



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

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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**

**Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year**

**August 28<sup>th</sup> 2022**

*My dear parishioners,*

I hope this finds you well and enjoying this latter part of summer with its mixture of sunshine and showers. It is Scotland after all!

During the week those who had met over the course of four Wednesday evenings during Lent to discuss the new synodal path asked for by Pope Francis, returned to the church hall to share the fruit of our shared deliberations and their own further reflections on three important areas: communion, participation and mission. It was clear that there is some real enthusiasm for working together to build up the life of our parish. I am grateful to those who gave of their time. Shortly the summary of the Motherwell diocesan synodal journey will be made available to every parish and that might be the time to have a further general parish meeting to hear from more parishioners. What is clear is that we need to face the future together.

In a few weeks time Bishop Toal will visit the parish to offer thanks for the 175 years of ministry carried out from St. Mary's Church, and of course St. Paul's was a daughter parish, so it is indeed a celebration for us all. When I look back at some of my predecessors as parish priest it is clear to me that together with their people they faced the challenges that life brought to them and some of these were very great indeed, the poverty of the beginnings in 1846, the heroic response during and after two world wars, the renovation of St. Mary's in light of the renewal called for by the Second Vatican Council and the implementing of its teaching, the great efforts of the Renew programme asked for by Bishop Devine and responded to so enthusiastically here.

This not only humbles and inspires, it gives us confidence and strength that we too can meet whatever challenges come our way and we can do it together, priest and people of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, united in the one Spirit of our Lord Jesus.

*Father O'Brien*

**I offer here the times of the liturgy in the days ahead:**

**Monday August 29<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am**

*Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour at 7pm*

*Confessions 6.15pm-6.45pm*

**Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am**

**Thursday September 1<sup>st</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am**

### **Saturday September 3rd**

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

### **Sunday September 4th**

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

**Children's Liturgy: at St. Mary's and St. Paul's Parish** we warmly welcome children to our Sunday Masses. The presence of families with young children helps to create the feeling of a living community who have gathered together to worship God. At the 10.30 am Mass on Sundays at St. Mary's we make special provision for children through the Children's Liturgy. This is designed to help the children to hear the Gospel week by week in a way that is appropriate to them.

**The need for adult helpers:** we are hoping that some new adult helpers will volunteer; with enough people on the rota the task is made easier. Please speak with Fr. O'Brien or Rona after the 10.30am Mass.

**Parish Choir:** it is good to have music and singing at Mass; it lifts the liturgy to new levels of prayer and thanksgiving. Recently we have been blessed to have some new members join the choir; is this something you would consider? Please speak with Peter Lavery, our parish organist, after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday.

**Altar Servers at St. Mary's and St. Paul's:** how wonderful it would be to have more altar servers; if you have received your First Holy Communion and would like to serve on the altar please speak with your mum and dad; it is an important responsibility and will demand your time and attention! *All are welcome.*

**CREDO,** the parish prayer group will gather in the meeting room next Tuesday, September 6th at 1pm and afterwards enjoy some tea together around 2.30pm. *New members are always welcome.*

**The Beginning Experience** is holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood; the weekend will take place from 30<sup>th</sup> September-2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022 at the Conforti Centre, Coatbridge; for details contact: Catherine on 0131 665 3383. Completed applications must be returned by 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022. *People from the parish who have taken part in this retreat have spoken highly of it and would recommend it to others.*

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**Recently Deceased:** Kevin McGuire, Jean Ward, Winifred Begley, Guiseppe Treta, Delfina Quintilianni

**Special Remembrance:** Eilidh McHugh, Jaime Donnelly, Mark Hughes, John Kane, Janet Higgins, Stephanie Higgins and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*