

The Catholic Parish of St. Mary & St. Paul, Hamilton

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP
Parish Priest Fr Henry O'Brien
Charity Number SC011041

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Sunday Masses: Vigil 5pm, 9am and 10:30am **Confessions:** Saturday 4:30 – 4:50pm

Newsletter Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year September 21st, 2025

St. Mary and St. Paul's Befriending Group: the parish pastoral council is responding to a suggestion that was made about establishing a *Befriending Group* within our parish community. A few people have shown interest in taking this pastoral project forward and will meet on Tuesday 30th September at 7pm in the parish meeting room. If you are interested in finding out more about what membership of a *Befriending Group* involves, then please come along to the meeting next Tuesday evening.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) has been established as the means by which a person can explore the faith of the Catholic Church. Over a period of months, the RCIA offers a way to grow in knowledge of Jesus and the Catholic Faith, in the company of others. The RCIA takes place within a parish community so that the participants can share in the life of the church expressed in a local parish.

In the spirit of sharing what we ourselves have been freely given, we seek to offer the RCIA to those who are thinking about becoming a member of the Catholic Church. At present five people have expressed an interest in making this journey; there is still time for others to come forward. We are looking to begin in October, meeting once in the week, and receiving people into the Church at the Easter Vigil in 2026. Please speak with Fr. O'Brien if you are interested in becoming a member of the church.

Do you enjoy singing? Have you ever thought of joining our parish choir which leads the music at the 10.30am Mass on a Sunday? Peter Lavery, our parish organist, and the other members of the choir would be glad to welcome you, especially in the lead up to Christmas. Please have a word with Peter after the 10.30am Mass.

A Message from the Parish Strollers Group: we are still strolling along every Tuesday. We meet at the museum on Muir Street at 11am and walk for one hour; we have tea/coffee and a chat after our walk in the Museum café; new members are always welcome. Just turn up and stroll along with us!

I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:

Monday September 22nd Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am; Confessions at 6.30pm; Novena 7pm

Tuesday September 23rd: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Wednesday September 24th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am; adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 2.15pm

Thursday September 25th: Mass at 10am;

Rosary at 9.40am

You would be most welcome to join us for the daily liturgy at any time. It's a beautiful way to begin the

day. The Rosary provides a prayerful opportunity to intercede for our world and for those we feel special concern. The daily eucharist invites us to listen deeply to the word of God and to receive Jesus as Bread of Life, food for our journey through the hours of the day. Come as you are!

Don't carry cash but wish to donate?

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone to make a donation; you will be able to Gift Aid your donation using this method.

Parish Pastoral Council will meet on October 1st at 7pm in the parish meeting room. The PPC is there to serve the parish; your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please speak with one of the council members or email PPC1846@hotmail,com or put your suggestion in the box at the back of the church.

Defibrillator Training: Mr. Pat O'Meara will return to the parish on Saturday October 4th from 10 to 11am to offer some further training in the use of the Defibrillator, which is kept in the first confessional box and is clearly marked. This training is suitable for all ages; *please come along and learn how to save a life*.

Diocese of Motherwell Mass for Life takes place at Carfin Grotto on the last Thursday of every month for Rosary, Confession and Adoration at 7pm, and Mass at 7.30pm; celebrant this month is Fr. Christopher Igwe, one of our newly ordained priests. *All welcome*.

Parish Coffee Morning: please join us in the parish hall after the morning Masses on September 21st to mark Fairtrade Fortnight; *proceeds to the Hamilton Foodbank*.

Recently Deceased: Albert Bebbington, William Monaghan, James O'Donnell,

Special Remembrance: John Rimmer, John Jones, John and Margaret Flynn, Eddie Power, James and Helen Lennon, Patrick and Joan Lennon, Pat Grace, Rosaleen and Bernard Mournian, and all our own deceased relatives and friends, and all the benefactors of our parish.

For reflection:

What life can compare to this? Sitting quietly by the window, I watch the leaves fall And the flowers bloom, As the seasons come and go.

Hsueh-Tou (982-1052)