



St. Mary's R. C. Church

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP



St. Paul's R. C. Church

Backmuir Road, Hamilton, ML3 0PX

Parish Priest - Fr Henry O'Brien

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Newsletter

Palm Sunday

March 24th 2024

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

I hope this finds you and your families well as our Lenten pilgrimage moves towards its conclusion. Holy Week is a journey of profound love as we contemplate together the extravagant love which God has for the human race and indeed for the whole of creation. Let us be generous in our response, *for love begets love.*

I offer here the Schedule for the Holy Week Liturgy:

Monday March 25th: Requiem Mass for Annie O'Connell at 10am; *reception on Sunday at 6pm*
Confessions at 6.15pm; Novena at 7pm

Tuesday March 26th: Mass at 10am
Stations of the Cross at 9.40am; Confessions after Mass

Wednesday March 27th: Mass at 10am
Rosary at 9.40am; Confessions after Mass

Sacred Triduum

Holy Thursday March 28th: Chrism Mass in Motherwell Cathedral at 11am
Bishop Toal warmly invites the clergy and people of the diocese to join him for this special Liturgy during which the priests renew their priestly promises and the Holy Oils are blessed.

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm; *all are welcome to this special liturgy when we celebrate the Institution of the Eucharist; watching at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 9.30pm*

Good Friday, March 29th; *today, with great reverence, we remember that the Lord Jesus died on the Cross out of love for us; it is a day of fasting and abstinence.*

Stations of the Cross at 12 noon, with veneration of the Cross

Solemn Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, 3pm

Stations of the Cross at 7pm, with veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday, March 30th: Easter Vigil 8pm

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Mass at 9am and 10.30am

Parish Conversation about the Wellspring Pastoral Project: please join us in the parish hall on **Tuesday March 26th at 7-8.30pm** to share your thoughts about this important initiative in our Diocese. Please be part of this conversation: *How do you feel about Wellspring? What works well in our parish? What or how can we improve? How can we collectively do more? Where do you want our parish to be in 10 years?* These are some of the questions we have been asked to reflect upon; what you think really matters. Please sign the sheet at the back of the church if you intend to come along; this will enable us to plan for the evening. *Thank you.*

‘Father Into Your Hands’ is the title of an evening of choral music, plainsong and traditional hymns which contemplate the Passion and Death of Christ. This event will be presented by the Diocesan Choir on **Tuesday 26th March at 7.30pm in the Cathedral Motherwell.** Admission is free and all are cordially invited to come along and support this event.

Diocese of Motherwell Youth Ministry invites young people (16-25 years) for a Palm Sunday Reflection, *‘Remain here and keep watch’* (Mark 14:34) on Sunday evening at 6.30pm in St. Bride’s Hall, Coursington Road Motherwell. Please mention this to the young members of your family and let them know they will be warmly welcome; these prayerful evenings bring young people together to reflect on their faith.

CREDO, the parish faith-sharing group meets this Tuesday in the parish meeting room at 1 o’clock; new members are always welcome and some tea and biscuits are shared together at the end of the meeting.

Lenten reflection Group on Wednesday Evening in the parish meeting room at 7pm, March 27th; Mr. Ronnie Boyd has offered to lead the group and if you would like to take part please contact him on 07803941573 or ronnieboyd@icloud.com

A Message from St. Andrew’s Hospice: Make a Will Month – March 2024: make or update your Will and support St. Andrew’s Hospice during the month of March. Several Lanarkshire Legal Firms have agreed to write a basic Will or update an existing Will and waive their legal fee, in return for a donation to St. Andrew’s Hospice. For further information please contact Lorna McCafferty, Trusts, Legacy and Individual Giving Manager at St. Andrew’s Hospice on 01236 772087 or email lorna.mccafferty@standrews.scot.nhs.uk

Bank Mandates: the Diocese of Motherwell recently transferred all parish bank accounts to the Bank of Scotland. All those who support the parish through a Standing Order paid into Virgin Money, please check, when you receive your March/April statements, that your contribution has been automatically transferred to the new parish account with Bank of Scotland. *Thank you.*

St Patrick’s Night Celebration: thank you to all who supported this event and to those who gave so generously of their time to make it happen; thank you also to those who entertained, especially Laura who came along specially. *It was a lovely evening and greatly appreciated.*

Coffee Morning: thank you to all who supported the coffee morning last Sunday and thanks to those who served and those who handed in home baking; we donated £250 to the Hamilton Foodbank to support their outreach to our neighbours in challenging times. *Thank you.*

Recently Deceased: Annie O’Connell, Moya McDermott, Philip Wilson

Special Remembrance: Scott Docherty, Mary O’Donnell, Cardinal Keith Patrick O’Brien, Bishop Vincent Logan, Alec and May Morgan and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary’s and St. Paul’s.

*‘For God sent his Son into the world,
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved’.*
John 3:17