

**St Monica's Parish**  
**Diocese of Motherwell**  
Registered Charity SC011041  
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Website: <https://saint-monica.org.uk>  
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Parish Priest: Fr. Ghislain B. Mulumanzi.

**SUNDAY MASSES:** Vigils at 4pm & 5.30pm, 10 am, 12Noon & 5pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Mon – Sat 10am

**CONFESSIONS:** 30 min before the mass in the Sacristy

**Baptisms:** Speak to Fr Ghislain.

**Marriages:** Please speak to Fr Ghislain. Please note 6 months' notice is required.

**Sunday 8th November 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year A**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** WIS 6:12-16

**Responsorial Psalm:** *For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Thes 4: 13-18

**Gospel:** Mt 25: 1-13

**Last Sunday's collection** – £786.70

Building Fund collection: £298.00

Thank you for your generosity and support.



**18 October 2020**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** No. 400. E McAdams

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** No 70 .S Ward

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** No 94. M McCann

**25 October 2020**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** No139.. M Gooloogy

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** No 209. I Sharpe

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** No106 .T Davies

**Mass Readers**

We are still short of readers for some masses and require additional volunteers. If you would be willing to read, please contact Karen Mitchelson on 07802623379

**Annual Mass Attendance Census**

The Annual Mass Attendance Census will take place this weekend.

**November Lists**

November is the month when, by tradition, we pray for the eternal rest of our deceased relatives and friends. This year, in all our churches, we remember especially those who have died during the pandemic. We also pray for those who have lost someone they loved, for those who were unable to say goodbye, and for those who are suffering the pain of grief. We pray for confidence in the loving mercy of God, for faith in the Resurrection to new life, and for the hope of being reunited in God's kingdom.

November Lists are available at the back of the Church and mass will be offered daily for our departed ones. Please complete and return the form and put it in the box at the back of the Church.

|  <b>Mass Schedule</b> |                       |  |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Monday</b>   | 10am<br>6pm           | Mass The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Adoration                |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | 10am                  | Mass St Leo The Great - Memorial                                     |
| <b>Wednesday</b>  | 9am<br>10am           | Mass St Martin of Tours - Memorial<br>Requiem Mass for Thomas Murray |
| <b>Thursday</b>   | 10am                  | Mass St Josaphat- Memorial   |
| <b>Friday</b>   | 10am                  | Mass   |
| <b>Saturday</b>   | 10am<br>4pm<br>5.30pm | Mass<br>Vigil Mass<br>Vigil Mass                                     |
| <b>Sunday</b>   | 10am<br>12noon<br>5pm | 33 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year A<br>Mass<br>Mass<br>Mass        |

## **World Day of the Poor 2020**

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2020, we are all invited to celebrate the World Day of the Poor with Pope Francis.

### **Reflection – Wisdom & Grieving with Hope**

The first reading eulogises wisdom. Wisdom has nothing to do with being smart or even intelligent or with the age. Growing older doesn't mean always growing wiser. In the Bible Wisdom means knowing the meaning of life and how we should live it. To be wise means to know God's purpose for us and to live according to it. Our chief task in life is not to be successful or fulfilled. It is to live well. Unfortunately, many things, good in themselves, can block all roads, to the one thing that distinguishes us from the animals, namely spiritual activity. People exhaust themselves in the senseless pursuit of material things and die without realising the spiritual wealth. No one can be happy who ignores or misses the main purpose of our life on earth. Deep down everybody experiences a desire for the kingdom of God. If we lose God, we lose all. If we find God, we find all. The luckiest thing that ever happens to any of us in life is getting to know God and to be with him for all eternity.

While the Gospel is talking about rejoicing, the second reading is talking about grieving. Both are part of life and can be very close to each other. Today I may be attending a wedding, tomorrow a funeral. The early Christians believed that Jesus would return soon and take them all to heaven. This made it difficult for them to accept death of some their members before Jesus returned in glory. Paul reassured them that as God raised Jesus from the dead, Jesus will raise those who have died, and present them to God in the final showing of his Kingdom. But meanwhile they are grieving. What should be their

attitude to grief? 'Do not grieve like those who have no hope.'

Grief is one of the strongest emotions we will ever experience. Many people have a problem about expressing grief, and may try to suppress it. To suppress grief is dangerous, and can result in serious emotional problems. To live fruitfully after the death of a loved one, people need to go through a period of mourning. The way to deal with grief is not to run away from it, or pretend it isn't there, but to face it and work through it with as much honesty and courage as one can. Those who do this will emerge enriched as persons. Grief has a great purgative value. God cannot fill the soul until it is emptied of trivial concerns. And a great grief is a tremendous bonfire in which all the trash of life is consumed.

Faith should not be used as a barrier against grief. Sometimes people say about someone who does not grieve: 'What great faith he/she has!' but even Christ grieved. To grieve over the loss of a loved one is a good and necessary thing. While faith doesn't do away with necessity of grieving, it is wonderful comfort and support at a time of death. Paul says: 'We believe that Jesus Christ died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Christ... Comfort one another with these thoughts.' Faith doesn't dispense us from grieving. What it does do is enable us to grieve with hope. We mustn't be afraid to cry, to let ourselves go. It is part of the healing. We have tears in our eyes but hope in our hearts. The wedding feast to which Jesus invites us will be all the more joyful for those who have walked through the dark valley of grief, and emerged with lamps of love still burning brightly

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

**Sick:** Leigh McKennan, John Clenaghan, Jean Graham, James Carr, Linda Webb, James McLaughlan

**Recently Dead:** Thomas Murray, James McGinty, Stephen Docherty, Janet Kearney, John Bowers

**Months Mind:** Fthr Cornelius Xavier O'Leary, Helen, Margaret & Agnes Docherty, William & Patrick Docherty, Mary & Edward Drummond, Anna & Joseph Pearson, Alex Thain, Patrick McGurk, Bill, Paul & Lawrence Molloy, Frank & Agnes Wilson, Sarah (Sadie) Marley, Bernard, Liam John & Brian Loney, John Deigan, Margaret Deigan, James Deigan, Anne Marie Deigan, Mr & Mrs Peter Deigan & Brian, Mr & Mrs Andry Prost, Mr & Mrs William Deigan Jnr & Snr, Mr & Mrs John Fagan, Mr & Mrs Frank Grant & Marie, Jack Gill, Mr & Mrs Tommy Deigan

**Anniversaries:** Pat Docherty, Thomas Sexton, Margaret Innes, Joseph Marley, Lily Loney



**Please also remember the souls who have no one to pray for them**