



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

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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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year

October 20th 2024

My dear parishioners,

This weekend we celebrate World Mission Sunday, a very special day in the life of the Catholic Church, for it reminds us that we belong to a church that has no borders; the good news of the gospel belongs to every man, woman and child.

World Mission Sunday invites us all to be part of the Church's missionary efforts, supporting missionary priests, religious sisters and brothers, lay catechists who provide loving service to those most in need. These missionaries have a crucial role, *'in inviting everyone to the banquet of the Lord.'*

This year we are asked to support the church in Cameroon in West Africa.

Fr. Vincent Lockhart, the National Director of *Missio Scotland*, speaks in his letter for Mission Sunday, about Sr. Hedwig Vinyo, a Franciscan Sister who has dedicated her life to serving the people in the North-West Province of the country. In the midst of a civil war which has been raging for the past 7 years, Sr. Hedwig and the Sisters of St. Francis are helping those tragically affected by the war to pick up the pieces of their lives.

Our donations will enable the Sisters to go on gathering those broken by war and providing them with care support and a safe place. Also with your help *Missio Scotland* will give funding to the Catholic Women's Association – a Cameroonian organisation similar to the Union of Catholic Mothers here in Scotland. These Catholic women are supporting displaced people who have taken refuge in their parishes.

Gathering those who have been broken, inviting everyone to join together in a place of peace is the focus of Pope Francis' theme for this World Mission Sunday. He recalls the scene in Matthew's Gospel where the king tells the servants *'go and invite everyone to the banquet.'*

This weekend, in a special collection, we will have the chance to support this good work in a practical way; a little donation from many helps to make a big difference in the lives of some of the most challenged people in the world. *It's good to be part of that care and concern.*

I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:

Monday October 21st: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am; Confessions at 6.30pm, Novena at 7pm

Tuesday October 22nd: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Wednesday October 23rd: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Thursday October 24th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

This weekend we welcome to our 10.30am Mass some young parishioners from S6 at Holy Cross High to share something with us about the Caritas Award.

Cathedral Sunday Nights for Young Adults: the next gathering is on October 20th 7.30-8.30pm. All young people aged S6 and above are warmly invited to come along to Motherwell Cathedral next Sunday evening for some spiritual input followed by time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, and afterwards there is an option to gather for some social time in a relaxed setting. Around 30 young people from across the diocese gather every month, and they are forming a very fun and welcoming community which also takes part in other events and pilgrimages: why not come along; you'll be made very welcome.

Catholic Men's Society Meeting (CMS) will meet on Monday after the 10am Mass in the parish meeting room; the discussion theme for this session is the Sacraments; what do they mean to you? New participants are always welcome; please contact Peter Lavery Snr., on 01698 423085 or at laverypeter93@yahoo.com.

Motherwell Diocesan Synod Team: to mark the end of the Synod in Rome you are invited to come together in Xavier Hall, Carfin, on Saturday 26th October from 11am-1pm; registration from 10.30am. We will reflect and discern together about what is needed to become a synodal church here in Motherwell Diocese through deeper Communion, Participation and Mission; the results of our reflection will then be sent to Bishop Toal; everyone is welcome.

Motherwell Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, July 14th -21st, 2025: departure is from Prestwick Airport with Joe Walsh Tours; pilgrims will stay in the adjoining hotels, Alba and Mediterranean, beside the River Gave. Bishop Toal invites pilgrims to join with him in prayer for the Holy Year by reflecting on the role of Mary as disciple, woman and mother. If you wish to register an interest in joining the pilgrimage please contact Fr. Gerry Maguinness on frmaguinness@rcdom.org.uk. Bookings will be available soon online at www.joewalstours.co.uk or by phone on 0808 1890468.

CREDO, the parish faith-sharing group meets 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 Parish Defibrillator is located in the first confessional and is clearly visible on the wall as you open the door.

Please pray for all who are ill: David Rankin, John Rimmer, Jim Breslin

Recently Deceased: Michael (Mike) Hoblyn, Agnes Larkins, Betty Jack, Paul Mulvey,

Special Remembrance: Hugh Morgan, Tom Collins, Helen Aiton, Margaret Lynas Higgins and all our deceased relatives and friends and the benefactors of St. Mary's and St. Paul's.