its aspects. This unfolding is a rich tapestry and demands our attention to detail. In the end it will take us to the Passion and Death of Jesus on Good Friday and the Celebration of his Resurrection on Sunday April 12th, 2020. At the moment, green is the colour of the season and the Gloria is sung or said on all Sundays, Solemnities and Feasts. The Creed is recited on Sundays and Solemnities.

Credo, parish faith sharing group will meet this Tuesday, January 14th at 1 o'clock in the parish meeting room. It is an opportunity to share with one another the rich experience we have as Christians on matters of faith and life. At the end of the meeting there is some tea and cake!
New members are always welcome, just come along.

St. Mary's and St. Paul's Walking Group: the group meets on Tuesday morning around 11am in the Museum car park at the bottom of Muir Street. Participants then walk together for around one hour and return to the Museum coffee shop for some refreshments. *Just come along and take part.*

White Mass for Health Care Professionals: the Annual White Mass for those who work in the health and care sectors will take place in Motherwell Cathedral on Sunday 9th February at 10.30am followed by refreshments in St. Bride's Hall. This Mass is held annually in a particular diocese in Scotland and this year Motherwell Diocese is hosting the Mass. Bishop Joseph Toal will be the Principal Celebrant.

A Message from Drama Kirk Hamilton regarding Passion Play 2020

This year's Passion Play is an exciting demonstration of Christian Unity, with 10 UK towns and cities performing the same play at the same time. Drama Kirk are organising the only Scottish performances, in Hamilton on Good Friday and in East Kilbride on Holy Saturday.

It would be wonderful to have the support of our local churches to take the Easter story into the heart of our local community. Please do consider how you might get involved, whether you might like to join the cast, or help with the sets by painting, building, or as a steward: the roles are endless and all are needed. Rehearsals began on Tuesday 7th in Hamilton Old Parish Church. However, if you are interested in taking part please give your name to Fr. O'Brien who will put you in touch with Drama Kirk Hamilton. *You will be made very welcome if you want to get involved.*

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on Saturday 18th January and we are asked to pray for closer unity within the Christian family.

An Appeal for Readers at St. Mary's and St. Paul's:

Reading the Holy Scriptures aloud for those gathered at the liturgy is an important ministry within the worshipping community. It is also a responsibility that requires preparation and commitment. Would you consider joining the rota of readers at St. Mary's and St. Paul's?

Mrs Paul Walker has volunteered to organise the rota of readers for us. If you would like to become a reader then please speak with Fr. O'Brien and leave your name and contact details and which Mass you normally attend.

Special thanks to Mrs. Vicky O'Hanlon who has organised the rota for a good number of years and thanks also to all those who have served as readers and who have recently stood down from reading. *Your service to us is greatly appreciated. Thank you.*

Please pray for those who have died recently:

Fr. Martin O'Keefe, Fr. John Breslin, Margaret Wallace, Helen Fitzpatrick, Thomas McCrory (New York), Mrs. Harty, Thomas Timlin, James Canning, Isobel Traynor, Ian McCandless

Please pray for those who have a Special Remembrance at this time:

John and Edna Wilson, Mary Wilson Snaith, Bill Cannon, James and Bridie Dailly, Mary Shevlin, James O'Donnell, Mary Malone, Catherine Carney, Margaret Phairs, John Harkins, Michael and Elizabeth McSorley, Margaret Bonnar, Joseph O'Neill, John O'Neill, Catherine Halloren, Frank Kearney, Rita and Gerard Kane, Catherine Devanney, Lynne Devanney, Daniel Devanney, Ian McNab, Brian Tansey, Anne Hunter, Willie Savage, Mary Dorman, Sheila Duffy, Agnes Sheerin, Agnes Daly, Mary Daly and deceased members of the Daly Family, Philip O'Donnell, Mariano and Raffaella Di Marco, Angelina Di Marco, Sam and Bridget Maxwell, Winnie Maxwell and all our deceased relatives and friends and all the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's over the years, *requiescant in pace.*