



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

120 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HP

Parish Priest Fr Henry O'Brien

Charity Number SC011041

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

email: [stmaryhamilton@rcdom.org.uk](mailto:stmaryhamilton@rcdom.org.uk)

Tel: 01698 423552

**Sunday Masses:** Vigil 5pm, 9am and 10:30am

**Confessions:** Saturday 4:30 – 4:50pm

**Newsletter**

**Twenty-First Sunday of the Year**

**August 25th 2024**

*My dear parishioners,*

I hope this finds you and your families well as we move steadily now towards the beautiful season of autumn and its comforting colours. Every so often there is an item in the news that is truly uplifting. During the week several people asked me if I had seen the item about the young female medical students from Afghanistan. In fact I had missed the story so one of them sent me an article from the paper. I thought I would share it with you in the Newsletter in case you too missed this hope-filled moment of good news.

It transpires that a group of Afghan women have arrived in Scotland to continue with their medical degrees. *The Linda Norgrove Foundation* helped bring the 19 young women to Scotland after the authorities in Afghanistan stopped their education because they are female. Arriving in Edinburgh, student Omulbanin Sultani, aged 21, said it was *'like coming to paradise, the place where we can study'*. I'm sure we all wish them every success and happiness and hopefully they will return one day to Afghanistan and serve their people as dedicated doctors.

When I reflected on this I became aware that it was all women who had asked me if I had seen the story. I was indeed grateful that they brought it to my attention for it is indeed very uplifting news in the midst of so much distressing news. This story also reminds all of us to be on our guard when men make laws for women without any type of consultation with women themselves; it also encourages us to continue with our prayer that girls everywhere will receive equal access to education and the opportunity to develop their gifts and talents.

**I offer here the details of the pastoral visit of his Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendia, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, to Motherwell Diocese on 30<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September. Bishop Toal makes this invitation to everyone in the diocese:**

**Friday August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm:**

This will be a Solemn Mass of Welcome in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell, celebrating the Communion of the Diocese with the Universal Church led by our Holy Father, Pope Francis; all are invited and please feel welcome to attend the reception afterwards in St. Bride's Hall.

### **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 10am:**

Archbishop Maury Buendia will celebrate the Saturday morning Mass in honour of Our Lady, Fountain of Salvation, and its focus will be to pray for the continued progress of *Project Wellspring*, the Motherwell programme for pastoral renewal. It is particularly hoped that those involved in *Wellspring* in the parishes and in the diocesan missions will attend this Mass and come afterwards to St. Bride's Hall for a presentation on *Wellspring* and discussion on its development. This is scheduled to last from 11.30am to 2.30pm and will include lunch. I have asked that four people represent each parish.

### **Sunday Afternoon – the National Pilgrimage Mass at Carfin Grotto – at 3pm**

Archbishop Maury Buendia will be main celebrant at the National Pilgrimage Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto at Carfin. The theme for the pilgrimage this year is *Pilgrims of Prayer*, in preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Bishop Frank Dougan of Galloway will give the homily. Everybody is most welcome to attend.

### **I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:**

#### **Monday August 26th: Mass at 10am**

*Rosary at 9.40am; Confessions at 6.30-6.50pm; Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour at 7pm*

#### **Tuesday August 27th: Mass at 10am**

*Rosary at 9.40am;*

#### **Wednesday August 28th: Mass at 10am**

*Rosary at 9.40am*

#### **Thursday August 29th: Requiem Mass for Mrs Elizabeth McCafferty at 10am**

*Reception on Wednesday Evening at 6pm*

**CREDO**, the parish faith-sharing group have resumed meeting on Tuesdays at 1 o'clock in the parish meeting room; all are welcome to take part and to enjoy some tea and biscuits afterwards.

**The Beginning Experience:** once again this good organisation are holding a weekend away for those who find themselves suffering bereavement through divorce, separation or widowhood; the weekend will take place from 4-6<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. For details contact: **Louise** on **07926571004** or email [louisep398@gmail.com](mailto:louisep398@gmail.com); completed applications must be returned by 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024. If you know someone for whom this weekend might be of interest then please draw it to their attention; parishioners who have taken part in one of these special weekends have spoken very positively of the experience.

**Recently Deceased:** Elizabeth McCafferty, Thomas Hanratty, William Sheerin, Emma Ramsey, Joyce Dale, Anne Marie Connelly, Edward McGeary, Maureen McGuire, Doreen Jack, Alex Young, Denise Vial (Paris), Sally Watt, Margaret Ferguson, John McCall

**Special Remembrance:** Eilidh McHugh, Jaime Donnelly, Anna and Elizabeth Donnelly, Jacob Clinton, Wilma Grady and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.