



St Monica's Church

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

Telephone: 01236 421750

Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

Email: stmonica@rcdom.org.uk

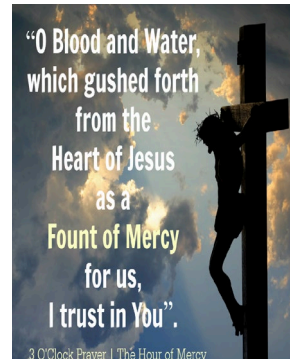
Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

Facebook/You Tube: St Monica's Parish Coatbridge

Parish Hall: Email: stmonicashall@outlook.com

Tele: - 07549042450 Mary Cope

Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



20th Sunday, Year A. 20th August, 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

Parish Mass Book, Page 64

- First Reading: Is 56:1.6-7
- Responsorial Psalm: **Let the peoples praise you O God: let all the peoples praise you**
- Second Reading: Rom 11:13-15.29-32
- Gospel: Mt 15: 21-28

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 : £750.02

Building Fund: £506.99

There is a second collection next weekend for our Building Fund

Thank you for your generosity.

Collections

From September all collections will be taken up at the same time i.e. when there is a second collection this will be taken up at the same time as the first. The basket will be for your weekly offering and the blue bag for the 2nd collection.

500 Club Winners!

1st Prize: J Cope

2nd Prize: 8 M Callaghan

3rd Prize: G Slevin

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, Kay McDonagh, Daniel McAuley, Mary Glasgow, John Slevin, Cathie Wilson, Angela Quigley, Mathew Miller, Carrie Miller,

RIP: John McCabe, Jamie McCormack

Month's Mind: Tommy Reynolds, Rose Tiernan, Rosemary O'Neill, Denis Tiernan, Thomas & Janette Tiernan, Denis Leonard, Mary McKeown, Matthew Thomson Snr, Matthew Thomson Jnr, Gary Thomson Mr & Mrs Patrick McKeown, Margaret, William, Patrick, Agnes, Helen & Teresa Docherty, Joseph, Elizabeth, James & Peter Silvestro, Alex & David Thain, Anna & Joseph Pearson, Jenny Wright, Margaret & Andrew McKinlay, Anna Brian & Joseph Tierney, Agnes & William McAuley, Rab Bannen

Anniversary: Margaret McCarron, Morag McKeown Hugh Gallagher, Francis, Elizabeth, Mary, Margaret, Rose & Anne McGeehan, Catherine & James McDonald, Sheila Kennedy, Charlotte Costello, Moira Skillin, Lila Williamson, Ann Sood, Mary Thompson, George Black, Thomas Tiernan, Frank, Annie, Jean & Frankie McMahon

Birthday Remembrance: John Thompson

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

Saints of the Week

Monday 21st August - St Pius X

Tuesday 22nd August - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thursday 24th August - St Bartholomew

Friday 25th August - St Louis & St Joseph Calasanz

*Wishing you all a
HAPPY SUNDAY*

Reflection 20th Sunday A. Encounter with a poor.

Both the First Reading and the Gospel talk about inclusiveness. At the time of Isaiah, there were lots of foreigners in Israel. The question arose as whether or not the benefits of salvation should be extended to them. Isaiah gave a clear and positive answer: 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the peoples,' says the Lord. The early church faced a similar problem with regard to the gentiles. Matthew sees Jesus as having broken down the barrier between Jews and Gentiles. Jesus is the universal saviour.

Even though an encounter with a poor person may disturb us, it can also be fruitful. Through the poor we discover our own weakness and wounds, which we are good at concealing. This means that we do not have to wear a mask and pretend to be what we are not. It thus results in a deep inner liberation. It puts us in touch with our true selves.

The encounter can also awaken and reveal the heart. It can waken within us feelings of tenderness and compassion, kindness and communion. It shows us that it is possible to be more, and to give of ourselves more. It can change us. It calls us forth. It calls us to humanity. Thus, it can lead to a new beginning. And it reminds us that before God all of us are poor. The priest says the prayers of the mass with outstretched hands. To pray like this is to acknowledge that before God we are poor, and stand in daily need of his mercy and love. There we hold up our empty hands to God as a beggar holds out an empty bowl to passers-by. We are saying in effect, 'Lord, before you I am as poor as a beggar.'



RCIA: Would you like to join the Catholic Church

If you're curious about the Catholic church, want to learn more about it or are even ready to convert, what can you do? Join your local Catholic church's RCIA program.

RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and it is the formal program that allows individuals to become members of the Catholic church. RCIA programs tend to start in the Autumn, so this is a great time to begin considering joining the program before they start up again.

Joining RCIA, however, does NOT mean you HAVE to join the church. You're always welcome to just come and learn, and if you decide it's not for you – or maybe you just aren't ready yet because you have more questions – you can opt out or continue on again next year.

RCIA programs generally go from September through Easter, when individuals are officially brought in as members of the Church at the Easter Vigil Mass, which is the mass held the evening before Easter. It is a beautiful mass and ceremony where you are baptised (only if you have not been baptised by a Christian church in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit), confirmed and receive the Eucharist (which Catholics maintain is the actual Body and Blood of Jesus Christ) in First Communion.

Sacraments

Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on **Wednesday 29th November, 2023**. Parents of children making this Sacrament are invited to an important meeting on **Wednesday 30 August at 6pm** in the church. Parents and children should both attend.

First Communion

Children will receive the Sacrament of First Communion on Sunday **19th May, 2024 at 12 Noon**. Parents and children are invited to the enrolment mass on Sunday **19th November 2023 at 12 Noon**

First Reconciliation

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will take place on Wednesday **7th February 2024 at 6pm**. Parents and children are invited to the enrolment mass on Sunday **19th November 2023 at 12 Noon**.

There will be meeting in the church for children making the **Sacrament of First Communion and Reconciliation** on **Wednesday 25th October at 6pm**. All parents and children are invited to attend this meeting.

All children are encouraged to attend mass in preparation of receiving their Sacraments.



Glasses Found

A pair of glasses has been found in the church. If you have lost them, please collect them from the stall.



Prayer to St Monica.

Dear St. Monica, troubled wife and mother,
Many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime.

Yet you never despaired or lost faith.
With confidence, persistence and profound faith,
you prayed daily for the conversion
of your beloved husband, Patricius,
and your beloved son, Augustine.
Grant me that same fortitude, patience and trust in
the Lord.

Intercede for me, dear St. Monica, for
(mention your petition here)
and grant me the grace to accept his will in all things,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.
Amen.