

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

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Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



The Epiphany of the Lord - A 8th January 2023

<u>Holy Mass (Services marked in red will be live</u> 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

Mass Liturgy - Year A

Parish Mass Book Page 50

First Reading: Is 60:1-6

Responsorial Psalm: All nations shall fall

prostrate before you, O Lord

Second Reading: Eph 3:2-3,5-6

Gospel:Mt 2: 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 - £954.92 Crib - £150.65

There will be a second collection this weekend for Justice & Peace

Thank you for your generosity

500 Club Winners

1st Prize J McAlinden 2nd Prize M Kelly 3rd Prize A Alder

RCIA

The RCIA program resumes on Wednesday 11th January at 7pm

Please keep in your prayers

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, Elizebeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens, Linda Webb, Ann Smith, Helen Smith, Margaret Gallagher, Alice Kilmurry, Danny Dick, Peter Alexander, Ann McAlinden, Stephen Henry

RIP: Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, John Reilly (Reception of remains Monday 9th January 6pm Requiem Mass Tuesday 10th January 10am), Andrew(Andy) Dick (Reception of remains Thursday12th January 6pm, Funeral Friday 13 January 10am) Ellen O'Neil, Requiem Mass Wednesday 18th January 10am) Irene McMullen, Canon Joseph Clements, Judith Ann Brooks Simmons

<u>Month's Mind:</u> Betty O'Hagan, May Mitchell, Bill Paul, Lawrence Molloy, Agnes Ferrie, Patsy McMurray

<u>Anniversaries:</u> John Docherty, Fred & Sarah Scott, Albert & Christia Fulton, Michael Mitchell, Ben Ferrie, Betty Halliday, John Mulholland

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

Baptism

We welcome Gabriella McGuinn & Lola Sanders who are to be Baptised this weekend

We implore God's blessing upon them and their family as we welcome them into our parish community.

Feast of the Epiphany

Who is this child born at Bethlehem? Epiphany means the revelation of his glory to all nations. Gold for a king represents the coming of the reign of God. Frankincense is for the true priest who is the mediator between Heaven and Earth. Myrrh is an oil extracted from the bark of a tree and is used in the embalming of a dead body. It suggests that Jesus is the suffering servant who took the sins of the people on himself.

What gifts can we bring to Jesus? What can you give to somebody who has everything? Give him yourself, for he loves you and he wants you to be his friends. Give him your time, some quality time in prayer each day. Come to him with your problems for he has invited you to come with your burdens. Bring him your sinfulness and weakness, for he alone is our saviour. Bring him your darkness, for he is the light of the world. Bring him your waywardness, for he is the true shepherd who guides us along the right path. Bring him your emptiness and hunger, for he is the Bread of Life.

8th January: Day of prayer for Justice and peace. Letter from Archbishop William Nolan

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We begin this new year praying for peace and justice. As we look around, we see a world that is suffering under human mismanagement. We should not question our need to pray nor doubt the power of that prayer - for only God can help

The present economic crisis means that we are all having to tighten our belts financially. But though all of us are suffering we are not all suffering in the same way or to the same extent. Those who are better off may have to cut back on some of the luxuries or pleasures of life: a night out or a foreign holiday. But others are now struggling to afford food to feed their family or to pay for gas and electricity to heat their homes.

Meanwhile war in Europe continues. The prospect of peace in Ukraine is remote. Syria, Yemen, and Ethiopia are just some of the other long-term conflicts where peace is a distant dream. There is no shortage of these conflicts, nor seemingly any shortage of arms to fuel them and keep them alive.

And refugees continue to arrive on our shores, despite the efforts of government to blockade the English Channel. In a world where, at over 100 million, there have never been so many forcibly displaced persons,¹ the root causes of migration have yet to be tackled.

Nor has the climate crisis gone away. People in Africa and elsewhere already suffer from the destruction of climate change caused by our environmental pollution. Yet we continue to pollute, and our promises of compensation for loss and damage remain but fine words.

We need to pray for peace and be active in supporting those in need. Pope Francis says we need to roll up our sleeves and put our faith into practice.² And many are doing just that.

It is encouraging to see so many parishes involved in supporting food banks for the hungry and in providing warm places for those shivering with cold. And it is commendable that many people pressure those in power to respect the human dignity of all in need: whether it's the poor in our own country, the refugees seeking shelter from oppression, or those in foreign lands whose climate we have destroyed.

UNHCR estimates that global forced displacement has reached 103 million at mid-2022. www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics "Where the poor are concerned, it is not talk that matters; what matters is rolling up our sleeves and putting our faith into practice through a direct involvement, one that cannot be delegated." Pope Francis's Message for the World Day of the Poor, 13th November 2022.

Prayer is needed not just to soften the hearts of those in power, but to soften our own hearts also. For when we are worried about our personal financial wellbeing it can be hard to be concerned for others. And when conflicts persist for so long compassion fatigue can set in.

Despite the problems that humanity has created and that weigh us down, there is so much goodness in the world, and so many good people showing concern and compassion for those in

May our prayer be that God will work with us and through us to bring about the peace and justice for which we all long.

With my prayers and best wishes for a peaceful and just world,

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+William Nolan

Archbishop of Glasgow

President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland Justice and Peace Commission