



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

First Sunday of Lent

March 10th 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

Holy Season of Lent 2019: On Ash Wednesday we began the great spiritual journey of Lent, a special time in the Church's year, a time of reflection and prayer, a joyful time of placing Christ again at the heart of life. It was wonderful to see so many people at Mass to mark the beginning of Lent; it is clear that the reception of the ashes on our forehead still means a great deal to people. Perhaps we sense that that we need these periods of prayer and reflection where we step back and think about our pilgrimage through life and the choices we are making, asking whether they are in keeping with the values of the Gospel.

The ashes on our foreheads are a sign that we are pilgrims on the earth; they are not given to frighten us but rather to remind us to be a pilgrim who seeks God's grace and mercy, and Lent is a good opportunity to do precisely that.

The foundation stones of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving: our prayer is a sign of our hunger and thirst for God; our fasting is a sign of our genuine sorrow for our sins and a sign of our openness to conversion and turning back to God; our almsgiving is a sign of gratitude for the blessings of life and a commitment to solidarity with those who have very little in life.

There seemed to be a shortage of Wee Boxes last week, so SCIAF have sent some more, which can be uplifted at the back of the church. This is one way of sharing something with some of the poorest people in the world. It is also a good opportunity for us to speak about this aspect of Catholic life, namely, a sincere concern for the disadvantaged, with children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It is important that we hand on this important part of our tradition to the next generations.

Let us support and encourage one another to make the journey of Lent together.

A Lenten Talk by Patrick Parsons, "A Reflection on the Crusades", in St. Mary's Parish Hall on Wednesday March 13th at 7pm; please phone Harry Doyle on 01698 427821 to say if you are attending, so we have an idea of numbers for some tea and coffee and light refreshments.

All welcome.

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, Eucharistic service for St. Mary's Primary at 8.25am, Mass at 10am

Some pupils from St. Mary's Primary will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this Wednesday at 6.30pm Please remember them in your prayers.

St. Paul's Church

Tuesday, Mass at 10am

Friday, Stations of the Cross at 9.30am; Mass at 10am; confessions after Mass

A Message from The Traidcraft Group: please join us this Sunday March 10th for our final Traidcraft coffee morning. Everyone who comes to the hall will be entered into a free draw with the chance to win various prizes and we will have our annual fair-trade quiz. On sale will be a range of Easter Eggs, including the only egg that tells the Easter story. All Fairtrade Easter Eggs give the cocoa producer a living wage. *Please join us for our final Traidcraft coffee morning and look out for lots of bargains and surprises!*

Please join us for the St. Patrick's Night, Dinner and Social Evening, on Friday 29th March in the Church Hall at 7pm, tickets cost £16; you will be most welcome for this enjoyable evening.

The Diocesan Mission and Evangelisation Team has arranged three Lenten Encounters during the coming weeks: A Lenten Day of Reflection (Conforti Centre, Coatbridge, 17th April 11 am -3.30pm); a Lenten Saturday Day of Prayer (Conforti Centre, Coatbridge, 13th April, 11am – 3.30pm); four sessions of Contemplative Theology, Thursdays 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th March 7.15- 9pm, the Xavier Centre, Carfin; *all are very welcome to attend and please see the posters in the side porch for more details.*

Are you interested in Drama? The People's Passion – Be Part of It! Drama Kirk needs people for crowd scenes and to lead participation from the pews. People to help behind the scenes are also needed. There will be two rehearsals for those interested, Tuesday 12th March at 7pm in Hamilton Old Parish Church and Tuesday 19th March at 7pm in Dalziel St. Andrew's; further details at dramakirk@gmail.com

Credo, St. Mary's and St. Paul's Faith Sharing Group meets on Tuesday 12th March at 1 o'clock on the parish meeting room; new members are always welcome; the meeting lasts until 2.30pm and is followed by some tea, cakes and conversation!

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: Francis Docherty (**Requiem at St. Mary's on Wednesday morning at 10am**) Bridie Ackroyd, Jean Devine, Thomas McGuinness, Linda Watters, Mary Duff, William Bonar, James Dempsey, Jean Montague, Joe Fitzpatrick, Jan Hay, Brian Whelan, Anne Wright, Mrs. Meechan

Special Remembrance: Elizabeth Fulton, Winnie Maxwell, Bobby and Barbara Jones, Helen, Isa, Michael and Ann Murphy, Margaret and James Feenie, Mary and Robert Grant, Margaret Feenie Grant, Annie and John Donnachie, Rita Kane, Margaret Phairs, John O'Neil, Betty and Eddie Smith, Helen Allan, Jean Balfour, Eilidh McHugh, Charlie Boyle, Gerard Falsey, Thomas Lynch, John McCarthy, Tommy Daly, Anne and Robert McCallum, Mary, Ellen and Elizabeth McCallum, Mary Law, Bridget and Marie Lynas, Bella and Owen Currie and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.