# Lent fasting almsgiving

## St Monica's Parish Diocese of Motherwell

Registered Charity SC011041 Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP Tel: 01236 421750 Mobile: 07747259800 Email: stmonica@rcdom.org.uk Website: https://saint-monica.org.uk Facebook: St. Monica's Parish Coatbridge You Tube: St. Monica's Parish Coatbridge Twitter: @StMonicasParish

Parish Priest: Fr. Ghislain B. Mulumanzi.

SUNDAY MASSES: Livestream 10am WEEKDAY MASSES: Livestream Mon – Sat 10am Stations of the Cross: Livestream Mon & Fri 6pm CONFESSIONS: Please contact Fr Ghislain Baptisms: Speak to Fr Ghislain Marriages: Please speak to Fr Ghislain. Please note 6 months' notice is required.

> Sunday 7 March 3rd Sunday Lent Year B First Reading: Ex 20:1-17 Responsorial Psalm You, Lord, have the message of eternal life Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:22-25 Gospel: Jn 2: 13-25

# **Reflection 3rd Sunday Lent**

It comes as a shock to see Jesus not just angry, but furious. And to see him resort to what looks like a form of violence. We may have been taught that all anger is sinful. But in itself anger is just a feeling, and as such is neither good nor bad morally. It is true that anger is a dangerous thing and can result in us saying or doing things we later regret. But anger can also be a good thing. It can spur us to put right something that is blatantly wrong. There are times when we ought to be angry. An unjust situation should make us angry. Anger can be an expression of love.

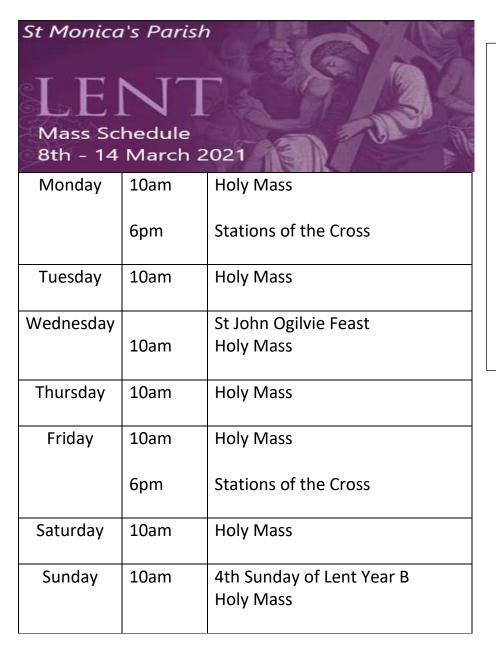
We have to look at the things that make us angry. It is said that you can measure the size of a person's soul by the size of the things that make him angry. Most of our anger is motivated by self-interest and we get angry about petty things. It is amazing how worked up people get when their own interest are threatened, however marginally. But how few get worked up when it's their neighbour's interests that are threatened.

Jesus didn't get angry on his own account. His anger resulted from his love of God and of his neighbour. His action in the temple has been seen as a protest against the commercialisation of

religion and the desecration of the temple. But it went deeper than that. Firstly, he was protesting that Israel had failed to fulfil her universal mission to humankind. Religion had become narrow, nationalistic, and exclusive. The temple, which was meant to be a house of prayer 'for all nations', remained the jealously-guarded preserve of Israel. Jesus was doing away with the notion of exclusiveness. Salvation was not just for the Jews, but for all peoples.

Secondly, he was attacking the very nature of Jewish worship. The whole temple worship with its ritual and animal sacrifices was irrelevant and could do nothing to bring people to God. He was replacing sacrificial worship with spiritual worship. Worship demands a lot more of us than the offering of things to God and the performance of certain ritual. What God wants above all is the worship of our lives.

May the Lord help us to make this house a house of prayer, joy, and unity. And may what we do here help us to give God the worship of our lives. Amen





During the lockdown you will still be able to join us daily by following the mass live via Facebook and You Tube at 10am & 6pm on a Monday and Friday for Stations of the Cross

# Sacraments for Children

The parish has scheduled the celebration of sacraments for children, though we are still uncertain if our churches will be open.

First Reconciliation: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021, at 6pm <u>First Reconciliation Request Form</u> First Communion: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021 at 11am and 1pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 at 2pm. <u>First Holy Communion Request Form</u> Confirmation: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May & Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm <u>Confirmation Request Form</u>

To enrol your child for these sacraments, parents are advised to download the application form on the parish website www.saint-monica.org.uk, contact Fr Ghislain or St Monica's Primary School.

# Lenten Zoom meetings - Journeying with Jesus

Fr Tom Magill is organising a series of four Zoom meetings during Lent, taking place on four Sunday evenings from 7.00 - 7.30 pm. Join people from throughout the diocese for 30 minutes of prayer and reflection on four Sundays of Lent. Please register your interest through the email on the flyer <u>missions@rcdom.org.uk</u>. You will then be sent a link for the meetings.

# Aid to the Church in Need in Scotland

Aid to the Church in Need in Scotland has produced its first parish newsletter (internet link below) which contains a number of excellent Lenten Resources, especially for children.

In this way, ACN hopes that you and your parish can work with ACN to support the suffering Church this Lent. They have come up with some virtual ways to generate prayer, pass on information about the work of ACN and fundraise as well. ACN would particularly like to highlight their virtual Sunday Lenten Lunch on 21st March.

The internet link for the bulletin is:

## http://bit.ly/ACN PARISH NEWSLETTER 1

ACN wishes to thank all parishes for all for everything that you are doing to support the work of ACN in Scotland.

## Sponsor A Tile

The names of everyone who has been sponsored and the sponsor have been recorded in a "Book of Dedication" which will now become part of our parish history.

Anyone who would like to sponsor a tile can still do so. As we are unable to give out sponsor forms at the moment simply write your name and address and the name of the intended on a piece of paper. Place this and your donation in an envelope and pop it through the door at the chapel house.

This is a lovely way to remember a loved one, celebrate a Sacramental event or remember a special event in your life. This appeal has already been a successful way to raise much needed funds to make improvements in our church.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

#### **Weekly Offering**

Your financial support of the Parish in recent months has been appreciated and I would ask you to please continue to show your support during this latest lockdown.

If you wish to donate your weekly offering to the parish online, below are the parish bank details.

#### Account Name: RCDM St Monica's Sort Code: 83 17 13 Account Number: 00163062

## **Church Renovations**

Despite COVID 19 the aim is to keep the Church refurbishments on track, and I am appealing to you to continue to financially support this project.

Your financial support over the last 11 months despite COVID 19 for our Building Fund has been greatly appreciated. Presently, we have raised £45K towards the £120K needed for this work. I am asking you again to support our Church renovations in any way you can.

Donations to the Building Fund can be made by handing in an envelope to the presbytery, by setting up a standing order or making a one-off donation.

If you know or work for a local company who would be willing to make a donation, please get in touch.

#### Gift Aid

Is a government scheme which allows our parish to reclaim tax paid on donations.

We can claim from HMRC, the basic rate of tax on any donations which have been paid. Gift Aid increases the value of donations by 25%, so it means even more money goes to our church – and it won't cost you extra!

For anyone paying tax, please consider using Gift Aid as it means our parish will receive an extra 25p for every £1 donated.

If you are interested in joining the scheme, please complete the attached form and return it as soon as possible.

**Gift Aid Application Form** 

Gift Aid Envelopes for year 2021/22 are now available for collection from the box at the front of the Presbytery.

#### SCIAF – Wee Box Big Change

Every Lent, the time between Ash Wednesday and Easter, thousands of Scots save money in their SCIAF WEE BOX to help give a hand up to people living in poverty.

By giving up a treat and putting what you save into a WEE BOX or fundraising online, you can make a lasting difference to families in some of the world's poorest countries.

By raising money for the Wee Box Appeal, you can help children with disabilities in South Sudan to access the education and support they need to build a bright future.

This year £1=£2 from 12 February to 11 May, all public donations to the Wee Box Big Change Appeal will be doubled by the UK Government.

Boxes can be collected from the front of the Presbytery.

#### Approval to teach in a Catholic School: COVID-19 Health Restrictions

We have been made aware of some possible challenges in completing references for approval, due to the current restrictions on places of worship and the dispensation from attending Sunday Mass. We would therefore recommend that you read the attached note if applying for approval to teach in a Catholic School.

COVID 19 Restrictions & Application for Approval to teach within a Catholic School

#### Please remember in your prayers:



**<u>Recently Dead</u>**: Eddie McGonigal, Mina Martin

<u>Sick:</u> John Clenaghan, Jean Graham, James Carr, Linda Webb, James McLaughlin, Mrs Cecelia Greig, Ann & John McShane, Elizabeth McKenna, Mary Forsyth, Isabella Devine, Nicolas Hardy

Months Mind: Lawrence Molloy, Bill Paul, Peter & Frank Waitkins, May & Paul Conway, Vincent Etta & Lizabeth McKeown, John Deigan, Margaret Deigan, James Deigan, Ann Marie Deigan, Mr & Mr Peter Deigan & Brian, Mr & Mrs Deigan Snr & Jnr, Mr & Mrs John Fagan, Mr & Mrs Prost, Mr & Mrs Frank Grant & Marie, Mr & Mrs Tommy Deigan, Mr Jack Gill, James, Elizabeth & Sadie Prunty, John Harkins, Danny Watson Snr, Danny Watson Jnr, Elizabeth & James McParland, Bridget & James Watson, Mary Kelly John Trower

<u>Anniversaries:</u> Norman MacLean, Agnes & Justin Waitkins, Tony & Ryan Coyle, John Clarke, Tom Kelly

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

#### Prayer to Saint Joseph

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our tribulation, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also.

Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities. O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.