

# *St Monica's Parish*

## *Bulletin*

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) 23 January 2022**

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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.

**Parish Mass Book Year C - Page 56**

**First Reading: Neh 8:2-6,8-10**

**Responsorial Psalm: *Your words are spirit Lord, and they are life***

**Second Reading: 1 Cor 12:12-30**

**Gospel: Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21**

### 3rd Sunday, Year C. Reflection

Do Christians live really according to the Book? Basically, you'll find five kinds of Christians. Firstly, some are Christians in name only. Even though they were baptised, they adhere to none of the observances of Christianity, and have no commitment to it. Secondly, some are Christians by habit only. Even though they are committed to the outwards observances, it doesn't affect the way they live. They live according to principles that have nothing to do with the teachings of the Book, and in many cases are contrary to it. Thirdly, some are clearly devoted to their Christian faith. They are engaged in good works. Yet a vital element seems to be missing. They seem to possess few, if any, of the qualities which made Jesus the Master so appealing. Fourthly, there are some very practical Christians. These have grasped the heart of what the Book is about. They are clearly concerned about other people and are not ashamed to be seen to be Christians. In some places they are being persecuted. In other places you see them meeting the deadly indifference of their fellow citizens. Lastly some, admittedly not many, whom you would have no hesitation in calling genuine Christians. They are deeply spiritual people. In meeting them you feel you are meeting Christ himself. Today the task of preaching the Gospel to the world depends on us. It's a great privilege but a daunting task. But like Jesus, we are given the help of the Holy Spirit. The best way to preach the Gospel is by living a Christian life. The only book some people will ever read about the Gospel is the book of our lives.

#### Synod- synodality: let's join our parish community

The word "**Synod**" means not only an assembly but a journey that we take together – not a journey from one physical destination to another, but rather a journey of mind, heart, and spirit that brings us together as one. The first such synod was the Council of Jerusalem. The Apostles and their co-workers gathered to discuss what the influx of Gentile converts would mean for the Church and her mission. How would the Church, comprised of Jews and Gentiles, travel together into the future? Despite the tensions surrounding this uncharted territory, the Holy Spirit brought the assembly together, and even now its decisions shape the Church's mission to peoples of every race and nation.

Likewise, the word "**synodality**" refers to those "habits of the heart" that we need to participate fruitfully in discussions in the Church, both formal and informal . . . discussions guided by the Spirit that bring about that oneness of mind and heart so necessary for the advancement of the Church's mission, Synodality is part of the Church's life. The church is understood as "the Body of Christ" and "the People of God"; "communion" of believers, united to one another eucharistically, in Christ through the Holy Spirit. We participate in the faith, not as isolated individuals, nor as ideological factions, but rather as fellow believers united by "one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Eph. 4:5). Synodality requires us to build a "culture of encounter" in the grace of the Holy Spirit. We create an atmosphere of hospitality and welcome; we learn how to live our faith together, in patience and charity. We develop a deep respect and openness to our fellow Catholics, and are united with a willingness to listen, dialogue, and discern with them, . . . including those with whom we disagree, theologically, philosophically, and politically.

True to form, Pope Francis does not want synodality to remain just an idea, but rather he wants us to learn how to put it into practice and to make it a habit. This is the essential point of the many meetings that will be held in the parish among people of all ages and cultures, among those close to the Church and among those who are absent or alienated. Listening and

dialoguing will teach us how to be united with the Lord and one another in the Church. Responding to Pope Francis' summons with openness and love, we will strengthen the Church's communion, participate in God's life more profoundly, and advance the Church's mission beyond the walls of our churches. Aided by the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Church will shine as a sure sign of hope and as the great sacrament of salvation in Christ, to the praise and glory of God the Father. Amen!

### **Sacrament of First Reconciliation**

Please keep in your prayers all the children celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Tuesday 1 February at 7pm.

**First Communion:** 7 and 8 May 2022

**Sacrament of Confirmation:** 23 May at 7pm



### **500 Club Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: No. 194 M O'Neill

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: No. 78 M McCall

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize No. 35 A Watson



Offertory Collection: £935.20

Many thanks for your great generosity and support

### **Synod Parish Meetings**

#### **Communion, Participation and Mission**

Our next Parish Synod meeting will take place on Thursday **27 January 2022 at 6.30pm**. Each meeting involves discussions around themes for us to reflect upon and I would encourage you to participate in these meetings.

### **SVDP**

The brothers and sisters of SVDP would like to thank most sincerely all our parishioners for their very kind donations during the past year. Even with all these hard times, you have not forgotten the very needy. Many thanks again to each and every one of you from all the SVDP.

If anyone is interested, we could do with some new members, contact any member of the SVDP

### **Safeguarding**

Former Judge the Hon. Lady Rae has taken up the reins as Board Chair of the new Scottish Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (SCSSA) that is now being established as an independent body to oversee the Church's safeguarding practice. The latest issue of the *Safeguarding Matters* newsletter (available here: <https://bit.ly/3tyeInn> or pick up a copy from the church porch) provides details of what the agency will do, who it will work with and how it will be governed. Lady Rae is looking to recruit people who can bring relevant expertise to act as Board Directors who will support the important work of the new agency.

More details are available on the website of this recruitment.

<https://aspenpeople.co.uk/microsite/scssa/>

## **St Monica's Primary School 2022/23 Enrolment**

Reminder for parents & carers that the closing date for enrolment applications is Monday 24 January. Applications should be completed online. Full details can be found on the following website. <https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/primary-school-registration-p1>

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

**Recently Dead:** Jim Sludden, Rosemary Kennedy, Agnes Docherty, Peter Bell, Peter Grant

**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, Alice Lindsay, Patricia McGhee, Bernadette Homer, Betty McKenna

**Month's Mind:** John Deigan, Margaret Deigan, Anne Marie Deigan, Mr & Mrs Peter Deigan & Brian, James Deigan, Mr & Mrs Prost, Mr & Mrs Fagan, Mr & Mrs William Deigan Snr & Jnr, Mr & Mrs Tommy Deigan, Mr & Mrs Frank Grant & Marie, Jack Gill, John, Albert & Sallie Fulton, Fred, Anna & Betty Scott, Francis, Elizabeth. Mary, Margaret, Rose & Anne McGeehan, Catherine & James McDonald, Sheila Kennedy, Charlotte Costello, Moira Skillin, Ann Sood, Lila Williamson, Cecilia, Frank & Paul Lennon

**Anniversaries:** Rose McAleese, Fred, Sarah & John Scott, Albert & Christina Fulton, Christina Duffy, Sarah Drummond

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

<b>Services this week</b>		
<b>Monday</b> <b>St Francis De Sales - Memorial</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>The Conversion of St Paul - Feast</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>St Timothy and St Titus - Memorial</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Friday</b> <b>St Thomas Aquinas - Memorial</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>
	<b>4pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b> <b>4th Sunday of the Year - C</b>	<b>10am</b> <b>12 Noon &amp; 5pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>