



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

email: stmaryhamilton@rcdom.org.uk

Tel: 01698 423552

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

Confessions: Saturday 4:30 – 4:50pm

Newsletter

Thirty-Third Sunday of the Year

November 17th 2024

My dear parishioners,

Archbishop William Nolan, Archbishop of Glasgow and Bishop President of Catholic Education, has sent the following Pastoral letter for Education Week:

“We are blessed in Scotland to have so many people committed to the education of our young people. Yes, we can look around and see that all is not perfect in our schools or in our parishes. We can bemoan the fact that there are pupils, parents and teachers whose commitment to the faith is not as strong as we would wish, and we can look at the threats to the Catholic Education System coming from the secular world. But we should really rejoice that so many people do so much good work in the field of Catholic Education.

That is why we are pilgrims of hope, which is this year’s theme for Catholic Education Week. We are all pilgrims as we journey through life, often facing an uncertain future. But we journey with hope and we face the future with hope – because we put our trust in God. And we see the signs of hope in Catholic Education. We see the seed of faith being sown. Yes, sometimes it lands on barren soil or is choked by weeds, but elsewhere it produces a harvest, thirty, sixty, a hundredfold.

Catholic Education is for all of us and it is for life – it is an ongoing lifelong experience. We often concentrate our thoughts on Catholic schools, but we, each one of us, at every age and at all stages of our pilgrim journey, need to benefit by being educated in our faith and having an understanding of that faith relevant to our situation in life.

It is not easy to live the faith in today’s world – it is not easy to pass on the faith to a generation immersed in a secular world. But we are pilgrims of hope in the world of today, and what gives us hope are the signs of faith, the visible shoots, which in some places might just poke through the weeds of secularism. We are pilgrims of hope because we are like grains of salt scattered over the land. Like salt enhancing a meal, every follower of Jesus is there to enhance our world, to bring to it the flavour of Christ’s teaching.

Our hope comes not from our own abilities, it comes from God, knowing that the Spirit of God is with us and working through us. It is a hope that is not based on seeing results. As St. Paul says, one sows another reaps. We may be the one sowing the seeds of faith, but we may not be the one to see the fruits of the harvest. We are all pilgrims. Some of us are further along the journey of life than others by time and age. Those of us who are older must have a special concern for ensuring that our young people receive a Catholic Education, an education that gives them insight into the meaning and purpose of life, an education that assures them of the personal love that God has for each one of us. But we all need to educate ourselves continually in the faith, so that we can better understand and come closer to God.

Our faith is a great blessing to us. We would all benefit from understanding it better. As we progress on our pilgrim journey, we need to keep the faith, but not keep it to ourselves. We need to share it, to pass it on, so that all generations can journey through life as pilgrims of hope.

With every good wish and blessing,

Devotedly in Christ

+William

Bishop President for Education

I offer here the Schedule for the Daily Liturgy:

Monday November 18th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am, Novena at 7pm

Tuesday November 19th: Requiem Mass for Mr. David Rankin at 10am

Reception on Monday at 6.15pm

Wednesday November 20th: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

Thursday November 21st: Mass at 10am

Rosary at 9.40am

November Mass for the Faithful Departed, Tuesday 26th at 6.30pm, followed by some light refreshments in the parish hall; all parishioners are welcome and especially those families who have lost a loved one since last November.

Faith in Action for Young People: in line with the Wellspring Project, this new parish initiative hopes to engage teens and young adults in their local community, while exploring faith together. We would need a team of interested adults to support this project. If you have an interest in exploring this further please contact Claire Moinar on 07906 832201

Coffee Morning: thank you to everyone who served in the hall and who provided home baking and to all who came along: a donation of £400 was sent to the Hamilton Foodbank from the people of St. Mary's and St. Paul's; £249 of Fairtrade goods were sold and the parish stall sold £130 of goods.

Catholic Education Week begins on Sunday 17th November; the theme is *Pilgrims of Hope*; the parish will mark the occasion on Sunday 24th November and the Diocese asks that a special collection be taken up to support the work of Catholic Education.

Catholic Men's Society (CMS) meets this Monday in the parish meeting room after morning Mass. Topic is Sacrament of Reconciliation; new members welcome.

Public Demonstration Against Assisted Suicide in Glasgow on Friday 22nd November: meet at Blythswood Square at 6pm to make the short walk to the St. Stephen's Centre on Bath Street for the Public Meeting from 7-9pm.

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: John Rimmer, Jim Breslin, Jim Strachan

Recently Deceased: David Rankin, Daniel Coffey, Paul Mulvey, Margaret Bryson, William Miller, Dr. Margaret Anne Craig, Jimmy Connor, Martha Oates, Eamonn Nugent, May Masterson, Kyle Mitchell, Matt Mitchell, Fr. Gordon Brown (Edinburgh).

Special Remembrance: Jim Bryson Snr. and Jnr., Joseph McMenemy, Anne McMenemy, John Malone, Esther McManus, Anna Donnelly, Kevin Bryant, Ella and Joe Paterson, Jan and Mary Kozak, Daniel and Margaret McGinnes, Bertie Auld and all our deceased relatives and friends.