



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 OPX Tel: 01698 423552

Fr Henry O'Brien – Parish Priest Charity Number - SC011041 www.stmarysandstpaulsparishhamilton.org

Newsletter

Twentieth Sunday of the Year

August 18th 2019

Church Services Sunday Mass at St. Mary's:

Sunday Mass at St. Paul's:

Weekday Mass:

Saturday Vigil, 5.30pm 10am, 11.30am Saturday Vigil, 4.pm 10.30am St. Mary's, Monday and Wednesday at 10am St. Paul's, Tuesday and Friday at 10am

Rosary prayed each weekday after the Morning Mass.Confession:St. Mary's, Monday Morning after Mass and Saturday at 5 pm

St. Paul's, Tuesday Morning after Mass and on Saturday after Mass.

Monday 7pm: Novena at St. Mary's in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's in the side chapel Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from after Mass until 2pm, and at St. Paul's on a Tuesday from after Mass until 2pm *This is a sacred space for those who would like to pray in silence before the Blessed Sacrament*

Please note the following information regarding events at Carfin Grotto

Annual Grandparents' Pilgrimage Mass at 3pm on Sunday 19th August; celebrant Bishop Toal; followed by Rosary Procession and Benediction.

Visit of the relics of St. Therese of Lisieux to Carfin Grotto, 30th August – 1st September; a very full programme of events has been arranged at the Grotto and a Schedule can be uplifted at the back of the church. *You will be made very welcome should you choose to attend any of the events*.

Motherwell Diocesan Trustees decide to close the Pilgrimage Centre at Carfin: "There are two distinct entities in the Church's grounds at Carfin. Firstly, there is the Parish of St. Francis Xavier, which includes the parish church and house, the Grotto, the Xavier Centre (hall) and other buildings. Secondly there is the Pilgrimage Centre, built in the 1990's and owned by the Diocese. The closure decision refers only to the **Pilgrimage Centre,** which has been run as a Limited Company with its own Board of Directors. The Centre was always expected to operate as a business and to generate enough income to cover its costs and hopefully some profits, which could be put back into the enterprise, particularly the maintenance of the building. It has not succeeded in doing this for many years and has instead depended on loans from the Diocese and support from the parish to continue trading. It is a business that is not making money, shows no signs of doing so and costs the Diocese a substantial amount of money. After commissioning a feasibility study earlier this year we decided that there was no justification for keeping a loss-making company trading indefinitely and the process should begin to inform the staff of the closure and to ensure they receive all that they are entitled to when being made redundant. That is why it was necessary last week to announce the closure of the Pilgrimage Centre. For the staff especially this is a sad moment and I thank them for their commitment and hard work over many years."

The full text of Bishop Toal's letter is available at the back of the church this weekend.

After his resurrection from the dead, Jesus commanded his disciples, "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations, baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you." (Matthew 28:19-20).

Those words were taken to heart by the men and women of the early church, and the teaching and initiation of converts into the Christian community, culminating in the Easter celebration of baptism, confirmation and eucharist, came to be one of the glories of the church.

In our age the church invites those men and women who feel drawn to membership of the church to participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, which takes place from early October until after the celebration of Easter. The course involves one evening in the week and offers instruction on the four areas of catechesis, The Creed, the Sacraments, the Commandments and the Life of Prayer.

Do you know of anyone who has expressed interest in becoming a member of the Catholic Church? *Please speak with Fr. O'Brien to discuss this matter further.*

Credo, St. Mary's and St. Paul's Faith Sharing Group meets this Tuesday, August 20th, in the parish meeting room at 1 o'clock. The group meets to reflect and share on some aspect of the Catholic Faith and then enjoy some tea and cake together. *New members are always welcome, just come along!*

St. Mary's and St. Paul's Walking Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 11am and walks for around one hour, starting from the Museum and returning there to have some tea and coffee. The walking group proves to be popular and new members are always welcome. *Just come along if you feel like it.*

Diocese of Motherwell, Mission and Evangelization Team offer a weekend of Scripture Reflection led by Fr. Nicholas King SJ on Saturday/Sunday 21st-22nd September at the Conforti Xavarian Centre in Coatbridge. All are welcome but pre-registration is necessary; please email missions@rcdom.org.uk; more details on poster in side porch.

The Beginning Experience are holding a special weekend for those women and men who find themselves suffering bereavement through separation, divorce, or death. The loss of a loved one is one of life's most traumatic experiences. It can result in unbearable feelings of grief and loneliness. The Beginning Experience Scotland Team would like to help by offering *"a weekend away for a lifetime of change."* This weekend will take place from 4th-6th October. For details contact Catherine on 0131 665 3383. Completed applications must be returned by 21st September.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Joseph Kelly (Canada), Alexander Callander, Sister Margaret Forde (Daughter of Charity), Madge Finnegan. William Boyd, Agnes Woodside, Maureen Kane (Blantyre), Chrissie McCafferty. Betty Anderson, Peter O'Donnell, Patrick McPartlin (Blantyre), Kathleen Boyle, Betty Leonard, Kevin Doran, Iolanda McGarrity, Brandan Rice, Sadie Quinn, Catriona McGuire, Nora McCarron, Hugh O'Donnell

Special Remembrance: Brian Ward, Joseph McLaughlin, Margaret Phairs, John O'Neil, James and Catherine Larkin, Catherine Carney, Ellen McCourt, Isabella Sweeney and deceased members of the Sweeney and McMenemy families, and all our deceased relatives and friends and benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.