

The Catholic Parish of St. Mary & St. Paul, Hamilton

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Parish Priest Fr Henry O'Brien
Charity Number SC011041

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Sunday Masses: Vigil 5pm, 9am and 10:30am **Confessions:** Saturday 4:30 – 4:50pm

Newsletter The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ June 22nd, 2025

My dear parishioners,

I hope this finds you and your families well and looking forward to your summer holiday. Today we celebrate the beautiful *Feast of Corpus Christi* and I offer the following words from Pope Benedict for your reflection:

The Eucharist is the food reserved for those who in Baptism are delivered from slavery and have become sons and daughters of God; it is the food that sustains us on the long journey of the exodus through the desert of human existence.

Like the manna for the people of Israel, for every Christian generation, the Eucharist is the indispensable nourishment that sustains them as they cross the desert of this world, parched by the ideological and economic systems that do not promote life but humiliate it. It is a world where the logic of power and possessions prevails rather than that of service and love; a world where the culture of violence and death is frequently triumphant.

Yet Jesus comes to meet us and imbues us with certainty: he himself is 'the bread of life'. He repeats this to us in the words of the Gospel Acclamation: "I am the living bread from heaven, if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever".

I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:

Monday June 23rd: Requiem: Nancy Henry at 10am *Confessions at 6.30pm; Novena at 7pm*

Tuesday June 24th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Wednesday June 25th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Thursday June 26th: Mass at 10pm

Rosary at 9.40am

Jubilee Tour to Westport, Knock and Co. Mayo, 7th **September 2025, £899:** price included flight from Edinburgh, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport, with dinner, bed and breakfast; full use of leisure facilities. All entertainment, excursions and transport included, Visit Knock Shrine, Galway Cathedral, Irish music night and much more. Contact 01268 762 278 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

Feast of Corpus Christi: an invitation is extended to all who wish to participate in the Blessed Sacrament Procession from St. Teresa's Parish Newarthill at 2.30pm, arriving at Carfin Grotto at 3pm, where Bishop Toal will preside at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament; children who have made their First Holy Communion in recent weeks are especially welcome, and wearing their First Communion clothes if they so wish,

Congratulations to all the pupils from St. Paul's Primary and St. Mary's Primary who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Toal. Sincere thanks to both schools for all their good work in preparing our young people for this Sacrament; thanks also to the parents for their presence and support.

Recently Deceased: Nancy Henry, Moira Pacheco (Requiem, June 30th at 9.30am), Ellen McCabe, Antonietta Seminara, Margaret Smith, Mary McVey, John Provan, John Woods, Fiona King, Catherine Boxall, Clare McCourt, Joyce Flannigan

Message from Bishop Toal to the Priests and People of the Diocese

I write to you with a heavy heart, Mr. Thomas Millar, former priest of the Diocese, pled guilty on Wednesday 18th June 2025 at the High Court in Glasgow to non-recent serious offences. He will remain in custody until sentencing in July.

This is a deeply painful moment for us all. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have suffered as a result of these offences. We recognise the profound courage it takes for survivors to come forward, and we hold them in our hearts with compassion and sorrow. The Diocese continues to work closely with the relevant authorities and remains unwavering in its commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all, especially the most vulnerable. Our Safeguarding Department remains available to support those affected.

Please keep all those impacted in your prayers and let us support one another with grace and humility as we navigate this difficult time together.

Yours sincerely,

+Joseph Toal