



St Monica's Church

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

Telephone: 01236 421750

Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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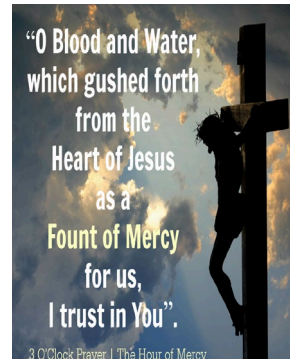
Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

Facebook/You Tube: St Monica's Parish Coatbridge

Parish Hall: Email: stmonicashall@outlook.com

Tele: - 07549042450 Mary Cope

Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



The Epiphany of the Lord B

7th January, 2024

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 49

- First Reading: Is 6:1-6
- Responsorial Psalm **All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord**
- Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3.5-6
- Gospel: Mt 2: 1-12
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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 : £953.16

St Margaret's Hospice: £131.98

There will be a second collection this weekend for Justice and Peace

Thank you for your generosity.



500 Club Winners!

1st Prize S Kane (110)

2nd Prize Jose Docherty (03)

3rd Prize H O'Grady (16)

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; John Paul Devlin, Caroline Miller; Carrie Miller, Mathew Miller, Margaret Trower, Maria Bolton, John Paul Devlin, Thomas Lally

RIP: Amarilla (Amy) Cannon (Requiem Mass Friday 12/01/24 at 10am Reception of her body into the Church Thursday 11/01/24 at 6pm), Margaret Donald (Cairns) St Aloysius Chapelhall, Angela Docherty, St Columbkille's, Michael Starrs Quinn

Month's Mind: Norman MacLean, Justin, Agnes, Frankie & Peter Waitkins, Vincent, Etta & Elizabeth McKeown, Mary, Paul & Jim Conway, Mary Mitchell, Betty O'Hagan, Bill Paul, Lawrence Molloy, Agnes Ferrie, Patsy McMurray

Anniversaries: Janet Gallagher, Michael Mitchell, Kathleen (McDonagh) O'Hear, Ben Ferrie

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

**Wishing you a
Happy Sunday**

Justice & Peace, Letter from Archbishop Nolan

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Astronauts share a unique experience, for they have been able to go into outer space and look down in awe and see the beauty of the earth. The astronauts see the earth as God gave it to us, one earth, one world.

But for us, when we look at our maps, we see a world that is divided by lines, indicating the borders and the barriers that partition this one world into territories and countries. We put up walls, we erect fences of barbed wire and we say to our fellow human beings “this is my land, this land and its resources are not yours but mine”. But God has given this one world to all of humanity, so that all human beings can live and flourish and grow, sharing its resources.

We have, of course, got to manage creation, and organise it. We cannot have chaos. But can we say to someone living where it is arid and barren, that they have no right to come here where the soil is good and the food is plentiful, because this is my territory? Do migrants and refugees not have God-given rights to move to a better life? And the borders we create are often the cause of friction. How many wars are fought over disputed territory, both sides claiming it as their land? How much conflict as people seek to claim for their own the oil, the gas or the mineral wealth that lies under the surface? How many countries grow wealthy, keeping for themselves the riches of the earth and see no obligation to share with the poor? We are a long way from living in a world where all benefit from the gift of creation given by God to all.

We are a long way from peace when countries continue to fight for what they claim is theirs. We are a long way from a united world where we work together for the good of all humanity.

We are not the owners of God’s earth; we are its stewards. The astronauts in space see a world that is beautiful and so it is. It is also rich and plentiful, with resources given to us by God for the good of everyone. Poverty will only disappear when the earth’s resources are fairly shared. Only when we act as stewards and not as owners of creation will there be peace and justice on earth.

May Jesus the Prince of Peace inspire us to work for justice and so establish a peaceful world.

+ William Nolan Bishop President of Justice and Peace Scotland



Letter from Bishop Toal Re-Fiducia Supplicans.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

...The recent Declaration from the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, Fiducia Supplicans, offered a reflection and direction on the Pastoral Meaning of Blessings, extending the possibility of giving a blessing to

couples who are living in irregular relationships in the eyes of the Church, including same-sex couples. In the foreword

Pope Francis made it clear that the Declaration remains firm on the traditional doctrine about marriage, not allowing any type of liturgical rite or blessing similar to the Rite of Marriage or other liturgical rites, so that any confusion is avoided. The value of the document is that it permits a broadening and enrichment of the classical understanding of blessings, based on the pastoral vision of Pope Francis. Since this is a development which has caused much comment and debate in the Church, I recommend that you read the Declaration and gain an appreciation of the rich teaching offered on blessings. On the particular possibility of offering a blessing to those in irregular sexual relationships, I quote No. 31 from Fiducia Supplicans:

“Within the horizon outlined here appears the possibility of blessings for couples in irregular situations and for couples of the same sex, the form of which should not be fixed ritually by ecclesiastical authorities to avoid producing confusion with the blessing proper to the Sacrament of Marriage. In such cases, a blessing may be imparted.....that involves the invocation of a blessing that descends from God upon those whom – recognising themselves to be destitute and in need of his help – do not claim a legitimisation of their own status, but who beg that all that is true, good, and humanly valid in their lives and in their relationships be enriched, healed, and elevated by the presence of the Holy Spirit. These forms of blessing express a supplication that God may grant those aids that come from the impulses of his Spirit – what classical theology calls “actual grace” – so that human relationships may mature and grow in fidelity to the Gospel, that they may be freed from their imperfections and frailties, and that they may express themselves in the ever-increasing dimension of divine love.”

The possibility of blessings being given by the clergy to those in irregular situations, not within the liturgical or sacramental life of the parish, “but in other contexts, such as a visit to a shrine, a meeting with a priest, a prayer recited in a group, or during a pilgrimage” is very much in line with Pope Francis’ often repeated desire that the Church reaches out to all her children, particularly those who feel isolated or on the margins. Such blessings can reassure that God loves and cares for them in their particular circumstances, and that the Church accompanies each of us in the often difficult journey of Christian faith and love. As Bishop, I welcome the initiative taken, and the possibilities it offers, and pray that it will assist the clergy in caring for those who seek our pastoral care and support, so that they experience the desired blessing from the Lord, who loves us so much that he took on our nature in order to save us all,

May Our Blessed Lady, Mother of God, be with all her children, and help us grow in faith and love. Yours in Christ,

+ Jaap Toal