



St. Mary's R. C. Church

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St. Paul's R. C. Church

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Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest

Charity Number - SC011041

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Newsletter

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year

October 8th 2023

Dear parishioners at St. Mary's and St. Paul's,

*What difficult and moving days we are living through as a parish community as we move towards closing St. Paul's, with a special **Mass of Thanksgiving, on Sunday October 15th at 11am**, for all the graces and blessings received from this much loved church. We have so much to say 'thank you' for, especially for the priests and people, who have gone before us.*

Even though our regular 10.30am Mass will be held at St. Mary's, I am hoping that many of us will make the 11am Mass at St. Paul's our Sunday Mass on October 15th. Bishop Toal will be the main celebrant and it would be wonderful if we could fill the church for this special liturgy.

*As I said to you in last week's newsletter, the next stage of our journey together as St. Mary's and St. Paul's Parish will see us continue as the one parish, but with only one church building, and that will be the venerable old house of prayer that we know and love as St. Mary's Hamilton, the mother church of the whole of South Lanarkshire. Let us open wide the doors of St. Mary's and our own hearts in warm welcome to our friends and neighbours from St. Paul's.
Father O'Brien*

I offer here the times of the Liturgy for the coming week:

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

Rosary at 9.40am; Novena at 7pm

Tuesday October 10th: Requiem for Mr. Peter Lynas at St. Mary's at 10am

Reception on Monday at 6.15pm

Wednesday October 11th: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Thursday October 12th: Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

St. Paul's Primary will be with us; please join us if you are free

Saturday, October 14th

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday, October 15th

Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Paul's at 11am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

New Mass Times at St. Mary's Church: with the closure of St. Paul's please note the following changes to our schedule. From the weekend of 21/22 October the Vigil Mass will move to 5pm and the Sunday Masses will be at 9am and 10.30am. This will last for a trial period to see if in fact we will need two Sunday Morning Masses at St. Mary's. *I hope this proves to be the case.*

St. Paul's Primary School will come for their final Mass in the Church on Thursday 12th October at 10am; after Mass Mrs. McAuley, the Headteacher, has kindly invited us to a community Tea/Coffee morning in the school. If anyone has memorabilia, especially photographs etc., please bring them along to the school and a display will be made for our final Mass in St. Paul's on October 15th at 11am. ***Please join us for this special moment.***

Parish Pastoral Council meets this Tuesday evening in the Parish Meeting Room at 7pm; if you would like to make a suggestion or comment there are cards and pens at the back of the churches or email PPC1846@hotmail.com

Participating in the Synod on Synodality in the Diocese of Motherwell: as well as praying for the success of the Synod throughout the month of October in our parishes and communities, we will do so as a Diocese, led by Bishop Toal, at a special gathering for prayer and reflection on **Thursday 19th October between 7 and 9pm in the Xavier Centre, Carfin.** Delegates from each parish are invited, but anyone else who would like to attend is most welcome. Parish Priests will nominate 3 representatives from their parish.

At this gathering, time will be spent in prayer followed by discussion and discernment on the three questions presented in the Working Document for the Synod.

The three questions are:

How can we be more fully a sign and instrument of God and the unity of all humankind?

How can we better share gifts and tasks in the service of the Gospel?

What processes, structures and institutions are needed in a Missionary Synodal Church?

Prayer booklets and cards have also been printed so that the whole People of God can make intercession for the success of the Synod.

The Parish Walking Group meets every Tuesday at 11am at the Museum on Muir Street. Those gathered walk for around 1 hour and then enjoy some refreshments together in the Museum café. *New walkers are always welcome.*

CREDO, the parish faith-sharing group meets this Tuesday in the parish meeting room at 1pm. New members are always welcome and after the meeting there is a cup of tea together.

Please pray for,

Recently Deceased: Peter Lynas, Peter Devine, Stephen McQuillan, Jim Carr, Philomena Ogbudikey, Morag Lynas, Muriel McGeough, Kathleen Gallagher, Margaret Egan, Anne Whalin

Special Remembrance: James and Helen Lennon, Patrick and Joan Lennon, Mark Hughes, Thomas, Elizabeth and John Kane, Nessie Lynas, Cathleen Lynas Sheerin, Catherine O'Donnell, Rose Terrett, Helen Aiton, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.