



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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31st 2019

Church Services

Sunday Mass at St. Mary's:

Saturday Vigil, 5.30pm
10am, 11.30am

Sunday Mass at St. Paul's:

Saturday Vigil, 4pm
10.30am

Weekday Mass:

St. Mary's, Monday and Wednesday at 10am
St. Paul's, Tuesday and Friday at 10am

Rosary prayed each weekday after the Morning Mass.

Confession:

St. Mary's, Monday Morning after Mass and Saturday at 5 pm
St. Paul's, Tuesday Morning after Mass and on Saturday after Mass.

Monday 7pm: Novena at St. Mary's in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's in the side chapel Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from after Mass until 2pm, and at St. Paul's on a Tuesday from after Mass until 2pm

This is a sacred space for those who would like to pray in silence before the Blessed Sacrament

A Letter from Bishop Joseph Toal, Bishop President of SCIAF:

I write on behalf of the Bishops of Scotland on this fourth Sunday of Lent to thank you for your generous and prayerful support for SCIAF – the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund.

In the gospel today we hear of a son who, having squandered his money, is so hungry that he would eat the swill put out for his master's pigs. We are told that when the son finally returned to his father's house there was great celebration and his father was overjoyed to have his son with him once again. This unconditional love of an earthly father is nothing compared to the love our heavenly father has for us. We should rejoice in that love and it should remind us that God loves all our brothers and sisters equally, and expects that we in turn will demonstrate our love for them.

That is why SCIAF was founded, to give the church in Scotland the opportunity to show its love for our poorest and most vulnerable brothers and sisters, and why during Lent we ask you to give generously to support the vital work SCIAF does on our behalf. In Uganda SCIAF has been working to support people like Lydia who was struggling to feed her five children. You will see pictures of Lydia and her children on the WEE BOX. With some practical help she has been able to turn the life of her family around and now has food for today and hope for the future.

In addition to helping Lydia and vulnerable young people like her grow more food, SCIAF and its partners are helping the community to work with the local authorities to ensure that they receive the agricultural services the Ugandan Government has promised them. In this way SCIAF is improving local state governance, democratic accountability and the sustainability of farming in local communities. In this way SCIAF is, on your behalf, protecting communities for generations to come.

SCIAF helps us all to put our faith into action and to demonstrate our Christian love for all our brothers and sisters. Please support the WEE BOX appeal during this holy season and in today's special collection. As Lent draws to a close and we look forward to the celebration of Christ's resurrection, please remember SCIAF and everyone they work for in your prayers.

May God bless you and your families during the holy season of Lent and throughout the year,
+Joseph Toal, Bishop President of SCIAF, on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland

Scottish Catholic International Aid: this Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is the traditional day for the annual special collection to support the good work undertaken by SCIAF in our name. Often we can feel helpless as we watch some of the great hardships endured by some of the poorest people on earth. By supporting SCIAF we are able to reach out to others with compassion and genuine concern. *Our second collection this Sunday will be donated to SCIAF.*

St. Mary's Primary School: congratulations to everyone at the school for the very enjoyable production of *Joseph and his Techni-coloured Dreamcoat*. Andre Lloyd Webber would be proud of them! We wish the staff and pupils of St. Mary's Primary and St. Paul's Primary and Holy Cross High School a very happy holiday.

Credo, St. Mary's and St. Paul's Faith Sharing Group will be at Schonstatt Retreat Centre in Milton of Campsie this Tuesday for a day of recollection.

Services this week:

St. Mary's Church:

Monday, Stations at 9.30am, Mass at 10am, Novena at 7pm; confessions at 6.20 – 6.50pm

Wednesday, Mass at 10am

St. Paul's Church

Tuesday, Stations of the Cross at 9.30am, Mass at 10am

Friday, Stations of the Cross at 9.30am, Mass at 10am

Gift Aid Scheme: the new books of envelopes for those who support the parish through the Gift-aid Scheme are available for collection. Please think seriously about joining, especially our younger parishioners. It costs you nothing – the only qualification is that you pay income tax. This is a very important source of income for the parish, since for every pound you donate, the parish can claim 25p from the government. Last year we raised the sum of £25,190 from your contributions and of course this makes a huge difference to the administration of the parish. Forms will be available if you would like to sign up, and also forms if you would like to donate your offerings through Bank Standing Order. *If you come here regularly and you pay income tax, please join the Gift Aid Scheme.*

Justice and Peace Scotland, “Striving for Social Justice, 1079 – 2019”); to celebrate our 40th anniversary we invite you to join us at Carfin Grotto on Monday 1st April at 1pm; Bishop Nolan will celebrate Mass followed by a tree planting ceremony. *All welcome.*

St. Mary's and St. Paul's Walking Group meets on a Tuesday morning at 11 am at the Museum at the bottom of Muir Street and then walks for 1 hour in the park and returns to the Museum café for some tea and coffee and conversation. *You will be made very welcome if you wish to come along.*

Please pray for those who have died recently: Elizabeth Kyle, Charles Gallagher, Betty Murphy, Marjory Hughes, John McAteer, William Tulips, Thomas McCrory, Moira Cadman, Francis Docherty, Bridie Ackroyd

Special Remembrance: Anna and Bill McAdam, Monica Dobson, Tommy Daly, Nessie Lynas, Annie Doherty, Cathy Walker, Ann Doherty, Tom Clark, James and Mary Goldie, Alec and May Morgan, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.