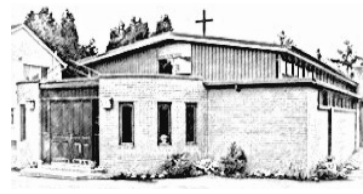




**St. Mary's R. C. Church**

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**Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest**

**Charity Number - SC011041**

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**Newsletter**

**The Fifth Sunday of the Year**

**February 6th 2022**

*My dear parishioners,*

I hope this finds you well. The Gospel from Luke for this fifth Sunday of the liturgical year shares some stories with John. This one is similar to a story found at the very end of John's Gospel; it is often described as the call of disciples, but clearly Jesus and the fishermen are already known to each other. The point of the story about Peter is that perfection is not a condition of discipleship. How could it be? Recognising personal frailties and the desire to follow Jesus are what counts.

I mentioned to you before Christmas that Pope Francis has invited the members of the church to 'journey together' in preparation for the bishops' Synod in Rome in 2023. Bishop Toal has encouraged each parish to take part in this process and I hope that some of us can meet together to share our own reflections on the life and ministry of the church here in Hamilton and as part of the Diocese of Motherwell and indeed as members of the universal church. One thing I am sure about is that you have valuable thoughts and insights to share.

During the weekend of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February you will be asked to give your contact details if you would like to participate in these prayerful reflections and then during Lent we will meet together on four occasions to discuss the various areas that the Pope is inviting us to reflect on. I hope very much that you will consider taking part. *Let us make it part of our Lenten journey of 2022.*

*Father O'Brien*

**I offer here the schedule for the liturgy:**

**Saturday, February 5th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm**

**Sunday, February 6th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am**

Monday, February 7<sup>th</sup> Requiem Mass at St. Paul's for William Burke at 11.30am

Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Wednesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> Requiem Mass at St. Mary's for James McGuire

Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Wedding at St. Mary's, Meryl Sanders and Kieran McAleenan

**Saturday, February 12th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm**

**Sunday, February 13th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am**

Monday, February 14<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> Requiem Mass at St. Mary's at 9.30am for Ann Daly Quay

Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

**This Friday is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes**, a very popular feast for so many; due to the wedding taking place on Friday we will anticipate the feast on the Thursday of this week.

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes commemorates the 18 appearances of Our Blessed Lady to St. Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 in her home village in the South of France. Our Lady called for pilgrims to come to pray and do penance. Pope St. John Paul made this a Day of Prayer throughout the Church for all who are sick, connecting with the prominent place given to sick people in Lourdes.

**Warmest good wishes from us all** to the newly named Archbishop of Glasgow, Bishop William Nolan of the Diocese of Galloway, and former parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, East Kilbride.

**CREDO**, the parish prayer group, will resume this Tuesday in the parish meeting room, beginning at 1pm and concluding with some tea at 2.30pm *All welcome*.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**All who are ill and have asked us to pray for them:**

**Recently Deceased:** Ann Daly Quay, James McGuire, Harry Doyle, William Burke, Stephen Darroch, Pasquale Palazzo, Anthony Girasoli, Rita Gallagher,

**Special Remembrance**, Fr. Walter Scott, Alice Kelly, Campbell Esper, Rose Terrett, Frank McBride, Sally Ann Murray, Laraine Fox, Margaret Boyle, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace*.