



## **The Catholic Parish of St. Mary & St. Paul, Hamilton**

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP

Parish Priest Fr Henry O'Brien

Charity Number SC011041

[www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org](http://www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org)

01698 423552

**Sunday Masses:** Vigil 5pm, 9am and 10:30am

**Confessions:** Saturday 4:30 – 4:50pm

**Newsletter**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**December 21st 2025**

### **Bishop Toal's Christmas Message 2025**

**At Christmas this year** we bring to a close the Jubilee Year of 2025; let us give thanks for the blessings received and the Spirit of Hope renewed. Through Advent that same Hope is stirred up within us, as we look forward with expectancy to the celebration of Our Saviour's Birth, and to the Lord coming again in glory and majesty. The Advent liturgies have called on us to be ready and watching so that "*we may inherit the great promise in which now we dare hope*". Yes, we are indeed *Pilgrims of Hope*, and each Christmas is a milestone on our earthly pilgrimage and an opportunity to be refreshed and renewed in our personal faith and its practice in the community of the Catholic Church.

**It was the 1700th Anniversary recently of the Council of Nicea**, whose great proclamation of the Christian Faith we profess at Sunday Mass. We do this with special fervour at the Christmas Masses, emphasising in particular the Lord's Incarnation, his birth at Bethlehem, "*For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man*". We are a people of faith in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and we are proud to profess it, particularly on Christmas Day. So let us be at Mass to do so!

**Of course, we need to put our faith into action** through our works of charity, our love for our neighbour, and Christmas is a time of generosity and sharing with those we love. Let us try also to extend our kindness to those who are more in need, both locally and further afield, recognising that the Lord asks us to do so in his name and with his compassion and self-giving. The Word did become flesh and continues to dwell among us through those who show his love.

**I wish you all a very Happy and Blessed Christmas**, praying especially that the Peace sung of by the Angels at Bethlehem may reign within and among us, and throughout the whole world. May the Lord bless you, your families and friends, and keep you strong in faith, hope, and charity.

With my prayers and best wishes

Yours in Christ,

+ Joseph Toal

### **Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:**

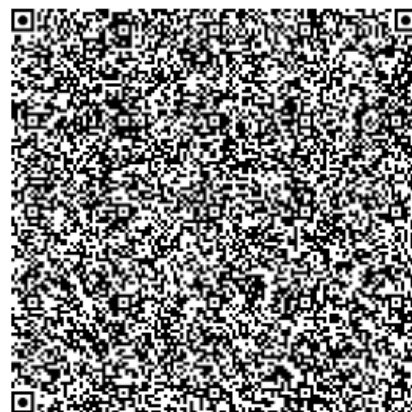
**Monday December 22<sup>nd</sup>: Requiem for John McCready at 9.30am**

**Tuesday December 23<sup>rd</sup>: Requiem for Camille Lynch at 10am**

**Wednesday December 24<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Eve Vigil at 4pm; First Mass of Christmas at 8pm**

**Thursday December 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day Mass at 10.30am**

**Friday December 26<sup>th</sup>: Mass at 10am**



**The church's daily liturgy is a wonderful gift and enables us to journey with Jesus, Mary and the Saints every day of the year;** the daily Eucharist offers us the opportunity to contemplate the great mystery of Christ day by day: it is a beautiful way to prepare for Christmas.

**Don't carry cash but wish to donate?**

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone to make a donation; you will be able to Gift Aid your donation using this method.

**St. Mary and St. Paul's Parish, Senior Citizens Christmas Meal, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> December, John Carrigan's Restaurant, Eddlewood Toll at 2pm.** Attendance Forms will be available this week at the back of the church and the tear off should be returned by 20/21 December. *Please join us for this very enjoyable afternoon together.*

**Sincere thanks:** Nan Dalton, who died in 2025, left a bequest of £10,000 to St. Mary's and St. Paul's Parish; as a parish community we are deeply grateful for such kindness and we will remember Nan in prayer among the benefactors of our parish, *requiescat in pace*.

**Thank you to everyone who helped make Santa's Sausage Sunday such a good parish event; £300 has been donated to the Hamilton Foodbank for Christmas.**

**Recently Deceased:** Camille Lynch, John McCready, Mary McFall

**Special Remembrance:** Margaret Duffin, Jaime Donnelly, Anna and Elizabeth Donnelly, William Ward, Alice and Michael Sweeney, Frank Docherty, Catherine Reilly, Frank Lyons, Mark Hughes, Thomas, Elizabeth and John Kane, Catherine Muldoon, Eilidh McHugh, Matt and Betty Paton, Catherine and Daniel McKenna, Richard and Catherine Purcell, Walter Stewart Snr, and Jnr., Agnes Stewart, Joan Stewart, Nan Dalton, deceased members of the Dalton and McKenna families, John and Hannah McGuire, deceased members of the McGuire and Gallacher families, John Fitzpatrick Jnr., Hugh Morgan, Minnie and Edward Morgan, Anna and Alec Darragh, Maeve Mulrooney, Kevin Bryant, Ella and Joe Paterson, Anna McAdam, Catherine Seagreave, John and Elizabeth Fulton, James Fulton, Margaret Bonar, Gerard Falsey, Mary and John Dowds, Betty and Tommy Falsey, Mary Hepburn, James Keeney, George Cree, Jan and Mary Kozak, Elizabeth and James McCafferty, Bernard and Rosaleen Mournian, Harry and Patricia Doyle, Helen and James Lennon, Joan and Patrick Lennon, deceased members of the Morgan, Currie and O'Brien families and all our own deceased relatives and friends, and all the benefactors of our parish.

**Diocese of Motherwell Website:  
for good and reliable information about events across our Diocese  
please consult [www.rcdom.org.uk](http://www.rcdom.org.uk)**