

St Monica's Parish

Diocese of Motherwell

Registered Charity SC011041

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

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Website: <https://saint-monica.org.uk> **Facebook:** St Monica's Parish Coatbridge **Twitter:** @StMonicasParish

Parish Priest: Fr. Ghislain B. Mulumanzi.

SUNDAY MASSES: 10am

WEEKDAY MASSES: Mon – Sat 10am

CONFESSIONS: on appointment.

Marriages: Please speak to Fr Ghislain. Please note 6 months' notice is required.

Hall Bookings: No bookings are being taken as the hall is currently closed

Today's Readings for next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Easter Sunday. Year A

1st Reading: Acts 10:34,37-43

2nd Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: Jn 20:1-9 / Lk24:13-35

Scot college in Rome broadcast.

The BBC documentary, Priest School, about life in the Pontifical Scots College in Rome, which was to have been shown at 9.00 on BBC Scotland on Sunday 19th April, will now be shown at **10.15 pm that evening.**

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Bishop Toal's Easter Message 2020.

As Christians celebrate Easter this year we are thinking of the suffering inflicted upon us by the Covid-10 Virus. It is a dreadful time for the whole world and our thoughts are with all who have caught the virus and their loved ones. We are grateful for the dedication and courage of those caring for the sick and the vulnerable, and all who are providing the essential services we all rely on. It is hard to find hope, but our celebration of Easter encourages us to have such a hope - a hope that we will recover and that life will be better again. For Christians we find our hope in Jesus Christ, who having suffered a terrible death on the cross rose again to new life and promised us a share in eternal life. In such a time of crisis we cling on to this faith and reach out to Our Lord in our need. Although we have not been able this year to celebrate these precious days for our faith in our churches, we have sought the Lord and felt his presence strongly within and among us. In the Church's faith in Jesus, risen from the dead, I wish everyone a Happy Easter, as we seek God's blessing on us all and our world in our present need.

+Joseph Toal, Bishop of Motherwell.

Fr Ghislain's Easter message:

Happy Easter everyone. During this very challenging and uncertain time our hope and trust in God will give more strength to survive. We have many reasons to thank him for. As we go through life, we all experience little deaths. We get a foretaste of death when we live in bitterness, sadness and despair. In times like these the world closes in on us and we seem to have one foot in the grave. We become increasingly conscious of our mortality and the inevitable journey toward death. Death constitutes a huge challenge to our faith. But we also experience little resurrections. When we know love, acceptance, and forgiveness, when we open our hearts to others and to life, then the world opens up and we emerge from the tomb. On this day of Easter let us breathe the pure air of everlasting life and walk in radiant hope towards the Kingdom where there are no more shattered hopes or broken dreams, broken promises. To be a Christian is to be a person of hope, which is a deep trust in God. Good Friday, Day of darkness and death, comes to everyone. So does Holy Saturday, that day of emptiness and sorrow. On such day it is hard to believe. But Easter Sunday, day of life, will come. We will go through these tragedies and a new life will be given to us again by our heavenly Father. God bless and keep you safe. **Ghislain**

6th April 2020 (Monday in Holy Week) Scottish Church Leaders Forum on the Joint Statement by Leaders of Churches across Britain and Ireland

On behalf of the Churches in Scotland, we welcome the Statement by the Leaders of Churches from across the nations of Britain and Ireland. Within Scotland, as elsewhere, we are faced with a series of unprecedented challenges that are impacting upon every aspect of the fabric of our society. In the threat to life and livelihood being

experienced by so many at this time, we are conscious of the need to remain open to the life of God and to the life of the world. In the course of this Holy Week, we know that we shall hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' The experience of being abandoned and forsaken is not absent from the life of God lived out in this world. Equally, we are conscious that our faith affirms that this experience does not mark the boundary of the love of God. As we journey through this week, through Good Friday and on to the day of Resurrection, we pray: Lord of Creation, Be with us on this journey towards the healing of your world and people. hold us when we feel alone, carry us when we lose our strength and heal us when we are afraid. Let people of faith speak today with a voice of love, the love shown to us through the power of the Spirit and in the love and sacrifice of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

British and Irish Church leaders united in response to Covid 19 pandemic

In an unprecedented move, church leaders came together on Wednesday 1st April. The morning video conference included senior religious leaders from around Britain and Ireland who shared the situation in each of their jurisdictions. The initiative originated with Archbishop Justin Welby who wanted to offer an opportunity for leaders to hear and support one another in these critical days for our nations. The afternoon video meeting of senior officers of many of the churches included discussions about on-line worship, pastoral care in hospitals, funeral arrangements in various places, along with information on furlough arrangements being considered by some churches. The statement is supported by churches in membership of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, along with Churches Together in England, Cytun, ACTS and the Irish Council of Churches.

*Further information can be obtained by contacting Bob Fyffe (CTBI) at bob.fyffe@ctbi.org.uk or on 07940660099
Contacts within the nations include Aled Edwards (Cytun) aled@cytun.cymru Paul Goodliff (CTE) paul.goodliff@cte.org.uk Nicola Brady (ICC) nicola@irishchurches.org John McPake (Scottish rep) jmcpake@churchofscotland.org.uk*

God's world is in the midst of an unprecedented crisis. As church leaders from across the many and varied churches of these Islands we urge all people to join us in prayer this Holy Week and Easter; to pray for those who suffer, those who face untimely death and all those who care for them; to celebrate our common faith at a difficult time; to help and support our neighbours in need; and to observe all the safeguards in place to slow the spread of disease. Our Prayer Loving God, in Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our salvation, cast out the darkness of our anxiety, fear and mourning, enfold us in your love and give us joy and hope this Easter. Amen.

Collection

£ 413. Thanks for your generosity.

Please remember in your prayers:

Sick: Jacky Whelan, Maddy Kelly, Helen Watson, Jean Graham, Anne Doyle, Linda Slevin, Stephen Kelly, Alice Deas, Patricia McGhee, Marie Taylor, John Black, Peter Silvestro, Joe Cope, Margaret McAuley, Peter & Hugh Alexander & Macey McColl, John Tighe, Patsy Loney

Recently dead: John Ferrie, John Trower, Daniel Watson, **Funeral on Monday 13th April.**

Months Mind: Francis John Deigan, Mr & Mrs William Deigan, Snr & Jnr James Deigan, Anne Marie Deigan, Mr & Mrs Deigan & Brian, Mr & Mrs John Fagar, Mr & Mrs Prost, Mr & Mrs Frank Grant & Marie, Mr & Mrs Tommy Deigan, Mr Jack Gill

Anniversaries: Helen Docherty