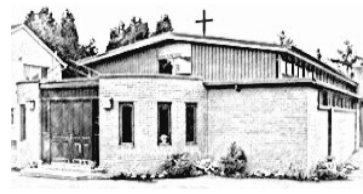




St. Mary's R. C. Church

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 Epiphany of the Lord

January 8th 2023

My dear parishioners,

This week the Church has given a moving farewell to Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI. As we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, I offer these words from Benedict, *'the saintly scholarly Pope'*, as Archbishop Rowan Williams liked to call him:

“Men and Women of every generation need on their pilgrim journey to be directed: what star can we therefore follow? After coming to rest *“over the place where the child was”*, the purpose of the star that guided the Magi ended, but its spiritual light is always present in the Word of the Gospel, which is still able today to guide every person to Jesus. This same Word, which is none other than the reflection of Christ, true man and true God, is authoritatively echoed by the church for every well-disposed heart. The Church too, therefore, carries out the mission of the star for humanity. But something of the sort could be said of every Christian, called to illuminate the path of the brethren by word and example of life.” *Pope Benedict XVI*

At the beginning of this New Year, let us ask Jesus, the eternal Light, to help us to be a parish that carries on the mission of the star for all who walk through the doors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's; let us also ask Pope Benedict to assist us with his prayers from heaven.

Father O'Brien

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

Saturday January 7th

Vigil Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm

Vigil Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday January 8th 2023

Mass at St. Paul's at 10.30am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Monday January 9th: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Feast of the Baptism of Jesus; end of Christmastide

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help at 7pm; Confessions from 6.15-6.45pm

Tuesday: January 10th: Mass at St Paul's at 10am

Wednesday January 11th: Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Thursday January 12th: Requiem for Catherine Reilly at 10am

Catherine's body will be received into the church on Wednesday at 6.15pm

Saturday January 15th:

Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm

Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

Sunday January 16th:

Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am

Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

Please remember Bishop Toal in your prayers; he had hip-replacement surgery this week and will be absent from the diocese for some 4-6 weeks for recuperation.

Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood: Bishop Toal asks that anyone considering serving as a priest should come forward and speak with his parish priest or with the diocesan Vocation's Director, Fr. Charles O'Farrell, parish priest of Our Lady and St. Anne's in Hamilton.

CREDO, the parish prayer group, resumes this Tuesday at 1pm in the parish meeting room; afterwards, around 2.30pm, participants enjoy some tea and cake together. *New members are most welcome.*

The Parish Walking Group goes from strength to strength; new members are always welcome; simply come along to the Museum at the bottom of Muir Street for 11am; people then walk for one hour before meeting together in the museum café for some tea together.

Motherwell Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 14th-21st July 2023: it is good news that the diocese will once again make a spiritual pilgrimage to the holy shrine of Lourdes, where St. Bernadette Soubirous experienced her mystical encounters with Our Lady; the cost will be around £1,000 and this includes travel and full-board. A diocesan pilgrimage is a beautiful way to visit Lourdes, especially if you have never visited before.

Youth Group Needed to Assist the Pilgrimage: Bishop Toal hopes that some of our young people (aged between 18-25 years) will accompany the pilgrimage to provide much needed physical assistance, especially with wheel-chairs to and from the grotto and assistance with the Liturgy; there will be a meeting for those interested with Fr. Mark O'Donnell, parish priest of St. Aloysius, Chapelhall on Thursday 2nd February at 7pm; contact frdonnell@rcdom.org.uk.

Please remember in your prayers:

Recently Deceased: Catherine Riley, Celeste Barclay, Rachael Church, Michael Lyons, Joseph O'Donnell, Margaret Duddy, Michael Donnelly, Michael McGarrity, Fr. Joseph Clements

Special Remembrance:

Alice Kelly, Richard O'Brien, Frank Kelly, Wullie Savage, Mary Dorman, Sheila Duffy, Anne Hunter, Katy Jones, Martin Cullen, James Lynas, Josephine Lynas McLean, Mary Malone, Jim Canning, Mary Dale Malone, Jim Russell, May Russell, Maureen Kane, Johnny and Sadie McGowan, Brian Tansey, Peter and Kiera Tansey, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*