



**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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 6th 2025

My dear parishioner,

I hope this finds you and your families well as we enter the final stage of our journey through the holy season of Lent; we have reached the Fifth Sunday of Lent; I offer the following words from Pope Benedict for your reflection:

“The Liturgy today presents to us the Gospel episode of Jesus who saves a woman condemned to death, St. John the Evangelist highlights one detail; while his accusers are insistently interrogating him, Jesus bends down and starts writing with his finger on the ground. St. Augustine notes that this gesture portrays Jesus as the divine legislator; in fact, God wrote the law with his finger on the tablets of stone. Thus, Jesus is the Legislator; he is Justice in person. And what is his sentence? “Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her.” These words are full of the disarming power of truth that pulls down the wall of hypocrisy and opens consciences to a greater justice, that of love, in which consists the fulfilment of every precept.” Pope Benedict XVI

Thank you for the generous response to last Sunday’s collection for SCIAF; our total came to £2,700; when our wee boxes are returned at the end of Lent, the combined total will be forwarded to SCIAF to support their good work.

Pope Francis urges us, *“to refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity.”*

Diocese of Motherwell: Youth Ministry Summit: for new and experienced parish volunteers; St. Bride’s Hall, Motherwell, Saturday 12th April, 9.30am to 3.30pm: a day of inspirational talks, practical training, discussions and useful resource handouts; the overarching theme is *Next Generation Discipleship*; the Keynote speaker is Beccy Roseman, chaplaincy co-ordinator in the Archdiocese of Birmingham; Register at <https://forms.gle/6HUG1Ppdp2bwP2gMA>.

This conference would be of real assistance to anyone with a special interest in the pastoral care of young people in the life of the church. *If any parishioner would like to represent the parish, then please let Fr. O’Brien know.*

I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:

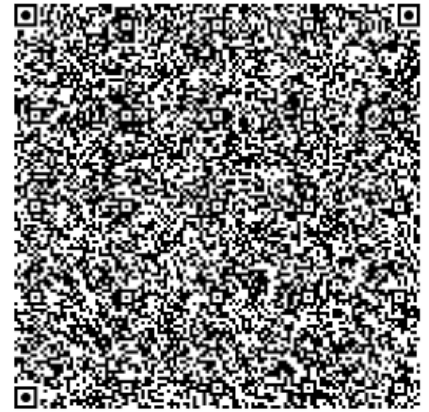
Monday April 7th: Requiem for Robert McGuire at 10am,
Confessions at 6.30pm; Novena at 7pm

Tuesday April 8th: Mass at 10am
Stations of the Cross at 9.35am

Wednesday April 9th: Mass at 10am
Rosary at 9.40am; Confessions after Mass

Thursday April 10th: Mass at 10am
Rosary at 9.40am

Friday April 11th: Mass at 10am



The Daily Liturgy enables us to listen to the words of Jesus and to find real hope in what he says and does; the moment of Holy Communion is indeed a moment of personal encounter with Jesus. *If you are free on weekdays, please consider joining us for the rosary and Mass as part of our parish pilgrimage of hope,*

The Parish Council meets this coming Wednesday in the parish meeting room at 7pm; your comments and suggestions are very welcome; please use the comment box at the back of the church or speak with one of the Council members or email PPC1846@hotmail.com

The Parish Council invites you to come around to the hall for a roll and sausage at our Easter Bunny Breakfast on Palm Sunday, April 13th, after both morning Masses. The Easter Bunny will hop into the hall to say hello and will have some goodies for the children. There will also be an opportunity to purchase Fairtrade goods and Easter Eggs. *All welcome.*

Credo, the Parish Faith Sharing Group meets on Tuesday in the meeting room at 1 o'clock; new members are always welcome.

Motherwell Diocesan Choir present "The Way of The Cross"; a performance of The Crucifixion by John Stainer and other choral works, Thursday April 15th in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, East Kilbride at 7.30pm; *admission free and all welcome.*

Recently Deceased: Robert McGuire, Tom McLean, Jean McFadden, Nan Dalton, Marion King, Robert Dorricott, Christina McKelvie MSP, Jimmy McKenna, Emma Higginson-Walsh (Tralee), Pat Connachan

Special Remembrance: Ann Quigley, Moira Boylan, John and Edna Wilson, Mary Snaith, Kevin Bryant, Ella and Joe Paterson, John and Hannah McGuire, Henry and Isabella Morgan, Hugh Morgan, Jim Russell, and all our own deceased relatives and friends.

Gift Aid Envelopes: the new envelopes can be uplifted from the back of the church; very sincere thanks to all who help support the parish through Gift Aid. If you pay tax on your Income, please think about Gift Aiding your contributions to the church. The form takes but a moment to complete and the parish receives an extra 25% on your giving. Last year we received £25,000 from the Inland Revenue in Tax Repayment. Sign up forms are available in the sacristy or at the back of the church. If you wish to donate by Bank Mandate (Standing Order) fill in both parts of the form; if you wish to donate by envelopes, then fill in only the second part of the form. Please return to Mrs. Mary Hoggan or Fr. O'Brien as soon as possible to enable us to start reclaiming the tax repayments on your church donations.