



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

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 20th 2022

My dear parishioners,

I hope this finds you well; let me begin by thanking you for the wonderful response to the special collection which was taken up last Sunday to support those affected by the terrible conflict in Ukraine. I did say that a little donation from us all goes a long way and it did just that, as I was able to send a cheque in your name to SCIAF for £4,330. The whole Catholic Church in Scotland is responding in a similar way and this will enable SCIAF and its partner CARITAS to bring some relief to those most in need. Let us continue to hold the suffering people of Ukraine in our hearts.

In today's Gospel we listen to the parable about the fig tree, which for three years had produced no fruit. 'Cut it down', said the owner of the vineyard. However the caretaker of the vineyard was more patient and asked for one more year to dig round the fig tree and manure the roots and so give it a last chance to bear fruit. It is a very hopeful image! Lent offers us the opportunity to be more attentive to our spiritual life, to care for and to nurture the deep roots of faith, hope and charity that are within us, to give ourselves another chance to deepen our discipleship of Jesus and so to bear fruit in all sorts of ways. Little wonder then that many people speak of enjoying the journey of Lent.

Let us continue to make this a special Lent at St. Mary's and St. Paul's; offering our prayer, fasting and almsgiving for the building of the culture of justice and peace in our fragile world.

Fr. O'Brien

I offer here the schedule for the liturgy:

Saturday, March 19th

Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm

Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday, March 20th

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Monday 21st, no public liturgy (Fr. O'Brien attending Mgr. O'Hare's requiem)

Tuesday, March 22nd Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Stations of the Cross at 9.40am.

Wednesday, March 23rd Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Stations of the Cross at 9.40am

Thursday, March 24th Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Saturday, March 26th

Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm

Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday, March 27th

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Thank you to those who signed up to make the synodal journey; our third meeting will be on Wednesday; Please gather at 6.45pm in the parish hall; the meeting will be from 7-8.30pm.

Catholic Men's Society Annual Day of Recollection: all men in the diocese are invited to take part in this retreat day on Saturday 2nd April in St. James' Coatbridge, led by Fr. Paul Denney. The cost is £15 which includes a meal in a local eating place. Anyone who would like this opportunity to add an uplifting experience to this year's Lenten journey can contact Peter Lavery Snr in person or e-mail, laverypeter93@yahoo.com.

CREDO, the parish prayer group, will meet this Tuesday in the parish meeting room, beginning at 1pm and concluding with some tea at 2.30pm. The group welcomes prayer requests from parishioners and a box is available at the back of the church for you to place such requests. *Please do not include donations in these requests.*

Please remember in your prayers:

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

Recently Deceased: Cecilia Mann, Mgr. Tom O'Hare, Michael McCann, Geraldine Convery, Sadie Mann, Fergus Bergin

Special Remembrance, Jaime Donnelly, Helen Harkin, Annie Miller, James and Helen Lennon, Patrick and Joan Lennon, Scott Docherty, James McKelvie, William McKelvie, Bella and Owen Currie and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*