



St. Mary's R. C. Church

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP
Tel: 01698 423552



St. Paul's R. C. Church

Backmuir Road, Hamilton, ML3 0PX
Tel: 01698 423552

Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest

Charity Number - SC011041

www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org

Newsletter

Trinity Sunday

June 7th 2020

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

Today the church's sacred liturgy invites us to celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This too should have been a very busy and joyful weekend in the parish with the celebration of First Holy Communion at St. Paul's. Let us pray for all the families who were looking forward to this special moment in the life of a son or daughter, this beautiful moment of receiving Jesus in the eucharist for the first time. We can look forward to celebrating the sacraments together again at St. Mary's and at St. Paul's when it is safe to do so.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity belongs to the very heart of our Christian faith; I offer these thoughtful words from Pope Benedict for your reflection:

After the Easter Season that ended last Sunday with Pentecost, the Liturgy has returned to 'Ordinary Time'. This does not mean, however, that Christians must be any less committed: indeed, having entered divine life through the sacraments, we are called daily to be open to the action of divine Grace, to progress in love of God and neighbour.

This Sunday of the Most Holy Trinity, in a certain sense sums up God's revelation which was brought about through the Paschal Mysteries of Christ: Christ's death and resurrection, his ascension to the right hand of the Father and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The human mind and language are inadequate to explain the relationship that exists between the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit; yet the Fathers of the Church sought to illustrate the mystery of the Triune God by living it with deep faith in their own lives.

Pope Benedict XVI

I hope you find these words from Pope Benedict helpful. We too are asked to live with deep faith the mystery of the Triune God, who is the mystery of divine love, made known to us by Jesus, the beloved One. Our discipleship of Jesus invites us to enter into this mystery, the life of communion with God and communion with one another. We are not created to be in competition with one another, but rather to be in communion with one another. This is part of the Good News of the Gospel, which demands a profound interior conversion.

Father O'Brien

The Bishops of Scotland have written a Pastoral Letter to the Catholic Community expressing their prayers and good wishes and it can be located on their website: www.bcos.org.uk

Children's Liturgy Resources for Trinity Sunday: <https://youtu.be/tYYdM5uUDGI>

Let me share with you the names of those who have died during these weeks when we have been unable to gather for Mass:

John Boyce
James Donnelly,
Mary Teresa Lees,
Silvio (Steve) Ferri,
Tess McMahon,
Helen Brown,
Margaret McCluskey,
James McDougall,
John Henderson,
Tom O'Brien,
James McMenemy,
Frances Murphy,
Brian Porteous,
Susan McAteer,
Margaret Boyd,
Julia (Sheila) O'Neill
Stephen Mann
William McKane

I know you will remember these men and women in your prayers and also their families, who said farewell to a loved one in the most difficult of circumstances. It is painful not to have the beauty of the Requiem Mass in the church and the comfort and strength that comes from the good presence of family and friends and neighbours.

A Greeting to the Communities at St. Mary's and St. Paul's Primary Schools

My dear friends at St. Mary's and St. Paul's Primary Schools,

You are often in my thoughts and prayers, especially when I celebrate Holy Mass each morning in St. Mary's Church or St. Paul's Church. I can tell you that Cadzow Street and Backmuir Road have become very quiet without you coming and going from school. I miss your joyful presence very much.

I have always looked forward to those special days when you walked from school to church so that we could celebrate Mass together. The parishioners and I looked forward to seeing you, from Primary 1 to Primary 7, accompanied by your teachers and the support staff. I cannot tell you how special it is for me as your parish priest to look out at you from the altar and to see the whole community gathered for Mass. It is a wonderful sight!

We are always at our very best when we gather together around the altar with Jesus, who loves each one of us very much. I miss hearing your voices reading the Holy Scriptures and saying your prayers and I miss very much listening to your wonderful singing. A day without music is like a day without sunshine!

The lovely month of May, dedicated to Our Lady would have been a very busy month for us with the celebration of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. We were all looking forward to these special moments together. Please tell your parents that I am thinking about them also and I look forward to celebrating these sacraments with you when it is safe to do so.

I would like to say a special word to the pupils of Primary 7. I cannot tell you how sorry I am that you are missing the final months of your time with us at St. Mary's Primary and at St. Paul's Primary. Normally all sorts of lovely events would be enjoyed together as a way of saying thanks for your years together at St. Mary's or at St. Paul's.

How you have grown and in so many ways! I hope you might get the chance to look at a photo of yourself in Primary 1 and then to look at yourself in the mirror. I think you will see just how much you have grown and changed since your Mum and Dad brought you into the Primary 1 classroom. I think you will agree there is so much to say 'thank you' for.

Of course you will be looking forward to beginning a new stage of your life at High School. I pray that the Holy Spirit will give each one of you the graces you need for the years ahead. May you be happy and safe at High School.

Finally, I look forward to the joyful day when we can all meet again at St. Mary's or at St. Paul's to celebrate the eucharist together. In the meantime look after each other with kindness and care,
Yours sincerely,
Father O'Brien