



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

**Newsletter**

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**

**March 28th 2021**

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

What a deep joy to have the doors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's open in welcome to you once again. How consoling to me as your parish priest that we are able to celebrate the Liturgy of Holy Week 2021. Even though our numbers are still restricted, it is nonetheless a moment of real grace that at least some of us will participate in the moving liturgies which mark the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

**I offer here the schedule for the days ahead:**

**Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup>:** Vigil Mass at St. Paul's at 4pm and at St. Mary's at 5.30pm

**Palm Sunday March 28<sup>th</sup>:** Mass at St. Paul's at 9.15am and Mass at St. Mary's at 10.30am

**Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>:** Requiem for Ms. Alice Lowell

**Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>:** Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

**Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>:** Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

**Holy Triduum:**

**Holy Thursday of the Lord's Supper:** Mass at St. Mary's at 7pm

**Good Friday:** Stations of the Cross at St. Paul's at 12 noon

**The Passion of the Lord at St. Mary's** at 3pm

**Holy Saturday:** Easter Vigil at St. Mary's at 8pm

**Easter Sunday:** Mass at St. Paul's at 10am; Mass at St. Mary's at 10am and 11.30am

**Easter Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>:** Mass at St. Mary's at 10am

**The Diocese of Motherwell** has recommended that we have a booking system (**Eventbrite**) for places at the liturgy; this is for safety reasons and also to ensure that people are not disappointed if they arrive at church and discover they cannot gain access. For each service the parish must retain the details of all those attending so that contact tracing can be carried out if necessary.

**Please consult the parish website, [stmarysandstpaulshamilton.org](http://stmarysandstpaulshamilton.org) to book a place through Eventbrite or phone the church house.**

**A personal message from Father O'Brien:**

I write to thank you very sincerely for all your good wishes as I reached the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my Ordination. To be honest with you, being surrounded by so much prayer and so many acts of kindness was somewhat overwhelming. I still feel overwhelmed with gratitude! Among many lovely gifts, there was a rose for planting in my garden, with the beautiful name, '*precious ruby*'. All I can say to you is that this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary has indeed felt precious and it was surrounded by other moving days. Even the weather blessed me with sunshine!

Of course due to current restrictions I received many cards that were not the ones a priest normally receives. Instead of 'holy pictures', there were all sorts of beautiful scenes! Although I have to tell you that I began to detect a certain theme: long winding roads, wide rivers flowing into a distant horizon, beautiful sunsets and even vintage cars! In the nicest of ways you confirmed what I was feeling, that a 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary is indeed a significant milestone! However there was one very unusual card, a first for me as a parish priest; on a bright canary yellow background, large gold lettering greeted me the bold exclamation WOO HOO, and inside were the words '*and here's to the next forty years!*' Suddenly I felt young again, with a lot of road left to travel and a lot of river left to paddle! I may even frame that one and keep it close! On Wednesday, with heartfelt thanks, I offered Mass for you, my dear parishioners here at St. Mary's and St. Paul's, and asked God to bless you in every way. I am touched and humbled by your thoughtfulness and already it has become a precious memory,  
*Father O'Brien*

**Sacramental Celebrations at St. Mary's and St. Paul's:** please note the following dates for sacramental celebrations with pupils from St. Mary's and St. Paul's Primary Schools:

**St. Mary's First Holy Communions:**

Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am and 12 noon

Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10am and 12 noon

Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am and 12 noon

**St. Mary's Confirmations:**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm

**St. Paul's First Communions:**

Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 11am

**St. Paul's Confirmations:**

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 11am

**A Message from the Catholic Men's Society (CMS):** you are invited to join in praying the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. To receive the online link, please contact Mr. Harry Doyle at [h.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:h.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk).

**Please remember in your prayers:**

**All who are sick in the parish** and all who have asked us to pray for them

**Recently Deceased:** Alice Lowell, Sheena Bogan, Michael Duffy

**Special Remembrance:** Scott Docherty, Silvio and Lucia Ferri, Lorraine Ferri, John and Edna Wilson, Mary Snaith, John and Sally Lavery, Eric and Helen Murphy, Charles Feenie, Joseph O'Neill, Brian and Margaret Bonnar, Jim and Mary Neary, John Allen, Hugh Connor, Margaret and Sandy Paterson, Sarah Turner, Bobby and Barbara Jones, John and Irene Docherty, Minnie and Edward Morgan, John and Mary McCaig, May Kinnie, Ellen and Willie Miller, Bill Kane, Alec and May Morgan, and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's, *requiescant in pace*.