

St Monica's Parish

Bulletin

The Baptism of the Lord (Year C) 9 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.

First Reading: Is 40:1-5,9-11

Responsorial Psalm **Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are!**

Second Reading: Titus 2: 11-14, 3:4-7

Gospel: LK 3:15-16, 21-22

Reflection- The Baptism of Jesus

The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our own baptism. There are many offices that people can hold in the church, but all of these pale when compared to the basic gift to all: baptism. When we stand before the throne of God, these other offices will be of no importance. Our dignity will depend on one thing only, the extent to which we have lived out our baptismal calling.

The ceremony of baptism is a beautiful one. In it we were formally given a name and welcomed into the family of God's people. Our body was signed with the sign of the cross, the mark of Christ love for us. Water was poured over us. Water is a symbol of cleansing, and in baptism we are cleansed of sin, but this is more especially a symbol of life. In baptism we are given a share in the undying life of God. Our bodies were anointed with holy oil, to give us strength for the inevitable struggle against evil and just as kings, prophets and priest were anointed with oil and thus marked out as God's ministers to the community, so we were anointed with the oil of chrism that we may be envoys of Christ in the world. Our body was covered with a white garment, the outward sign of our Christian dignity. We were given a candle lighted from the Easter candle to signify the precious light of faith. God called us out of darkness into the wonderful light of his Son. At our baptism we answered Jesus' call: come, follow me. We received the call to be disciples of Jesus.

What did we do with our Baptism? Do I live differently from the non-baptised? What difference does being a Christian make in the way I live my daily life? The Christian vocation is to be the salt of the earth, and the light of the world. Christianity is about how to live, not just about what to believe. Faith has to be translated into action.

St Margaret's Children & Family Care Society Crib Appeal

The annual collection for St Margaret's is more crucial than even this time as the pressure of the pandemic has led to an increase in the need for their services and at the same time, the restriction have led to major funding gaps. The crib appeal is a vital source of income for them. Please, support them if you can when you pay a visit to the crib.

Holy Mass to celebrate the Gift of Married Life with Bishop Toal at Motherwell Cathedral on Thursday 27 January 2022 at 7.00pm

Couples from across the diocese are invited to join Bishop Toal to celebrate the blessing of marriage and family life. Bishop Toal will invite all married couples present to renew their vows during this special Mass.



500 Club Winners

1st Prize: No. 298 A Gillick
2nd Prize: No 236 A Starrs
3rd Price No. 195 K McNab



Offertory Collection: £773.84
Justice & Peace Collection: £278.05
Building Fund: £42.95
Many thanks for your great generosity and support

Thank you

I wish all our parishioners a very Happy New Year 2022 and I hope it will bring many blessings for each one of us. I have been overwhelmed by the cards and gifts and well wishes from everyone and I thank you sincerely for your generosity.

I have received so many compliments on how beautiful our church has been decorated. Nothing could have been possible without the helping hands of many of you who generously gave your time, resources, and talents for the benefits of the parish. Thanks to everyone who has been involved in the liturgy, cleaning of the church, in our two halls, stall and church grounds. Your Christmas gifts to families and to St Monica's Primary School have been greatly appreciated.

As we begin the new year, I extend an open invitation to anyone who wishes to become involved in any of the ministries of the church or groups in our parish to get in touch to discuss further. Thank you to everyone who financially contributed on Christmas towards our Church refurbishment. Wishing you every blessing.

Church refurbishment

The engineer who inspected the roof in December 2019 advised that the roof will need replacing within the next 5 years. This will be a major job involving a lot of money. The internal decoration of our church will be carried out only once the roof has been replaced. Meanwhile, this year 2022 we are planning to get the church rewired and the heating system upgraded. We hope to get a new boiler in the hall installed. Thank you for your continuing effort towards the church refurbishment.

Sponsors Needed



We are looking for sponsors for two new altars: one to Our Lady and another to the Sacred Heart. The cost of each altar is £6673.00 from Hayes and Finches. The altars are made of solid veneered oak with an arched base, detailed beading, gilded and painted by hand.

Size 30" high x 72" wide x 30" deep.

All donations towards the cost of these new altars will be greatly appreciated and can be placed in the boxes located on the current altars to Our Lady and the Sacred Heart.

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.

Please remember in your prayers

Recently Dead: Elizabeth Renwick, John Meechan, Agnes Croly

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: Frank & Agnes Wilson, Bill Paul, Lawrence Molloy, Elizabeth McArdle

Anniversaries: Janet Gallagher, William Innes, Ben Ferrie, Joe McFarlane, Margaret McFarlane, John Rennie, Betty Halliday, John Mulholland, Kathleen (McDonagh) O'Hear

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

Services this week		
Monday	10am	Holy Mass
Tuesday	10am	Requiem Mass John Meechan
Wednesday	10am	Requiem Mass Agnes Croly
Thursday St Kentigern - Feast	10am	Holy Mass
Friday	10am	Holy Mass
Saturday	10am 4pm	Holy Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday 2nd Sunday of the Year - C	10am 12 Noon & 5pm	Holy Mass