



St. Mary's R. C. Church

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP



St. Paul's R. C. Church

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Newsletter

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5th 2024

My dear parishioners at St. Mary's and St. Paul's,

I hope this finds you and your families well at the beginning of the beautiful month of May, a time of special devotion to St. Mary, the Mother of Jesus. On Thursday of this week we will celebrate the great solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven, one of the Holydays of the Catholic Church. I offer these words from Pope Benedict, the saintly scholar, for your reflection:

“What does the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord mean for us? It does not mean that the Lord has departed to a place far from his people and from the world. Christ's Ascension is not a journey into space toward the most remote stars; for basically, the planets, like the earth, are also made of physical elements. Christ's Ascension means that he no longer belongs to the world of corruption and death that conditions our life. It means that he belongs entirely to God. He, the Eternal Son, led our human existence into God's presence, taking with him flesh and blood in a transfigured form. The human being finds room in God; through Christ, the human being was introduced into the very life of God. And since God embraces and sustains the entire cosmos, the Ascension of the Lord means that Christ has not departed from us, but that he is now, thanks to his being with the Father, close to each one of us for ever. *Each one of us can be on intimate terms with him; each can call upon him. The Lord is always within hearing.* We can inwardly draw away from him. We can live turning our backs on him. But he always waits for us and is always close to us.

Benedict XVI

I offer here the Schedule for the daily liturgy:

Monday May 6th: Funeral Liturgy for Baby Ronan at 10.30am

There will be no confessions or Novena on Monday evening due to the Bank Holiday

Tuesday May 7th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 10am

Wednesday May 8th: Mass in St. Paul's School at 1.15pm

Vigil Mass for the Ascension at 7pm

Ascension Thursday May 9th: Mass at 10am (St. Mary's Primary will be with us);

Mass at 12 noon

Credo, the parish faith-sharing group meets this Tuesday at 1 o'clock in the parish meeting room; new members are always welcome; the meeting continues to around 2.30pm and then those present enjoy some tea and biscuits together.

A Message from the Parish Strollers Group: Programme for May-September.

On the first Tuesday of the month, beginning on Tuesday May 7th, we will be walking in Chatelherault Park; we walk for one hour and then enjoy some tea/coffee and conversation in the café; we meet at 11am outside the main entrance to the café. On the other Tuesdays of the month we will meet as usual at the Museum on Muir Street at 11am, then walk for one hour and return to the Museum café for some tea/coffee and conversation. *The Strollers warmly welcome new members; all you need do is turn up in your walking shoes!*

Donations to St. Mary and St. Paul's Parish, Hamilton: sincere thanks to all who make a donation to the upkeep and mission of our parish. As you know the parish is a registered charity and depends on donations to continue its ministry, which extends way beyond those who come along to church on a Sunday. At the beginning of the new financial year it is a good moment to ask you to consider signing up to Gift Aid your donations, which means the government, if you are a tax-payer, donates 25 pence for every £1 that you donate. *Would you consider making your donation by Standing Order? Please ask for a Gift Aid Form; it makes a huge difference to the upkeep of our parish.*

Parish Coffee Morning, next Sunday May 12th after the 9am Mass and after the 10.30am Mass; please come round to the hall after the liturgy and enjoy some refreshments together; it's a good way to come to know the people you see and sit beside here at St. Mary's. The proceeds from this coffee morning will be donated to the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC).

Next Sunday is World Communications Day; the bishop has asked that we take up a second collection to support the diocesan apostolate of communications.

Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to remember them at Mass:
Michael McParlane Snr.

Recently Deceased: Baby Ronan, Pauline Fitzpatrick, Fiona Seal, Marion Russell, Mary Friar, Ann McLaughlin, John Burns, Mary Scott, Andrew Harkin, Jim Wotherspoon, Madalene Soave, Margherita Pia, Molly Farrell, Christine Malone, Christine McHenry, Anne Weir,

Special Remembrance: Jacob Clinton, Eileen Seagrave Wood, Nan McCluskey, George Scott, Tommy and Anne Quay, Brian Carolan, Frances Collins, Margaret Boyd, Hugh, James, Mary and Rose Owens, Edward and Elizabeth O'Connell, Michael, Rose, Anne and Lindsay O'Connell, Sister Mary Clement O'Connell, Julia O'Connell, Sister Maximillian, deceased members of the Dalton Family, Michael and Mary O'Brien and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.