



St Monica's Church

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

Telephone: 01236 421750

Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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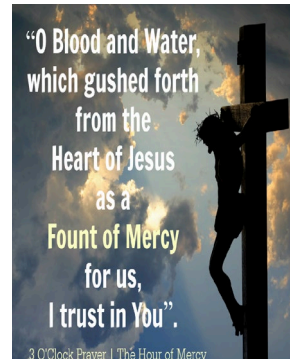
Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

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Parish Hall: Email: stmonicashall@outlook.com

Tele: - 07549042450 Mary Cope

Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



17th Sunday – Year A. 30^d July, 2023

Holy Mass & Services

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

Mass Liturgy - Year A

Parish Mass Book, Page 58

- First Reading: 1 Kgs 3: 5.7-12
- Responsorial Psalm: **Lord, how I love your law!**
- Second Reading: Rom 8: 28-30
- Gospel: Mt 13: 44-52

Weekly Collection

Please support your parish through the weekly collection, our income relies solely on the donations of our parishioners.

Last week's collection

First Collection: £744.53

There is a second collection this weekend for our Building Fund

Thank you for your generosity.

500 Club Winners!

1st Prize: 363 H Kelly

2nd Prize: 571 M Clark

3rd Prize: 473 M Gollogly

Please keep in your prayers

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, Elizabeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens, Ann Smith, Helen Smith, Margaret Gallagher, Alice Kilmurry, Danny Dick, Peter Alexander, Ann McAlinden, Mary Cunningham, Patricia McGhee, Margaret Wallace, Irene Leckie, Jenny Divine, Kay McDonagh, Daniel McAuley, Mary Glasgow, Jamie McCormack, John Slevin, Cathie Wilson

RIP: Catrina Kirkland, Billy Gibson

Month's Mind: Mary & James McGrath, May & Jimmy McLaughlin, Kathleen & Peter Dolan, Mattie, Tommy & Thomas Collins, Tilly & Marie Clarke, Jim Boyle, John Moore, Peter, Helen, & Ellen Moore, Betty Duffy, Lawrence, William & Mary Brankin, William, Ellen & Annie Brankin, John, Anna & Kevin McGrath, Kathleen Smith, Joseph, Agnes, Joe & Eddie Mina, Patricia Sharkey, Mary McSwiggan, Tom Sharp, Margaret, John, James & Anne Marie Deigan, Mr & Mrs Peter Deigan & Brian, Mr & Mrs Tommy Deigan, Mr & Mrs Deigan Snr & Jnr, Mr & Mrs Prost, Mrs & Mrs Fagan, Mr & Mrs Grant & Marie, Ryan Brown, Jack Gill, Arthur & Ann Craig, Anne Holmes, Fr Frank Kelly

Anniversary: Eddie Fagan, Jim Duffy, Brian Sharkey Snr Brian Sharkey Jnr, David Hayton, Daniel Donnachie, Sadie Craig, Annie Patricia Findlater, Tommy Gallagher

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

Reflection 17th Sunday A.

Wisdom is the most precious gift a person can have. It is a real treasure. Without it all other things are useless because we won't know to use them. On being told that he could have anything he wanted from God, Solomon asked for the gift of wisdom. God was pleased with his request and granted it to him.

Wisdom is not acquired overnight, but gradually and often painfully. Sometimes it takes some kind of a crisis to teach a person a little wisdom. Then the words of St Paul come true, namely, that in his mercy God can make all things work for our benefit.

Once there was a teacher who desired to make progress in his career and to climb the social ladder. He worked very hard. In fact, his work was his life. He put his best hours and his best efforts into it. He had little time to appreciate his family, and even less for enjoyment of life. It was clear to everyone where his treasure was.

But then he had a heart attack. He was taken to hospital where he lay for days, drifting in and out of consciousness, and not knowing whether he could live or die. During moments of lucidity, he saw these shadowy figures by his bedside. In that moment he saw where his true treasure lay- it lies in his family, his home, in the gift of life, and of course in God. He saw how foolish he had been up to now and he prayed with all his heart: "Lord, give me back my life, and I will be happy" and he resolved that if he got well, he would turn his priorities upside down.

He made a full recovery. The day he walked out of the hospital he was deliriously happy. Everything had been given back to him. Through that painful experience he acquired much wisdom. Prior to this, he was completely focused on himself and his career. Now he decided to open himself to others and to work for them. And he was happier than he had ever been in his life.

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be too." So, if we want to know what our treasure is, all we have to do is ask ourselves where our heart is. What is it that we love, that we pursue with all our hearts? There lies our treasure.

Of course, we may try to have it both ways- to keep friends with God and with mammon. However, what we are looking for cannot be found in material things. Riches brings anxiety, wisdom brings peace of mind. The wisdom we are talking about here means knowing what is truly important in life. It means being able to see life from God's point of view, and being able to live the way God wants us to live. If we don't have that, then no matter how many possessions we have, or how successful we are, we will not be happy.

Saints of the week

Monday 31st July St Ignatius of Loyola was born in the Basque country of Northern Spain. Ignatius became a soldier and was seriously injured in battle at Pamplona in 1521. It was during his long recuperation that he received the grace of spiritual conversion. Later at the University of Paris, he and five others took religious vows. A special vow was added of total obedience to the Pope. Ignatius in Rome led the new order. It became a key element in the Counter Reformation and still remains prominent in the education of the young, in foreign missions, in charitable work, in scholarship.

Tuesday 1st August St Alphonsus Mary de Liguori was born near Naples and was talented in the arts of music, painting and poetry, his first choice of career was law but, aged 27, he decided to be a priest. He worked among homeless youth in Naples and in nearby rural areas, he became known as a preacher with simple and direct style and as a confessor, who although opposing moral laxity, rejected rigorist attitudes, such as Jansenism, In 1732 he founded the Redemptorist Order.

Wednesday 2nd August St Eusebius of Vercelli A Sardinian, he became first Bishop of Vercelli. He pioneered the custom of the Bishop living in a community with his priests. He was a strong supporter of Athanasius of Alexandria against Arian heresy. For this, he suffered exile, imprisonment and persecution before his release and return to Vercelli.

St Peter Julian Eymard Born near Grenoble and of a poor family, he lived in an era of anti-clericalism on one hand and Jansenism on the other. He became a priest and a member of the Society of Mary and founded the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament. He was noted for his devotion to the Blessed Eucharist and to Our Lady, for his preaching and his commitment to the spiritual welfare of the laity.

Saturday 5th August The Basilica of St Mary Major The Ecumenical Council of Ephesus in 431 declared Mary to be 'Mother of God' Pope Sixus III had the Basilica of St Mary Major built on the Esquiline Hill in Rome. It is the earliest church built in her honour in the West. It is sad the location was determined by a snowfall on 5 August, a rather rare event during summer in Rome and which enabled a plan of the church to be drawn in situ.

Wishing you all a
HAPPY SUNDAY