

St Monica's Church Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

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 Diocese of Motherwell

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Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi

Mary, the Holy Mother of God - A <u>1st January 2023</u>

Holy Mass (Services marked in red will be live Streamed)

Mon – Fri: - 10am Saturday: - 10am, 4pm (Vigil) Sunday: - 10am 12 Noon & 5pm Children's Liturgy 12 Noon Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: -Mon – Sat 9am – 9.55am Divine Mercy Novena: Mon 2pm Confessions: Mon - Sun 9.30am – 9.55am Baptisms & Marriage: - To arrange a baptism or marriage please contact Father Ghislain

<u>Mass Liturgy - Year A</u>

Parish Mass Book Page 46 First Reading: Nm 6:22-27 Responsorial Psalm: *O God, be gracious and bless us.* Second Reading: Gal 4:4-7 Gospel: Lk 2: 16-21

Weekly Collection

Please support your parish through the weekly collection, our income relies solely on the donations of our parishioners. Last Week's Collection - £1502.85 Building Fund - £749.26 Crib - £50.00 There will be a second collection next weekend for Justice & Peace Thank you for your generosity

500 Club Winners

1st Prize No. 96 R McPhee 12nd Prize No. 279 M Kelly 3rd Prize No. 110 S Kane

<u>Please keep in your prayers</u>

Sick: Ann & John McShane & Family, Linda Webb, Isobel Reilly, Carol McGuinness, Pauline O'Rourke, Anne Marie Snodden, James Donnelly, Patricia McGhee, Bernadette Homer, Kelly Noble, Michael McGarrity, Sadie McBride, Mary Torbett, Sharon, Elizebeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens, Linda Webb, Ann Smith, Helen Smith, Margaret Gallagher, Alice Kilmurry, Danny Dick, Peter Alexander, Ann McAlinden, Stephen Henry

<u>**RIP:</u>** Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, John Reilly Requiem Mass Tuesday 10th January 10am), Irene McMullen</u>

<u>Month's Mind:</u> Robert & Anthony Clarke, James, Elizabeth & Isabella Docherty, Alice Rea, John, Pat & Josephine Rennie, John, Catherine, Jim, Michael & Teresa McAlinden, Kay McKenna, James, Elizabeth & Sadie Prunty

<u>Anniversaries:</u> John Docherty, Catherine & John Rennie, Jim McKenna Kathleen (McDonagh) O'Hear, James McCarron, Margaret McMahon

Please also remember the souls who have noone to pray for them.

<u>Baptism</u>

We welcome Freya Rose Gilson who is to be Baptised this weekend

We implore God's blessing upon her and her family as we welcome her into our parish community.

Reflection - A

Mary Mother of God.

It is especially meaningful that at the start of every New Year God sheds upon us, his people. Although the world is sadly marked by "hotbeds of tension and conflict caused by a selfish and individualistic mind-set, as well as by various forms of terrorism and crime, I am convinced that "the many different efforts at peace-making will not go in vain. 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God' (Mt 5:9)" How can we experience peace within ourselves, in spite of problems, darkness and anxieties? The reply is given to us by the Gospel of Luke, where we contemplate the interior peace of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. During the days in which "she gave birth to her first-born son" (Lk 2:7), many unexpected things occurred: not only the birth of the Son but, even before, the tiring journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, not finding room at the inn, the search for a chance place to stay for the night; then the song of the angels and the unexpected visit of the shepherds. In all this, however, Mary remains even tempered, she does not get agitated, she is not overcome by events greater than herself; in silence she considers what happens, keeping it in her mind and heart, and pondering it calmly and serenely. This is the interior peace which we ought to have amid the sometimes tumultuous and confusing events of history.

According to the Law of Moses, eight days after birth, baby boys were to be circumcised and then given their name. The Name Jesus which God had already chosen, even before the child had been conceived, is now officially conferred upon him at the moment of circumcision. This also changes Mary's identity once and for all: she becomes "the mother of Jesus", that is the mother of the Saviour, of Christ, of the Lord. Jesus is not a man like any other, but the Word of God, one of the Divine Persons, the Son of God: therefore, the Church has given Mary the title Theotokos or Mother of God.

May "The Lord bless you and keep you: may the Lord make his face to shine upon you: the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace" so that we his daughters and sons can enjoy the peace than he alone can give.

Happy New Year!

May God bless you and your family with prosperity, good health and happiness in the New Year.

Father Ghislain

NEW YEAR'S DAY MESSAGE FROM BISHOP TOAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we gather this weekend to celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of the Church, we welcome 2023 and ask the Lord's blessing upon us in the Year ahead. The beautiful words we hear today of the Lord's blessing on the people of Israel from the Book of Numbers are most appropriate:

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord uncover his face to you and bring you peace.

Let us pray especially for peace in our troubled world.

Let us pray also for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, trusting that the Lord will continue to uncover his face to him and bring him to the fullness of his peace. May our prayers accompany him as he looks to share in the joy of the Risen Christ with Mary, Joseph, and all the Saints.

With my prayers and best wishes for 2023.

Yours in Christ,

+ Joseph Tool

+ Joseph Toal

Motherwell Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: 14th-21st July 2023.

The Diocesan pilgrimage will take place in July 2023. As usual this will require a selection of our young people forming a youth group to cater for the needs of the sick of the diocese and to help assist with liturgy.

The Youth Pilgrimage looks to take young adults aged between 18 (or just finished 6th year at high school) and 25 years of age. There will be a meeting for those who are interested in St Aloysius, Chapelhall, on Thursday 2nd February at 7pm . If you are interested in going, please get in touch with our Youth Chaplain Fr Mark O'Donnell at frodonnell@rcdom.org.uk

Catholic Charismatic Renewal

Diocese of Motherwell New Year Healing Mass 2023 Saturday 14th January at 1pm St Columba's Church 693 Old Edinburgh Road Uddingston G71 6HF Tea and coffee will be served in the hall afterwards Everyone is welcome to attend