

# St Monica's Parish

Diocese of Motherwell

Registered Charity SC011041

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

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Parish Priest: Fr. Ghislain B. Mulumanzi.

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**SUNDAY MASSES:** Vigils at 4pm & 5.30pm, 10 am, 12Noon & 5pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES:** Mon – Sat 10am

**CONFESSIONS:** Please contact Fr Ghislain to make an appointment.

**Baptisms:** Speak to Fr Ghislain.

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

**Hall Bookings:** 07835583041

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September: 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Year A**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Ez 33:7-9

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:** *O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Rm 13:8-10**

**Gospel. Mt 18:15-20**

**Last Sunday's collection** –£957.37

A donation of £100.00 for building fund was also received. Thank you for your generosity and support.

## **Contactless Payment Machine**

A Contactless Payment Machine has been installed in our church, this allows parishioners, if they wish, to make their weekly offering by using their debit cards or mobile phones. The machine is set to a default amount of £5. This allows for a more hygienic and safe way to make your donations in the current climate. Parishioners can still continue to make their donations using envelopes or by cash if they wish to do so.

**Building Fund collection will take place this weekend.**

**Thank you in advance for your generosity.**



**1<sup>st</sup> Prize:** No.420. A. Gillick

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** No 71. S.McBride

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** No 236. A. Starrs

Please continue to support this fundraising activity. If you wish to join the 500 Club, please contact Isabella on 07967112568

**First Communion: Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 12noon & 2pm.**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm**

As part of preparation for First Communions we encourage children and communicants to attend mass at the weekend. All First Communion children must wear masks in church.



<b>Monday</b>	10am 6pm	Mass Adoration
<b>Tuesday</b>	10am	The Nativity of our Lady- Feast
<b>Wednesday</b>	10am	Mass
<b>Thursday</b>	10am	Mass
<b>Friday</b>	10am	Mass
<b>Saturday</b>	10am 4pm 5.30pm	Morning Mass Vigil Mass Vigil Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	10am 12noon 5pm	Mass. Beginning of Vocations Awareness Week

## **Bishop J. Toal's reminder letter, Re-Collection for Diocese**

The special collections for the rest of 2020 are as follows:

**September** - for the Ecclesiastical Students Fund of Motherwell Diocese (for those preparing for priesthood and diaconate).

**October** - for Missio Scotland (The Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the Church's Mission in the World).

**November** – for Catholic Education (to support the work of the Scottish Catholic Education Service)

**December** – for St Andrew's Hospice/Other local hospices.

## **Gift Aid**

Is a government scheme which allows our parish to reclaim tax paid on donations.

We can claim from HMRC, the basic rate of tax on any donations which have been paid. Gift Aid increases the value of donations by 25%, so it means even more money goes to our church – and it won't cost you extra!

Last financial year we received back £7551.99 from HMRC in relation to Gift Aid contributions.

If you are interested in joining the scheme, please collect a form from the Church porch and return it today.

#### **Church Stall - Open after all masses**

If you need cards or any religious gifts for friends or family, please visit our stall in the rear of the church in the former cry chapel. September's edition of Bible Alive can be purchased from the church stall for £3.00

#### **Funerals**

There have been some instances where coffins are being carried into churches by mourners and also coffins being wheeled in on a trolley by mourners. **PLEASE NOTE** that this is not permitted as it breaks the 2-metres distance rule.

**The only exception to this is if the mourners are from the same household!**

#### **Bishop J. Toal: Pastoral Letter, St Therese de Lisieux.**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, In recent days, people have been recalling the Pilgrimage of the Relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux to Scotland in September last year, highlighting, in particular, the days of the joyful weekend the relics were present here in the Diocese of Motherwell at St Francis' Xavier's Carfin. Later this month, on September 16th, the Feast of St Ninian, it will be the 10th anniversary of the Visit of Pope Benedict XVI to Scotland.

One striking thing from both these events are the crowds which gathered to greet both Our Holy Father and the Relics of St Thérèse, and the contrast with the present when we are restricted to 50 people when we gather to worship. It does feel alien to our Catholic tradition of gathering in crowds and there is a sense of frustration that this is our lot in the present emergency situation. St Thérèse may help us, though, to come to terms with where and how we are at present. She is the saint who presented the "Way of Littlehood" – our own spiritual sense of being little in God's loving hands; our personal littleness, yet still having our unique place in the Body of Christ, the Church; and the response we offer to the Lord in doing all the little things as best we can in loving service of him and our neighbour. Perhaps, in comparison to last September or 10 years ago, we are "little" but we are still here and we need the inspiration of St Thérèse, the Little Flower, to be alive and active as the Church today. Let us trust fully in God's providence and the graces he continues to shower into our lives, St Thérèse's roses from heaven, in order to live our faith joyfully, accepting the Cross of the present, and ready to be "Love in the Heart of the Church", as St Thérèse so beautifully described her own vocation.

#### **Please remember in your prayers:**

**Sick:** Leigh McKennan, John Clenaghan.

**Months Mind:** James, Elizabeth & Sadie Prunty, John Harkins, Bernard, Lily, Liam, John & Brian Loney, Daniel Catherine, James, John, Anthony & Steasy Duggan, Peter Burn, John Trower

**Anniversaries** Pearl McGovern, Linda Ann Irvine, Frank & Agnes Wilson, Helen, Margaret & Agnes Docherty, Mr William & Patrick Docherty, Mrs Anna & Joseph Pearson, Mrs Mary & Edward Drummond, Mr Alex Thain

**Birthday:** Ann Carr

All of us have been gifted by God with a beautiful vocation of being alive in this world, and being born again in

baptism, and hearing the Lord's call to follow him in every moment and every choice we make throughout our lives. In September each year we have Vocations Awareness Week here in the Church in Scotland and, as the title suggests, we reflect on our own vocation, thanking God for all that we have received, and encouraging our young people to be attentive to the Lord's call to them and how they might respond, following the wonderful example of our saints through the ages. Here in Motherwell Diocese we have recently set up an Office for Youth and Vocation, the intention being to keep vocation at the heart of our engagement with, and outreach to, our young people in our parishes, schools, youth groups and associations. Fr Colin Hughes will lead this Office and will work with school chaplains and the Diocesan Education Service, with Fr Mark O'Donnell as Diocesan Youth Chaplain and the Diocesan Youth Service, and with Fr Charles O'Farrell, the Diocesan Vocations Director. Pope Francis has encouraged us to emphasise the Lord's call to each of us in our vocation and to aspire to be holy in responding fully in all that we do. It seems good therefore to bring the various strands of ministry with young people together under "Vocation".

We do like to promote the particular vocation to a "consecrated life", including in this the priesthood and religious life. With regard to Priesthood, the Diocese of Motherwell has been blessed with the ordination of 13 priests over the last ten years. All of these men are in parishes, as well as covering chaplaincies, and nine now have full responsibility for their parishes. At the moment the Diocese has five seminarians and four others have indicated a desire to train for the priesthood. I ask your prayers for all of them, and your financial support would be much appreciated through the special collection running through the month of September. May the Lord bless all our efforts and keep joyful in our Christian Vocations. With my prayers and best wishes. Yours in Christ. + Joe Toal

#### **Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate.**

We look forward to the diaconal ordination of George Frame which will take place in St Patrick's Church in Coatbridge on Tuesday 15th September at 7.00 pm.

#### **Visit of Pope Benedict to Scotland**

On Wednesday, 16th September, the Feast of St Ninian, we mark the tenth anniversary of Pope Benedict's visit to Scotland. On that day, especially, let us pray for Pope Benedict as he becomes frailer.



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