

# *St Monica's Parish*

## *Bulletin*

### **The Epiphany of the Lord (Year C) 2 January 2022**

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP  
Tel: 01236 421750 Mobile: 07747259800  
Parish Hall: Contact Kelly McColl on 07464254377

Email: [stmonica@rcdom.org.uk](mailto: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.  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Monday-Saturday: 9am-9.55am  
SUNDAY MASSES: Vigil at 4pm  
10am (livestream) 12 Noon & 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday – Saturday 10am  
DIVINE MERCY NOVENA: Monday 2pm  
CONFESSIONS: 30min before the Mass in the sacristy

BAPTISMS: Please speak to Fr Ghislain  
MARRIAGES: Please speak to Fr Ghislain.  
Please note 6 months' notice is required.

**First Reading:** Is 60:1-6  
**Responsorial Psalm:** **All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord**  
**Second Reading:** Eph 3: 2-3.5-6  
**Gospel:** Mt 2: 1-12

**500 Club Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: No. 23 T Docherty  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: No.157 J McLaughlin  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No. 110 S Kane



Offertory Collection: £440.31  
Christmas Offertory Collection: £1643.51  
Building Fund: £2064.37

**There will be a second collection this weekend for Justice & Peace**

Many thanks for your great generosity and support

**St Margaret's Children & Family Care Society Crib Appeal**

Donation Box is at the front of the crib in the church

**Thank you!**

To the donor who donated £1000 to our Church Building Fund.  
Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

**Welcome!**

To the Seminarian Colum Martin who has been sent to St Monica's for a 3 week placement before returning to Scot College. Colum is in his last year of preparation to the priesthood. Please support him with your prayers.

**Bishop Toal Pastoral Letter, 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I wish you every blessing for 2022. I thank you for your prayers and support during 2021, and for your good wishes and generosity to the clergy and myself at Christmas.

I pray that you and your families keep well as the omicron variant of the virus spreads in our communities. Hopefully the more optimistic reports on its effects will be true and normality will come a little closer. Until we know though we are asked to be cautious and take the requested steps to protect ourselves and others, including receiving the booster. I can understand that some will be hesitant about coming to church until things improve and it is appropriate for you to decide when that will be the case. If you don't feel able to come to Mass on Sunday at present, then pray at home, preferably with your family, and if possible, follow Holy Mass on-line. Sunday is the Lord's Day and it should always be kept in his honour, with time being given to him even when we cannot attend Mass.

I thank all those who work in particular ways to support our parishes and the Diocese. A particular word of thanks to the volunteers who have taken responsibility for caring for our churches and assist those who attend Mass and other services in these difficult times. Your commitment, patience, and good humour is much appreciated.

I thank you for your continuing financial support for the Church. With smaller congregations there has been a fall in income, and this is a challenge as we look to the future, especially with the increase in the cost of living and the threat of more rises to come. This has been especially noticeable in the cost of building materials, which are making repair work or improvements more costly. In such circumstances wise judgments are required in deciding what work is essential and what will have to wait. While other parishes can offer some support through the Parochial Investment Fund, parishes do need to seek generous donors and do fund-raising themselves

All parishes, and indeed other groups, have been asked to participate in the Synodal Process in the first three months of the year. I recognise that the present restrictions on gathering in groups may curtail the planned meetings, but I hope that some will be possible with beneficial outcomes for the parishes and the Diocese and Church in Scotland.

On 1st January the Parish of St John Ogilvie's, Blantyre, will be amalgamated into St Joseph's. This means that there will one parish in Blantyre, St Joseph's, with two churches (St Joseph's and St John Ogilvie's). Such an amalgamation was proposed some time ago and I have held further consultative meetings in recent months. It seems appropriate to make this change as the New Year begins and to bring the faithful in Blantyre together in one parish. Let us pray for them and their Parish Priest, Fr Brian Lamb, and Deacon Joe Dowds, at this important time.

Early in January, three young men from Motherwell Diocese are due to leave for the Royal Scots College in Salamanca, Spain, to participate in what is known as the Propaedeutic Course for the Priesthood in Scotland. They are Aidan Farrell from St Mary's, Lanark; Matthew O'Neill from St Mary's, Whifflet, Coatbridge; and Aidan Kelly from St Ninian's, Hillhouse, Hamilton. On behalf of us all I wish them well and assure them of our prayers as they begin their formation for the priesthood in Motherwell Diocese.

Our present seminarians are at home for the Christmas Holidays – Chris Furmage, Ronan McQuade, and Kieran Burt will return to Rome early in January, while Deacon Chris Morris, Colum Martin, and Christopher Igwe will do Parish pastoral placements before returning to St Mary's, Oscott, later in January. I ask your continued prayers for all of them. Deacon Chris Morris is due to be ordained as a priest on June 30th, 2022, in Motherwell Cathedral, and Colum Martin to be ordained a Deacon the previous week, on June 25th at St Mary's, Oscott.

If any man is considering a vocation to the priesthood and is ready to enter into the discernment process, please make yourself known to your Parish Priest or contact Fr Charles O'Farrell at Our Lady and St Anne's, Hamilton. Likewise, if any man is considering a vocation to the Permanent Diaconate, please speak to your Parish Priest or contact Fr James Grant at St Francis Xavier's, Carfin, the Vocations' Director for the Permanent Diaconate.

Pope Francis wrote an uplifting letter last Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Family, to married couples, encouraging them to remain aware of and fully open to the person of Christ in their lives together. We intend to have a Mass for married couples, particularly those who married last year or celebrated special anniversaries, in the Cathedral on Thursday 27th January, so hopefully it can be go ahead and couples and their families will feel able to attend.

On Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany and keep the World Day of Prayer for Peace. As always, this is an important intention as we begin the New Year with its renewed optimism that our world will indeed be more peaceful in 2022. We also add Justice to our prayers for Peace here in Scotland and Bishop Nolan offers us a letter for reflection and action, which was issued with the ad clerum of 17<sup>th</sup> December, for a more just and peaceful world.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Yours in Christ,



**+ Joseph Toal**

**Please remember in your prayers**

**Recently Dead:** Elizabeth Renwick, Margaret (Maggie) Houston, John Meechan (Requiem Mass 11 January 2022)

**Sick:** Niamh Cassidy, Ann & John McShane & Family, Linda Webb, Michael McAdams, Nicolas Hardy, Isobel Reilly, Gerald McDonald, Carol McGuinness, Pauline O'Rourke, Janey Mullen, Ben McGovern, Anne Marie Snodden, Catherine Donnelly, James Donnelly, Jim Gallacher, Alice Lindsay, Patricia McGhee, Frances Hynes

**Month's Mind:** John & Pat Rennie, John, Catherine, Jim, Michael & Teresa McAlinden, Jim McKenna, Hamilton, Annie, John & Steven Pettigrew, Charles & Isabell O'Hagan, John McGregor, Brian Lowe, Matthew Thomson Snr, Gary Thomson, Mary & Morag McKeown, George & Margaret Currie, Sadie & Eric Anson, Florence Currie, Peter & Betty McCall, James, Elizabeth & Sadie Prunty

**Anniversaries:** John & Catherine Rennie, Jim Pettigrew, George Ferguson, Matthew Thomson Jnr, John Docherty, James & Bridget Watson, Tony & Ryan Coyle, Agnes & Michael Coyle, Rose McKeown, Kathleen (McDonagh) O'Hear

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

<b>Services this week</b>		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10am</b> <b>6pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b> <b>Reception of the Body of Elizabeth Renwick</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Requiem Mass for Elizabeth Renwick</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am</b> <b>4pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b> <b>Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	<b>10am</b> <b>12 Noon &amp; 5pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>