



St. Mary's R. C. Church

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St. Paul's R. C. Church

Backmuir Road, Hamilton, ML3 0PX
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Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest

Charity Number - SC011041

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Newsletter

Third Sunday of Easter

May 1st 2022

My dear parishioners,

I hope this finds you well. Already we have reached the third Sunday of the beautiful Easter season, this time of *Alleluia* for the gift of the Risen Christ. In the liturgy we are listening to some of the resurrection texts and I thought you might like to read the following paragraph written by Pope St. John Paul II reflecting on this Sunday's gospel:

“It is the Lord!” (Jn 21:7). This exclamation of the Apostle John emphasises the intense emotion experienced by the disciples on recognizing the risen Jesus, who appeared to them for the third time on the shore of the Sea of Tiberius. After a long night of loneliness and toil, the dawn arrives and his appearance radically changes everything: the darkness is overcome by light, the fruitless work becomes an easy and abundant catch of fish, the feeling of tiredness and loneliness is transformed into joy and peace. Since then, these same sentiments enliven the church. If at a superficial level it sometimes seems that the darkness of evil and the toil of everyday life have the upper hand, the Church knows with certainty that the light of Easter now shines eternally on those who follow Christ. The great message of the Resurrection fills the hearts of the faithful with inner joy and renewed hope.
(St. John Paul II)

It is worth remembering that Pope St. John Paul II studied for the priesthood in secret in Poland during the Second World War, so as a young man he experienced the darkness of evil that he mentions in his text. The Church's certainty that the light of Easter now shines eternally must have given him and countless others hope that this evil would also be overcome. May this same hope strengthen the people of Ukraine and people of other places too that are experiencing the terrible chaos that great evil brings into our world. In such moments we join with the faith community who have gone before us and from the depth of our being we too say, *“It is the Lord, he is risen, Alleluia, Alleluia!”*

And may this certain faith strengthen all of us at St. Mary's and St. Paul's,
Fr.O'Brien

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

Saturday April 30th

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday May 1st

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Monday 2nd May Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday 3rd May, Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Wednesday 4th May, Requiem for Mrs Ann Cassidy at St. Mary's at 11.30am

Thursday 5th May, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Saturday 7th May

Vigil at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday 8th May

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Monday 9th May, Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday 10th May, Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Wednesday 11th May, Mass at *St. Mary's at 10am*

CREDO, the parish prayer group meets this Tuesday, May 3rd 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 remember in your prayers the pupils from St. Mary's Primary who will be celebrating these special sacraments:

First Holy Communion at St. Mary's:

Saturday 14th May at 11am

Saturday 21st May at 11am

Confirmations at St. Mary's:

Wednesday 1st June at 7pm

Please remember in your prayers:

Those who are ill: Rosemary Scanlan

Recently Deceased: Ann Cassidy, George Scott, Michael McLaren, Nancy O'Donnell, Margaret Torrance, Norman Millard, Lukas Ganch

Special Remembrance: Krystyna Jasniewicz, James McMenemy, Catherine Burns, Hannah Devlin, Brenda Reilly, Jeannie Lynas McKenna, Hugh and Mary Robertson, John and Cathie Scanlan and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*