



## St Monica's Church

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

Telephone: 01236 421750

Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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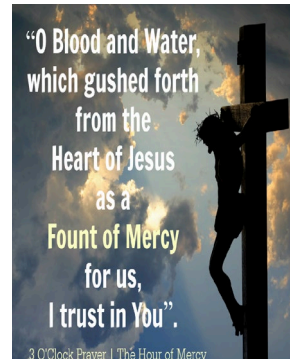
Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

Facebook/You Tube: St Monica's Parish Coatbridge

Parish Hall: Email: [stmonicashall@outlook.com](mailto:stmonicashall@outlook.com)

Tele: - 07549042450 Mary Cope

Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



### 32nd Sunday, Year A. 12th November, 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 91

- First Reading: Wis 6: 12-16
- Responsorial Psalm: **For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God**
- Second Reading: 1 Thes 4: 13-18
- Gospel: Mt 25:1-13

#### 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 : £1075.76

Second Collection: £674.97

**There will be a second collection next weekend for Education Sunday**

Thank you for your generosity.

#### 500 Club Winners!

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: No. 223 J Gallagher

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: No. 207 M Slavin

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: No. 141 M Longyear

#### CHRISTMAS FAMILY NIGHT

St. Monica's social event:

Date & Time: Friday **8th December, 7pm** - late

Venue: St. Monica's Hall

tickets: adult £5; children £2.50

(all children to be accompanied by an adult)

Buffet & Entertainment included.

Tickets on sale after each mass from this weekend

#### 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, Kelly Noble, Michael McGarrity, Sadie McBride, Mary Torbett, Sharon, Elizabeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens, Ann Smith, Helen Smith, 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, Matthew Miller, Carrie Miller, Andrew Maxwell, Hugh Kelly, Kerry Marshall

**RIP:** William Spalding, Patrick Thomson, Margaret Gallagher, Patricia Ferguson (Funeral on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 10am)

**Month's Mind:** Bernard, Liam & Brian Loney, John & Ann Loney, Jim Kane, Stephen Henry, John & Bridie Docherty, Eddie McGonigal, Dan & Rose Coyle, Margaret Docherty, John Docherty, George & Agnes Mills, Jim McAuley

**Anniversaries:** Joseph (Joe) Smith, Lily Loney, Patrick, Joseph, Margaret, George, James, John, Joe, Carol & Carol Anne Black, Bobby McCafferty, Mary Lochran, Jimmy & Marion Fox, Margaret McAuley, Sam Black, Margaret McNab

**Birthday Remembrance:** Mary Kelly, Betty O'Hagan, Mary Conway

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

#### Coltswood Cemetery

#### Annual Remembrance Services

Please join us at this year's annual remembrance service in Coltswood Cemetery **on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm.**

**32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** A. The first reading exalts wisdom. Wisdom has nothing to do with being smart or intelligent or with the age. Growing older doesn't mean always growing wiser. To be wise means to know God's purpose for us and to live accordingly. We exhaust ourselves in the senseless pursuit of material things and die without realising the spiritual wealth. If we lose God, we lose all. If we find God, we find all.

Today's Gospel is about the importance of preparation. The wise virgins were well prepared to welcome the bridegroom with enough oils in their lamps; the foolish virgins were ill-prepared. There are 3 kinds of Christians. Some Christians have their lamps shining very brightly and everyone can see that light. They are constantly aware that they are in the world but not of the world. They are very focussed in their love of God and neighbour and are willing to use all that they have for the promotion of God's kingdom in the world.

Secondly, there are Christians whose lights are dim. The light is burning but it is so weak that it is difficult to tell whether it is extinguished or still burning. This set of Christians are baptised but they do not practice their faith actively and so their lives are dominated so much by material things. They come to God only when they are in trouble. Such people sometimes, wait for the eleventh hour before they begin making preparations for heaven. However, not all of them are lucky enough to reach the 11th hour, as some would breathe their last at the 10th hour.

Finally, there are people whose lamps have no oil and whose light is completely extinguished. These are people who were once Christians but presently they do not believe in anything outside the material world and to make matters worse, some of them have turned out to be anti-Christians - challenging the message of Jesus and supporting anti-Christian values. For them, the parable of being ready and prepared for life after death makes no sense and the challenge of keeping their lamps burning is meaningless.

So, stay awake; and to keep your lamp burning, you must continue to put the oil of love in it.

#### **Diocesan Youth Group**

The next meeting of our diocesan youth group will take place next Sunday, 19th November, in Motherwell Cathedral at 7.30pm. The last meeting was a great success, with lots of young people from throughout the diocese gathering in prayer and socially. Please think about joining us if you are aged between 17-30.

#### **Thank You!**

The Sisters of St Peter Claver would like to thank the parishioners of St Monica's for their warm welcome last weekend. They were grateful for the opportunity to speak about their missionary work and would especially like to thank everyone for the gift of £859.29 which was raised through the sale of their calendar.

May the Good Lord continue to bless you all and grant the strength you need to serve your parish community.

#### **Sacraments Preparation**

Children who have been presented to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation are advised to attend one of the following weekend masses

Vigil: Saturday 4pm

Sunday 10am, 12 noon & 5pm

Children are especially encouraged to attend the 12 Noon Mass on a Sunday where we have our Children's Liturgy.

The Children's Liturgy is a special part of our Catholic Mass where children leave the main congregation to celebrate and reflect on the Sunday Gospel reading in an age-appropriate way. During the Children's Liturgy, the children are led through prayers, songs and readings that are adapted to their level or understanding. It provides an engaging and accessible way for young ones to connect with the teachings of the Gospel.

If you are not willing to accompany your child to mass on a weekend then as a parent you must ask yourself what am I teaching my child about their faith by only turning up on the day they are receiving their Sacrament?

If your child is due to receive their Sacrament then it is essential that you attend mass every weekend with them.

**Enrolment Mass for First Reconciliation and First Communion will be celebrated next Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 12noon.**

*Wishing you all a HAPPY SUNDAY*