

St Monica's Church Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

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 Diocese of Motherwell

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Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi

<u>4th Sunday of the Year - A</u> <u>29th January, 2023</u>

Holy Mass (Services marked in red will be live Streamed)

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

<u> Mass Liturgy - Year A</u>

Parish Mass Book Page 60 First Reading: Zeph 2:3;3:12-13 Responsorial Psalm: How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven Second Reading: 1:26-31 Gospel: Mt 5: 1-12

Weekly Collection

Please support your parish through the weekly collection, our income relies solely on the donations of our parishioners.

Last Week's Collection – £809.38 Building Fund - £635.57 There will be a second collection this weekend for World Leprosy Day Thank you for your generosity

500 Club Winners

1st Prize – No. 63 M McKeegans 2nd Prize – No. 9 A McKenzie 3rd Prize- No. 127 J McLaughlin

Lent Day by Day Books Are available from the Church stall priced £1.00

<u>Please keep in your prayers</u>

Sick: Ann & John McShane & Family, Linda Webb, Isobel Reilly, Carol McGuinness, Pauline O'Rourke, Anne Marie Snodden, James Donnelly, Patricia McGhee, Bernadette Homer, Kelly Noble, Michael McGarrity, Sadie McBride, Mary Torbett, Sharon, Elizabeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens, Linda Webb, Ann Smith, Helen Smith, Margaret Gallagher, Alice Kilmurry, Danny Dick, Peter Alexander, Ann McAlinden, Mary Cunningham

<u>**RIP:</u></u> Anne Mary Quinn, Kathleen Farrell, Martin Quinn, Myra Carmichal, Jane Fleming, Stephen Hendry, Fred McShannon, Robert (Bobby) Hay Requiem Mass Saturday 4th February at 10am,</u>**

Month's Mind: Sadie Slowey, Patsy Robertson, Robert & Anthony Clarke, James, John, & Isabella Docherty, Alice Rea, Margaret, John, AnneMarie & James Deigan, Mr & Mrs Deigan Snr & Jnr, Mr & Mrs Peter Deigan & Brian, Mr & Mrs Fagan, Mr & Mrs Prost, Mr & Mrs Frank Grant & Marie, Mr & Mrs Tommy Deigan, Jack Gill, Ryan Brown, May & Jimmy McLaughlin, Kathleen & Peter Dolan, Tilly & Marie Clarke, Mattie, Tommy & Thomas Collins, Jim Boyle, Lawrence, William & Mary Brankin, William & Ellen Brankin, Joseph, Agnes, Eddie & Joe Mina, Brian & Brian Jnr Sharkey, John, Hannah & Kevin McGrath, Kathleen Smith, David Hayton, Mary McSwiggan, Tom Sharp, Gerry & Ryan Gallagher, Michael McMurray, Colette Kelly, Margaret Reilly, Patrick, Mary & Fr John McMurray, The McMurray Family, Kathleen Wallace, Arthur, Sadie & Ann Craig, Anne Holmes, Fr Frank Kelly

<u>Anniversaries</u>: Elizabeth Docherty, James McGraw, Patricia Sharkey, Annie Brankin, Eamonn Gallagher, John McNab, William Reilly, Christina Duffy & Sarah Drummond

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

<u>Reflection – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - A</u> <u>Beatitudes</u>

We get a better understanding of the Beatitude if we translate them with the word Blessed rather than Happy. Happy is an emotional condition, whereas blessed refers to our standing in God's eyes. The popular understanding at that time was that God's blessings were seen in prosperity, power, prestige and popularity. Jesus saw these as temptations towards pride and self-importance.

The people who were most open to God's real blessings were the poor and powerless. Those who mourned for past misdeeds, those who strove for justice and mercy, the pure in heart who see things from God's point of view, and those who were persecuted on account of their Christian ideals. Blessed are they, for God's reward awaits them.

World Leprosy Day

We welcome Liz Osbourne who is here today to speak to us about the work of Lepra. There will be a second collection to support Lepra and the invaluable work they do. Please give as generously as you can and keep them in your prayers.

Today 600 people will be diagnosed with leprosy, more than 50 of these will be children.

Over 7million people are currently affected by leprosy across the world. Evidence shows over 3 million people are living with undiagnosed leprosy. Over 4 million people are living with a life- changing disability caused by leprosy Although curable, many people are unable to access treatment, even though the cure is free. Lepra works to find, treat and rehabilitate these hidden people and promote their rights in India and Bangladesh.

Due to misunderstanding, lack of information and incorrect beliefs, people affected by leprosy can experience severe discrimination and prejudice when they show symptoms, or when a diagnosis is confirmed.

St Monica's Church Warm Hub

Our warm hub will soon be open in our church hall. We will be open as follows: Sunday 1pm – 4pm Monday 11am – 2pm Tuesday 11am to 2pm We are looking for volunteers to come forward and offer some time to help in the hub serving warm soup and tea/coffee. If you would like to help, please speak to Father Ghislain and provide details of your availability.

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE.

According to the Jewish tradition parents were to present their male children at the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after their Birth. This was to give thanks to God and pray for the purification of the mother and health of the child, for it was considered that after the vital forty-day period it was almost certain that all mortal danger was passed. It is the task of parents gradually to insert their child into the larger community and to teach him/her its traditions. Children also need to be shown a path to a spiritual well; otherwise, they will always be thirsty.

Parents should pray that God will guide their children in the choices they make. All of us need God's guidance if we are to achieve what God wants us to achieve. Your children are not your children. They come through you but not from you. And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you. You may give them your love but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts. In welcoming the child into your life, and in bringing him up in faith and love, you play your part as parents.

Candlemas

On the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on Thursday 2nd February at 10am, we will celebrate a special mass which includes the blessing of all Church candles. Candles are available in the church porch priced £1.00 and these can be brought along to be blessed during this mass. You are also welcome to bring your own candles with you to be blessed.

Altar Servers Meeting

There will be an altar servers meeting in the church on Monday 6th February at 6pm.

Children Readers Needed!

We are looking for some of the children in our parish to read at all the masses on the weekend of 4th/5th February. If you are interested in helping, please speak to Father Ghislain.

Last Man Standing!

Our last man standing competition in aid of our Church building fund will resume on the weekend 4/5 February. Entry forms are available in the church porch for anyone wishing to participate. £10 entry and £100 prize.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please keep in your prayers our children who make the Sacrament of Reconciliation here in our church on Wednesday at 6pm

First Communion & Confirmation

Children who are due to celebrate these sacraments are encouraged to attend weekend masses (Saturday or Sunday). Please remember to get your card signed by Father Ghislain