

# St Monica's Parish Diocese of Motherwell

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Parish Priest: Fr. Ghislain B. Mulumanzi.

**SUNDAY MASSES:** Vigils at 4m & 5.30pm 9am,10am (livestream) 12 Noon & 5pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES**: 10am

**CONFESSIONS:** Please contact Fr Ghislain

Baptisms: Speak to Fr Ghislain

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

required.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy) - B

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,

for his love has no end **Second Reading**: 1Jn 5:1-6 Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

# Reflection Divine Mercy Sunday

It seems that after Good Friday Thomas had cut himself off from the other apostles and walked alone. This was a big mistake. But we must remember that he was in deep grief. People who are grieving have tendency to isolate themselves. While it is understandable it is not helpful. In cutting himself off from the other apostles, Thomas made things more difficult for himself. However, it seems that he hadn't cut himself off completely. Whenever he met them, he would have noticed a difference in them. Their fear was largely gone and had been replaced by joy and peace. It was clear that someone had breathed new life into them. They claimed that they had seen Jesus. It was only when he joined the community that Thomas encountered the risen Jesus, and so found the faith again. To be a believer, or just a spiritual person, in today's world can be a lonely

business. We need support. Here is where the community comes in. it is only with the help of the community that we can resolve our doubts and sustain our faith. We live as members of a community of believers whose common faith strengthens the faith of each individual. They first Christians supported one another by praying and worshipping together, and by a loving service of one another.

The sacred and precious wounds of Jesus are a source of consolation, courage, and hope to us. They help us to come to terms with our own wounds. By his wounds we are healed of self-pity and the sense of victimhood. Jesus invites us to draw close to him in faith and to look at his wounds. Our task is to make Christ visible in the world. That is the way it was with the first disciples. Once they had seen Christ, they felt compelled to make him known to others. The world today is full of doubters and unbelievers. The only way they will be converted to belief is if they can "see" Jesus and touch him in his followers. But if we, his followers, have no wounds of love to show them, the unbelievers are not likely to be convinced.

#### **Gift Aid**

Gift Aid Envelopes for year 2021/22 are now available at the back of the church for collection. Envelope numbers have changed this year so please check the name and address on your box and ensure you have uplifted the correct envelopes.

# **Diocesan Novena to St Joseph**

All parishes and diocesan groups are invited to take part in a Diocese-wide Novena to St Joseph through the last nine days in April, leading to the Feast of St Joseph the Worker on Saturday May 1st. The intention of the Novena is to seek St Joseph's protection in our present need, particularly for our families and young people.

Various prayers are available. https://yearofstjoseph.org/devotions/prayers/.

## <u>April – SCIAF Collection for Lenten</u> <u>Appeal for South Sudan</u>

By raising money for the Wee Box Appeal, you can help children with disabilities in South Sudan to access the education and support they need to build a bright future. Boxes are to be returned to the church before the end of April.

#### **Weekly Collection**

Offertory Collection: £1114.25 Special Collection: £333.76 Building Fund: £635.71

## **500 Club**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize J Docherty £30 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize J McAlinden £20 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize E McDonald £10

# **Church Stall**

We have gifts and cards available for First Communion and Confirmation.

# **Building Fund**

A big thank you to Donald McLaren Funeral Directors, John Clark Funeral Directors Bellshill and Cooperative Funeral Directors for donations to our building fund totalling £800. We very much appreciate their generosity and support.

#### **Sacraments for Children**

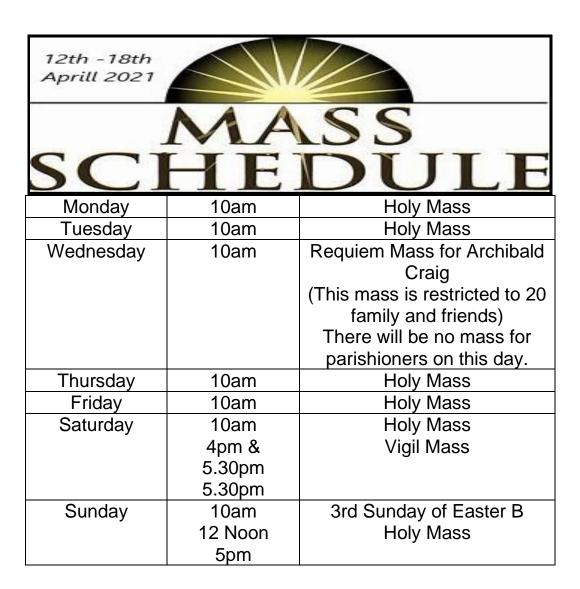
The parish has scheduled the celebration of sacraments for children as follows:

- First Reconciliation: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 6pm
- First Communion: Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021 at 11am and 1pm Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 at 2pm.
- Confirmation: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May & Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm

To enrol your child for these sacraments, parents are advised to download the application form on the parish website www.saint-monica.org.uk, contact Fr Ghislain or St Monica's Primary School.

#### **SVDP**

St Monica's SVDP would like to thank everyone for their kind support of donations to our boxes in the past year, also if you know of anyone who is in need, please contact any of the brothers and sisters at morning mass or any other time. Thank you.



#### **Scottish Parliamentary Elections 6 May 2021**

A letter from the Scottish Bishops for the forthcoming Scottish Parliament Election to be held on 6 May 2021 is available from the back of the Church porch or can be viewed via the attached link Scottish Parliament Election 2021 – Catholic Parliamentary Office (repolitics.org)

#### Please remember in your prayers

**Recently Dead**: Archibald Craig (Requiem Mass 14 April 2021 at 10am), Frank Campbell

<u>Sick:</u> John Clenaghan, Jean Graham, James Carr, Linda Webb, James McLaughlin, Cecelia Greig, Ann & John McShane, Elizabeth McKenna, Mary Forsyth, Isabella Devine, Nicolas Hardy, Joan Violet Mitchell, Joe Cope, Mary Cope, John & Anne McShane

<u>Months Mind</u>:Robert & Anthony Clarke, James, Elizabeth, John & Isabella Docherty, Alice Rea, Danny Watson, Norman MacLean, John Gribben, Neil Lannigan, Bessie Lannigan, Natasha Lannigan, Danny Donahue, Rev Cornelius O'Leary, Helen, Margaret & Agnes Docherty, William & Patrick Docherty, Anna & Joseph Pearson, Mary & Edward Drummond, Mr Alex Thain

<u>Anniversaries:</u> May Conway, Vincent McKeown, John Toal, Robert Christie, Eddie Mulholland, Agnes & Lindsay Smith, Helen Docherty

# **Community News**



Fortnightly Garden Maintenance Call 07504281030 or 07512092903

## **Football Players Wanted**

Coatbridge Milan FC 2008's are currently looking for players to trial for their team. If you were born in 2008 and are interested in coming along to a training session, please text either Mark on 07827 897 115 or Steph on 07944 045 405.