



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

**Newsletter**

**The Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**March 19th 2023**

*My dear parishioners,*

I hope this finds you and your families well. For many years now, this Fourth Sunday of Lent has become known to us as SCIAF Sunday, when we reflect on the work of this good charity, the official relief and development agency of the Catholic Church in Scotland. I offer here some words from Bishop Brian McGee, the President of SCIAF:

“With your loving support, the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund continues to work in parts of the world where people are so dreadfully in need, to support people to build brighter futures. In the Gospels we hear of many occasions when Jesus heals the sick and reaches out with love and mercy to the most marginalised. As Catholics we are called to follow his example.

Around the world, 811 million people are facing hunger – and 60% of those living with chronic hunger are women and children. Every day families wake up hungry, not knowing what they will be forced to do to survive. This year’s Lenten appeal focuses on the lives of Ruth, Juliet, Catherine, Savita and their families in Zambia. We hear how they are living and farming in the harshest of conditions and of the hardships they face when crops fail and they are left without food.

Your donations make a real difference and so for these women and their families there is now hope. Through the love and compassion of SCIAF’s supporters, we have witnessed change that will last a lifetime. Your donations give families the ability to grow their own food by providing the proper tools and training they need and by ensuring they have the business skills they need to earn an income.

We thank you for your continued generosity; please know that it goes towards good work and that a just and green world is possible.

*Bishop Brian McGee*

*I offer here the times of the liturgy in the days ahead:*

**Monday March 20th:** Mass at St. Mary’s at 10am

*Solemnity of St. Joseph, faithful spouse of the Virgin Mary*

*Confessions at 6.30-6.50pm; Novena at 7pm*

**Tuesday March 21st:** Requiem for Mrs Tracey Archibald, St. Mary’s at 10am

**Wednesday, March 22nd:** Mass at St. Mary’s at 10am; *Stations of the Cross at 9.35am*

**Saturday March 25th:** Mass at St. Mary’s at 10am

*Solemnity of the Annunciation*

**Saturday March 25th**

Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm

Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

**Sunday March 25th:**

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

**Annual Special Collection for SCIAF this weekend:** if possible share something to support their good work among those living in the most difficult of circumstances; *in these challenging times please feel free to put into the second collection the donation you usually put into the Offertory Collection.*

**A Message from the Parish Council:** Thank you for the suggestions and comments placed in the boxes at the back of our churches; these were on the agenda at our recent meeting and responses are on the notice-board at St. Mary's and in the porch at St. Paul's. We have a new simplified e-mail address: [PPC1846@hotmail.com](mailto:PPC1846@hotmail.com) which is regularly monitored. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and we welcome your ongoing support through your comments, suggestions and questions.

**Thank you** for your generous response to the Special Collection last Sunday for the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund; our donation to the Diocese came to £1,500, a remarkable response. *Thank you.*

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** there will be Exposition in our side chapel after Mass on Wednesday until 12.30; this depends on people pledging to pray before the Sacrament for 30 minutes.

**CREDO**, the parish prayer group, meets this Tuesday at 1pm in the parish meeting room; afterwards, around 2.30pm, participants enjoy some tea and cake together.

**New Envelopes for the Offertory Collection:** if you make a donation to the parish using the envelopes then please uplift your new book from the back of the church. Thank you for being part of the Gift Aid Scheme.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**Recently Deceased:** Tracey Archibald, Catherine Coyle, Elizabeth Kelly, Betty Lennox, Elizabeth Augustine, Frank Morton, Thomas Oliver, Kate Duff, Catherine McDaid, Lewis McCartney, Marilyn Shearer,

**Special Remembrance:**

Jaime Donnelly, Anna and Elizabeth Donnelly, Christine Zambonini, Scott Docherty, Elizabeth Fulton, Bridget Fulton, Nessie Lynas, Anne Doherty, Ann Doherty, Vincent Doherty, Kathleen Walker, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*