



**St. Mary's R. C. Church**

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP  
Tel: 01698 423552



**St. Paul's R. C. Church**

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Tel: 01698 423552

**Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest**

**Charity Number - SC011041**

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

**Newsletter**

**The Eighth Sunday of the Year**

**February 27th 2022**

*My dear parishioners,*

I hope this finds you well. In this Sunday's gospel we hear Jesus conclude his Sermon on the Mount; he uses proverbs and short parables to prompt his hearers to change their thinking, and then their actions. It seems timely advice for us all as we approach the holy season of Lent. The spiritual journey towards Easter provides us with an opportunity to step back and reflect on how we are living the gift of life entrusted to us. The church offers us tools to help us and these are tried and tested by many who have gone before us, namely, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The invitation is to live in a more prayerful and reflective way, pondering the word of God and trying to live that word in our daily lives; fasting invites us to live a more simple life, making do with less food, using what we have rather than buying more and more; almsgiving invites us to make a place in our hearts for those who are the poorest of the poor, often through no fault of their own. Let's give SCIAF's wee box a place at our kitchen table and together we can do something beautiful for those who need us to share with them.

**This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday** and it is a day of fasting and abstinence; it usually means eating less than we normally do and abstaining from meat. Of course if you don't usually eat meat, then you abstain from something else. It helps to get us ready, to prepare our hearts for the great spiritual pilgrimage of Lent which begins on the First Sunday of Lent. Due to the ongoing recommendations around the transmission of the Covid virus, ashes will not be distributed, but we can receive them spiritually as we gather for the liturgy of Ash Wednesday. I look forward very much to doing this with you here at St. Mary's and St. Paul's. Let us make this a special Lent, offering our prayer, fasting and almsgiving to help build the culture of peace and justice in our fragile world.

*Father O'Brien*

**I offer here the schedule for the liturgy:**

**Saturday, February 26th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm**

**Sunday, February 27th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am**

Monday, February 28th Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday, March 1st Requiem Mass at St. Mary's at 9.30am for Harry Doyle

**Ash Wednesday, March 2nd**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 10am**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 12 noon and 7pm**

Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

**Saturday, March 5th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm**

**Sunday, March 6th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am**

Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

**Bishop Toal has asked that a special collection be taken up next Sunday in every parish for the Sick and Retired Clergy Fund.** *As always, a little from us all goes a long way. Let us try and support our diocese as best we can.*

**Thank you** to those who signed up to make the synodal journey on four Wednesday evenings in March, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. A reminder will be given nearer to the time.

**A Message from The Beginning Experience:** we are holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at St. Mary's Monastery, Kinnoul, Perth. For further details please contact Catherine on 0131 665 3383 or email: [beginningexperiencescotland@hotmail.com](mailto:beginningexperiencescotland@hotmail.com). Completed applications must be returned by March 12<sup>th</sup>,

**CREDO**, the parish prayer group, will meet this Tuesday 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 do not include donations in these requests.*

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**All who are ill and have asked us to pray for them:**

**Recently Deceased:** Harry Doyle, Sadie McKinlay, Jimmy Tyrrell, Mark Jenkinson, John Haley, Peter O'Neill, Jeanette McLean.

**Special Remembrance,** Sheena Bogan, Robert Bogan, Kathleen Tiernan, Christopher Norris, John Lynas, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*