



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

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP

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

Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

August 10th 2025

My dear parishioners,

I hope you have enjoyed a change of pace during these weeks of summer and perhaps also a holiday with your family and friends. Our schools return this Thursday to begin the new academic year of 2025-2026 and we wish the teachers and pupils every success and happiness; there is so much for them to look forward to and enjoy.

On Friday of this week the church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven**, and it is a Holyday of Obligation, an opportunity for us to treasure the place St. Mary has in the life of the Church. I offer the following words from Pope Benedict for your reflection:

The Feast of the Assumption is a day of joy. God has won. Love has won. Life has won! Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that God possesses the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love. Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven: there is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us.

We have a Mother in heaven, and the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. He himself has said so. He made her our Mother when he said to the disciple and to all of us: *“Behold your Mother!”* We have a Mother in Heaven. Heaven is open. Heaven has a heart.

In the Gospel we heard the Magnificat, that great poem inspired by the Holy Spirit that came from Mary's lips, indeed from Mary's heart. This marvellous canticle mirrors the entire soul, the entire personality of Mary. We can say that this hymn of hers is a portrait of Mary, a true icon in which we can see her as she really is.

It begins with the word Magnificat: *my soul magnifies the Lord, that is, ‘proclaims the greatness of the Lord’.* Mary wanted God to be great in the world, great in her life and present among us all. She was not afraid that God might be a rival in our life, that with his greatness he might encroach on our freedom, our vital space. She knew that if God is great, we too are great. Our life is not oppressed but raised and expanded: it is precisely then that it becomes great in the splendour of God. Pope Benedict XVI

I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:

Monday August 11th: Requiem: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am; confessions at 6.30pm; Novena at 7pm

Tuesday August 12th: Mass at 10am

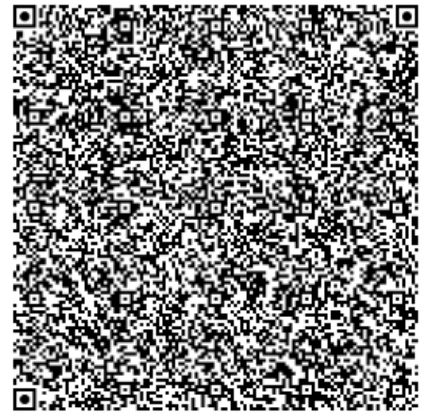
Rosary at 9.40am

Wednesday August 13th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Thursday August 14th: Vigil Mass of Assumption at 7pm; Rosary at 6.35pm

Friday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mass at 12 noon; Rosary at 11.35am



Don't carry cash but wish to donate?

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone to make a donation; you will be able to Gift Aid your donation using this method.

Children's Liturgy begins again next Sunday at the 10.30am Mass: it is the Liturgy of the Word presented in a way that makes it easier for children to understand and engage with. The language of the gospel is simpler, and the adult homily is replaced by a discussion of what has been read or activities that help to make sense of the message. *New helpers are always welcome, just ask if you would like more information.*

Fertility Care Scotland: Family Planning – God's Way – Nature's Way:

The Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Fertility Regulation is 99% effective in avoiding pregnancy with no side effects; this method is also highly effective in helping couples achieve a much-wanted pregnancy. For an information pack or details of a teacher in your area: email info@fertilitycare.org.uk or www.fertilitycare.org.uk

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend away for a lifetime of change: these special days are for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood. The weekend will take place from 26-28 September at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. For details contact Maggie on 01389 751677 or email beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com. Completed applications must be returned by 12 September.

Recently Deceased: Margaret Neary Dempsey, James Forrest, Joseph Dunn, Guerrino Franchitti, Patrick McCafferty, Emma Lamb, Alex McWilliams

Special Remembrance: Mark Hughes, Thomas, Elizabeth and John Kane, Ann Quigley, Annie Doherty, William Ward, Winnie and Jim McGuire, Daniel Burgess, Neil McMurray, Elizabeth and Joe McCafferty, Frank and Mary McAteer, and all our own deceased relatives and friends, and all the benefactors of our parish.