



**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**

**Twenty-Second Sunday of Year**

**August 30th 2020**

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

I hope this message finds you well and in good spirits despite the many challenges we continue to face at this time. The parish has received a letter from Bishop William Nolan, Bishop of Galloway, writing in his capacity as President of the Justice and Peace Commission. He writes:

“It is now five years since Pope Francis published his encyclical *Laudato Si'* urging us to care for our common home. The encyclical highlights the urgent need for us to heal our relationship with creation and with each other. As Scotland eases out of Lockdown, may I remind you of the Season of Creation which runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> (World Day of Prayer for Creation) to October 4th (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). This is an opportunity for all of us to pray, reflect and respond to the challenging words of Pope Francis: *“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?”* (LS: 160).

As the pandemic and the climate crisis rages on, now more than ever we must respond to *“the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor”* (LS, 49), conscious that our brothers and sisters in the world's poorest communities have done least to contribute to the ecological crisis but are already bearing the brunt of its consequences.

SCIAF, Justice and Peace Scotland and Scottish Catholic Education Services have prepared a series of online events to engage with Catholics across Scotland on the themes of *Laudato Si'* and Creation. You will find a full list of events on [www.sciaf.org.uk/events](http://www.sciaf.org.uk/events).

In order to overcome the corona virus pandemic we have been forced these past few months to change our way of life, may we now be prepared to make deep and long term changes that are necessary to avoid ecological disaster and to care for our common home. May we remember each other in our prayers, particularly the poor, who are already suffering the consequences of climate change”,

Kind regards

+William Nolan

Bishop of Galloway and President of the Justice and Peace Commission

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**First Holy Communion at St. Mary's and St. Paul's:** discussions are underway between the parish and our primary schools to plan for the celebration of this important moment in the lives of some of our young parishioners. It is necessary of course to follow the Government guidelines for churches and we are planning accordingly. Further information will be given as soon as possible.

**A Message from the Catholic Men's Society:** the CMS continue to meet via Zoom on Monday mornings at 11am to discuss matters of faith and practice in the modern world. Any men of the

parish who wish to join in this conversation would be most welcome. Please contact Peter Lavery at [laverypeter93@yahoo.com](mailto:laverypeter93@yahoo.com)

**Booking for Mass through Eventbrite:** to book for the Saturdays and Sundays of September please consult the parish website on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 8pm.

**Booking for Weekday Masses** needs to be done on a weekly basis to allow for Requiems; booking for the coming week will be possible on Saturday evenings at 8pm. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

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**St. Mary's has seating for thirty-six people (the balcony is not to be used)**

**St. Paul's has seating for thirty people.**

*Please think about choosing St. Paul's for your visit as it may well be quieter there, especially on Sunday morning.*

**The Diocese has recommended that we have a booking system for places at the liturgy;** this is for safety reasons and also to ensure that people are not disappointed if they arrive at church and discover they cannot enter. For each service the parish **must** retain details of all those attending to ensure that contact tracing can be carried out if necessary.

**Please consult the parish website, [stmarysandstpaulshamilton.org](http://stmarysandstpaulshamilton.org),** to book a place through **Eventbrite** or by phoning the church house. Details of our services will be given on the parish website, but please be aware that timings for Mass on the Sunday are different to our normal programme:

**Sunday services at St. Mary's: Saturday Vigil at 5.30pm and Sunday Morning at 10.30am**  
**Sunday Services at St. Paul's: Saturday Vigil at 4pm and Sunday Morning at 9.15am.**

**The weekday Masses this week will be at St. Mary's:**

**Monday at 10am is the Requiem for Mrs. Catherine Burns, requiescat in pace**

**Tuesday at 10am**

**Wednesday at 10am**

**Thursday at 10am is the Requiem for Mrs. Sarah Lyle requiescat in pace**

*Please book through Eventbrite as this makes things easier for the stewards meeting you at the church door.*

*Please note that Government guidelines state that only 20 people are permitted to attend Requiems. This means that funerals should be looked upon as private family gatherings; thank you for your understanding and co-operation in this matter.*

**The guidelines from the Government advise** that on entering the building you will be asked to wear a face-covering (this can be a scarf rather than a face-mask) and use the sanitizing gel for your hands. You will then be shown to a seat. As you leave the building you will be asked to use the gel once more. I am sure that we will very quickly adjust to this 'new normal' for the moment.

**Thank you to those parishioners who have assisted in the re-opening** of our churches by acting as stewards or helping with the cleaning of the benches. I know others would like to help and through time we will need you all as it looks as though we are in this for the long haul!

**I am aware that the restrictions which are still in place** mean that for the foreseeable future we will be much fewer in number for Sunday Mass. The Scottish Bishops have asked the clergy to remind parishioners that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. This leads me to suggest that you consider attending one of the weekday Masses, especially if you are retired or still

furloughed from your employment. This would also leave places free on the Sunday for those who are working.

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**Recently Deceased:** Catherine Burns, Sarah Lyle, James Paul Glancy, Elizabeth Mudie, John Cosgrove, Jane Dalton, Robert Reid, Walter Stewart, Kenneth Smith, John Lynch, Catherine McKee, Mary McLaughlin, Helen Lowe, William (Bill) Kane, Vicky Glancy, Frances Murphy, Christopher Airlie, Sarah McBain, Mark Murray, Jack McCormick, Rita Lyons

**Special Remembrance:** Jaime Donnelly, Eilidh McHugh, Brian and Betty Ward, Ellen McCourt, Janet Higgins, Winnie Maxwell, Karen Wilson, Mark Hughes, John Kane, Edward Power, Paul McGowan, Elizabeth Welsh, Bill Malone, Kevin Doran, and our own deceased relatives and friends and all the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's through the years, *requiescant in pace*.