## St Monica's Parish Diocese of Motherwell

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Parish Priest: Fr. Ghislain B. Mulumanzi.

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

WEEKDAY MASSES: Mon - Sat 10am

**CONFESSIONS:** 30 min before the mass in the Sacristy

Baptisms: Speak to Fr Ghislain.

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

## Sunday 20th December 4th Sunday of Advent Year B

First Reading: 2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14-16

Responsorial Psalm: I will sing for ever of your love

O Lord

Second Reading: Rom 16: 25-27 Gospel Reading: Lk 1: 26-38

#### 4th Sunday B, Advent. Mary's Yes to become the mother of the

#### Redeemer

Mary didn't just say her Yes once. She had to confirm that original Yes many times during her life. All of us have said Yes when we have undertaken commitments and responsibilities. When we said our original Yes, we took a leap in the dark, for we didn't know the full implications of what we were undertaking. This is gradually revealed to us as we go along. Hence, we too have to confirm our original Yes, not once but many times, and ask God to help us to remain faithful.

Today many seek fulfilment and happiness through 'doing their own thing'. It is what I want that matters. They believe that happiness lies in having no commitments, no one to answer to. No one whose needs or problems will ever tie us down. It is, of course, good and necessary to find and do that which deep down we feel we are called to do. There can be a lot of selfishness in the 'do your own thing' approach. It often means taking the easiest path in the belief that this is where freedom and happiness lie. But this approach is more likely to lead to slavery and unhappiness.

Here is an important truth: freedom, happiness, and fulfilment are more likely to be found in the acceptance of duty. However, for this to happen, a grim acceptance of duty is not good enough. It has to be a loving acceptance of duty. The more difficult the task to which we devote ourselves out of love, the

more it will exalt us. In this Mary gives us a great example. Life imposes a lot of duties on us. Besides duties to ourselves, there are duties to others, and duties to God. Where would the world be if everyone just thought of themselves, and insisted on doing their own thing, seeking their own freedom, happiness, and fulfilment independent of others and of God?

#### Last Sunday's Collection - £795.40

Thank you for your generosity and support



To everybody who contributed, helped, and bought tickets for our raffle. We made £500 for the Church Building Fund.

A big sincere thank you.

God bless Liz McAdams

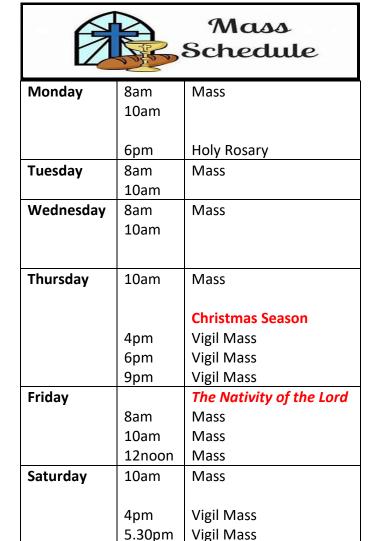


1<sup>st</sup> Prize: 360 L McDonald 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: 108 S Longyear 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: 20 P Wedlock

#### Parish Gift Tree

This is the last weekend for placing your gift under the tree. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this appeal.

If you know of someone that could benefit from a gift, please give their details to Father Ghislain





Welcome to any of our Advent and
Christmas Services

During Advent and Octave of Nativity Morning
Masses will be at 8am Monday – Wednesday &
10am Monday to Saturday

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Avent: 20<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 24th December:

Morning Mass at 10am,

Christmas Eve: 4pm, 6pm, 9pm

Carol Service will start 30 minutes before each Mass

Friday 25th December. The Nativity of the Lord.
Holiday of Obligation.

Masses at 8am,10am & 12 noon

The feast of the Holy Family will be transferred to

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> December

Masses at 10am & 12 noon

New Year's Eve Mass 7pm

Friday: 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, New Year's Day: Mary Mother of God. Solemnity. Mass at 10am & 12noon

Fr Ghislain wishes you all Christmas Joy and Peace and a Very Happy New Year 2021, may Emmanuel, God with us, protect us and keep us safe.

Confession 30min before mass.

## The Western Catholic Calendar 2021

10am

5pm

12noon

Sunday

Can now be purchased from the Church Stall for £3.20.

Mass

Mass

Mass

# Pease remember in your prayers:

<u>Sick:</u> Leigh McKennan, John Clenaghan, Jean Graham, James Carr, Linda Webb, James McLaughlan, Isabelle Marshall



**Recently Dead**: Ciera Wallace

<u>Months Mind</u>: Norman MacLean, Justin, Agnes, Peter, Frankie Waitkins, May, Paul & Jim Conway, Danny Watson, Hamilton, Annie, Jim, John & Steven Pettigrew, Isabel & Charles O'Hagan, John McGregor, Brian Lowe, James Delaney

<u>Anniversaries</u>: Maureen McMahon, Margaret McMahon, Anne McMahon, Joe Slevin, Catherine Mouneey, Luke Molloy, Alison Cope, Patrick Sludden