



**St. Mary's R. C. Church**

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Tel: 01698 423552



**St. Paul's R. C. Church**

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Tel: 01698 423552

**Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest**

**Charity Number - SC011041**

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

## Newsletter

## The First Sunday of Lent

March 6<sup>th</sup> 2022

*My dear parishioners,*

It was uplifting to have so many people present for the Liturgy of Ash Wednesday, and so we are underway with the great spiritual pilgrimage of 2022. This year, our Lenten journey takes place as our brothers and sisters in Ukraine suffer the brutal realities of an unjust war. Every day now all that is happening to them and their country is laid bare before us thanks to journalism at its very best. There is no hiding the truth, even if some are trying very hard to do that; when the truth becomes a stranger truly terrible things happen. I mentioned that Pope Francis asked us to offer Ash Wednesday for the people of Ukraine. Afterwards a parishioner said to me, *“We should offer the whole of Lent for them.”* I could only agree with this sentiment.

Bishop Toal has asked every parish to postpone the planned second collection next Sunday for the Sick and Retired Clergy and to replace it with a collection to support those who are suffering in Ukraine; SCIAF is a partner with CARITAS International and will work with them to bring relief to the most needy. I know from speaking with people at the daily liturgy that you want to share something as a response to what we are witnessing; as I have said so often, a little from us all goes a long way.

In recent weeks I have had the joy of baptising quite a few babies and this Sunday I will be baptising my great-niece; you know that you are getting older when you become a great-uncle! I am conscious of the baby who was born in an underground car-park in Ukraine. When the people heard the newborn cries of little Mia, they clapped and cheered. Next Sunday as we respond to all that is happening let it be our way of clapping and cheering for Mia and all the other children of Ukraine; may they get a chance at life!

Let us make this a special Lent at St. Mary's and St. Paul's, offering our prayer, fasting and almsgiving to help build the culture of peace and justice in our fragile world.

*Father O'Brien*

**I offer here the schedule for the liturgy:**

**Saturday, March 5th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm**

**Sunday, March 6th**

**Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am**

**Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am**

Monday, March 7th Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> Mass at St. Paul's at 10am

Stations of the Cross at 9.40am.

Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> Mass at 10am  
Stations of the Cross at 9.40am  
Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> Requiem Mass at 10am for Mrs Sarah McKinlay

**Saturday, March 12th**  
**Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm**  
**Mass at St. Mary's at 5.30pm**

**Sunday, March 13th**  
**Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am**  
**Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am**

**Thank you** to those who signed up to make the synodal journey; our first meeting will be on Wednesday; Please gather at 6.45pm in the parish hall; the meeting will be from 7-8.30pm.

**A Message from The Beginning Experience:** we are holding a weekend for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at St. Mary's Monastery, Kinnoul, Perth. For further details please contact Catherine on 0131 665 3383 or email: [beginningexperiencescotland@hotmail.com](mailto:beginningexperiencescotland@hotmail.com). Completed applications must be returned by March 12<sup>th</sup>,

**CREDO**, the parish prayer group, will meet this Tuesday in the parish meeting room, beginning at 1pm and concluding with some tea at 2.30pm. The group welcomes prayer requests from parishioners and a box is available at the back of the church for you to place such requests. *Please do not include donations in these requests.*

**Stations of the Cross Online:** you may recall that last year Mr. Harry Doyle, *requiescat in pace*, hosted a Zoom meeting to pray the Stations of the Cross at 12 noon on the Fridays of Lent. If there is an interest in continuing this practice the Catholic Men's Society would be willing to organise it. If you would be interested in joining this weekly prayer event please e-mail [laverypeter93@yahoo.com](mailto:laverypeter93@yahoo.com), and if there is sufficient interest then log-in details will be forwarded.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**All who are ill and have asked us to pray for them:**

**Recently Deceased:** Sadie McKinlay, Mary McGrory, Jimmy Tyrrell, Mark Jenkinson, Andrew Robertson,

**Special Remembrance,** Eilidh McHugh, Mark Hughes, Thomas, Elizabeth and John Kane, Gerard Falsey, Frank Docherty, Bobby and Barbara Jones, John and Irene Docherty, Kay Clancy, Hugh Morgan, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace.*