



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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Year

October 18th 2020

My dear parishioners at St. Mary's and St. Paul's,

World Mission Sunday: this week we celebrate this special day in the life of the church when we seek to support our Christian brothers and sisters who live and work in challenging circumstances. Fr. Vincent Lockhart, National Director of Missio Scotland, has written the following letter:

“In his message for World Mission Sunday and in his new Encyclical, *Tutti Fratelli*, Pope Francis has called all of us to recognise that we are brothers and sisters who have a responsibility for one another. The terrible reality of the Covid 19 pandemic, he says, should make us recognise that our need for social relationships and our communal relationship with God are deeply connected. The Church is a family.

World Mission Sunday marks a tradition which goes all the way back to the earliest days of the Church where one community helps a Church community in need somewhere else. World Mission Sunday is a day when every person in every parish and every country where the Church is present celebrates together and shares what they have. It is the one Sunday of the year when Pope Francis asks the whole Church to help mission parishes and to reach out with Jesus' message of hope and love. The Catholics of Scotland have always responded with great generosity to the Pope's appeal.

In 1988 Fr. Pat Hennessy left his parish of Our Lady and St. Anne's in Hamilton to go to work among the people of the Andes Mountains in Peru, South America. One day some men came to ask him to visit their village higher up the mountain. Among those whom he met was 14 year old Pedro Bustamente. Soon after Fr. Pat's visit, a parish was established. Several years later Pedro entered seminary, was ordained a priest and is now the Bishop of Sicuani, a remote area in the high Andes where the people are among the poorest in the world. They have also been hit especially hard by the pandemic.

This year, in your name, Missio Scotland wishes to help the people of Llusco in Sicuani in three ways: firstly, to build a parish house in the village so that there can be a resident priest and the people can have Mass and the Sacraments; the house will also be a parish centre where the people can come together to share food and life; secondly, to help fund a feeding programme for disabled children in the Sicuani area which is run by the diocese; and thirdly to pray for the Church in Peru, especially in Sicuani.

Through whatever you can give this Mission Sunday, you can help those who are poor and most in need to experience the love of God. You can donate online by visiting www.missioscotland.com or by texting Missioscot to 70085 to donate £3.

With the prayers of everyone at Missio for your health and well-being,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Vincent Lockhart

National Director of Missio Scotland – the Pontifical Mission Societies

A Message from the Catholic Men's Society: members of the parish are invited to join us for our next Zoom meeting at 11am on Monday 26th October when we will be sharing a presentation on the work of 'Let the Children Live' our adopted charity, which helps street children in Medellin, Columbia. If you wish to join us contact laverypeter93@yahoo.com

Booking for Weekday Masses needs to be done on a weekly basis to allow for Requiems; booking for the coming week will be possible on Saturday evenings around 8pm. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

St. Mary's has seating for thirty-six people (the balcony is not to be used)

St. Paul's has seating for thirty people.

Please think about choosing St. Paul's for your visit as it may well be quieter there, especially on Sunday morning.

The Diocese has recommended that we have a booking system for places at the liturgy; this is for safety reasons and also to ensure that people are not disappointed if they arrive at church and discover they cannot enter. For each service the parish **must** retain details of all those attending to ensure that contact tracing can be carried out if necessary.

Please consult the parish website, stmarysandstpaulshamilton.org, to book a place through **Eventbrite** or by phoning the church house. Details of our services will be given on the parish website, but please be aware that timings for Mass on the Sunday are different to our normal programme:

Sunday services at St. Mary's: Saturday Vigil at 5.30pm and Sunday Morning at 10.30am
Sunday Services at St. Paul's: Saturday Vigil at 4pm and Sunday Morning at 9.15am.

The weekday Masses this week will be at St. Mary's:

Monday at 10.am;

Tuesday at 10am

Wednesday at 10am;

Please book through Eventbrite as this makes things easier for the stewards meeting you at the church door.

Please note that Government guidelines state that only 20 people are permitted to attend Requiems. This means that funerals should be looked upon as private family gatherings; thank you for your understanding and co-operation in this matter.

The guidelines from the Government advise that on entering the building you will be asked to wear a face-covering (this can be a scarf rather than a face-mask) and use the sanitizing gel for your hands. You will then be shown to a seat. As you leave the building you will be asked to use the gel once more. I am sure that we will very quickly adjust to this 'new normal' for the moment.

Thank you to those parishioners who have assisted in the re-opening of our churches by acting as stewards or helping with the cleaning of the benches. I know others would like to help and through time we will need you all as it looks as though we are in this for the long haul!

I am aware that the restrictions which are still in place mean that for the foreseeable future we will be much fewer in number for Sunday Mass. The Scottish Bishops have asked the clergy to remind parishioners that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. This leads me to suggest that you consider attending one of the weekday Masses, especially if you are retired or still

furloughed from your employment. This would also leave places free on the Sunday for those who are working.

Recently Deceased: Maureen Gillespie, Mary Smith, Jim Glancy, Charles Wallace, Margaret Hannah, James Dunbar, May Cairns, John Greaney (Oban), John Dalton, Jane Dalton, Dorothy Kirkham, Michelle Simpson, Thomas Cooper

Special Remembrance: Hugh Carlin, Mark Hughes, John Kane, James and Helen Lennon, Patrick and Joan Lennon, John and Julia O'Neil, Hugh and Mary Carr, and our own deceased relatives and friends and all the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's through the years, *requiescant in pace*.