



## St Monica's Church

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Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

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Parish Hall: Email: [stmonicashall@outlook.com](mailto:stmonicashall@outlook.com)

Tele: - 07464254377



Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi

### 3rd Sunday of Lent - A 12th March, 2023

#### Holy Mass and Services

Mon - Fri: - 10am

Saturday: - 10am, 4pm (Vigil)

Sunday: - 10am, 12 Noon & 5pm

Children's Liturgy 12 Noon Mass

#### Earlier Mass during Lent:

**St James: Wednesday & Friday 7.30am**

**St Monica's: Tuesday & Thursday 7.30am**

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

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First Reading: Ex 17:3-7

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

Second Reading: Rom 5: 1-2:5-8

Gospel: Jn 4: 5-42

#### Weekly Collection

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

**Last Week's Collection - £824.67**

**Sick & Retired Priests: £437.94**

**There will be a second collection this weekend  
for our Building Fund**

**There will be a second collection next weekend  
for SCIAF**

Thank you for your generosity

#### 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, Elizabeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens, Ann Smith, Helen Smith, Margaret Gallagher, Alice Kilmurry, Danny Dick, Peter Alexander, Ann McAlinden, Mary Cunningham, Theresa Docherty, Jim Quinn, Patricia McGhee, Margaret Wallace

**RIP:** Charles Toner, Mary Rodger (Requiem Mass on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 10am), Mrs Margaret McCreddie (Canada), Mrs M McAleese

**Month's Mind:** Stephen Henry, Eddie McGonigal, John & Bridie Docherty, Anthony McGowan, John Harkins, James, John & Richard Cooney, Tommy Reynolds, Thomas & Rose Tiernan, Rosemary O'Neill, Denis Tiernan, Thomas & Janette Tiernan, Denis Leonard, Bill Paul, Ben & Agnes Ferrie, Patsy McMurray

**Anniversaries:** Norman MacLean, Justin Waitkins, John Arthur McGuinness, Ellen & Catherine Cooney, Lawrence Molloy

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

#### Stations of the Cross

Every Monday during the season of Lent  
at 7pm

#### 500 Club Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - No. 697 J Docherty

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - No. 56 B Currie

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize- No. 52 S O'Brien

## Our safeguarding, culture of care

What we now call safeguarding, how we keep all, especially children and vulnerable adults, safe within our catholic community- comes from every heart of God's love made incarnate, in his Son our Lord. To report a safeguard concern, please contact:

Our safeguarding Co-Ordinator: Sharon Fisher, on 07740106306

Diocesan Safeguarding office: on 01698269114.

In event of an emergency, if someone is in immediate risk of harm, you should contact the police.

See [www.scotishcatholicsafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.scotishcatholicsafeguarding.org.uk)



## Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and Readers.

Through the gift of ministry, the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, is commissioned to serve Christ's Church through bringing the gift of Jesus Christ himself to his brothers and sisters, joining him in a life poured out in loving service of his kingdom.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass - The minister serves Christ present in the assembly by ministering his Body and Blood to their brothers and sisters.

Ministry to the Sick and Housebound - Eucharist ministers also serve the unity of the worshipping community by taking Communion to those members who are prevented by sickness, old age, or other cause from taking part in the gathering for Mass. We will have our annual Meeting, **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6pm.**

In our parish, more Readers are needed. We have our annual Meeting for readers on **Thursday 23<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7pm.**



## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CATHOLICS GO TO CONFESSION? Weds. 15<sup>th</sup> March 7pm

"Confession" is a misleading way of describing the Sacrament of Reconciliation even though it's the word Catholic themselves most frequently use. It gives the impression that the verbal confession of sins is the central and most important part of the sacrament. This is not the

case. The confession of sins is only one element in a process which enables a person to meet Christ and respond to his call to repentance.

Nowadays there is a good deal of flexibility in the way the Sacrament of Reconciliation (a more accurate title) is celebrated. So, it is not possible to describe one form of it which is always followed. For example, the confessional box which enables the penitent to remain anonymous doesn't need to be used. Provision is now made for penitents to meet the priest "face to face" if they wish. Many Catholics prefer this because it makes the sacrament more personal and makes it easier to talk over problems.

The elements which make up the rite of reconciliation are these:

- **Preparation:** By prayer and a careful reflection on their way of life the penitents call to mind their failures as Christians; express sorrow for them in their heart; and resolve to amend their lives
- **Greeting:** When the person enters the confessional box or the room where the sacrament is celebrated the priest welcomes them warmly and invites them to sit or kneel.
- **Invitation to trust:** Priest and penitent make the sign of the cross together and the priest says a few words in which he invites the penitent to trust in God's mercy.
- **Introduction:** The penitent may now tell the priest anything which may be relevant. For example, whether married or single, how long it is since their last confession etc.
- **Scripture reading:** If there is time the priest or penitent may read a suitable passage from scripture which draws attention to God's mercy and his call to repentance.
- **Confession of sins:** Penitents tell their sins to the priest simply and humbly. The priest may offer counsel or advice or talk over any special problems the penitent may have.
- **Giving penance:** The priest asks the penitent to perform some act of penance to show willingness to make up for the past. The penance may take the form of prayer, self-denial, or acts of service to others.
- **Act of sorrow:** The penitent says a short prayer which expresses sorrow for sin and resolution to seek amendment of life.

- **Absolution:** The priest extends his hand over the penitent and pronounces the word of absolution.
- **Conclusion:** The priest says a short prayer expressing praise and thanks to God and tells the penitent to go in peace.

### **An Examination of Conscience**

An examination of conscience is a systematic review of my life in the light of God's commandments. When preparing for Confession this examination should uncover all my sinful actions since my last Confession, especially any serious matters which I have knowingly and freely confessed.

#### **1. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange gods before me**

Have I neglected to pray? Have I made any created things more important than God in my life? Have I engaged in superstitious practices such as astrology, fortune-telling, charms, spells, magic or occult? Have I sought vain praise, failing to acknowledge God as the source of gifts and talents?

#### **2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.**

Have I deliberately given into distractions in prayer? Have I abused or shown disrespect for any holy place, object or person? Have I blasphemed by using holy names, such as Jesus Christ, as swearwords? Have I broken a solemn oath or vow.

#### **3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.**

Have I missed Mass on Sunday or on a holy day of obligation without serious reason? Have I engaged in activities on Sundays or holy days which have hindered the worship of God, works of charity or proper recreation?

#### **4. Honour your father and your mother.**

Have I refused respect or ridiculed my parents or religious superiors? Have I disobeyed my parents? Have I neglected my parents if they are in need? Have I disobeyed any other lawful authority? Have I made it hard for my children or others in my care to respect me by treating them badly?

#### **5. You shall not kill.**

Have I murdered or co-operated in murder? Have I assisted suicide (euthanasia)? Have I committed or co-operated in abortion (including the use of abortifacient pills), IVF or the destruction of human embryos? Have I been involved in or supported an unjust war? Have I neglected the poor and needy? Have I quarrelled, fought or hated anyone? Have I given way to anger?

#### **6. You shall not commit adultery.**

Have I committed adultery or fornication? Have I engaged in masturbation or homosexual acts? Have I used artificial contraception? Have I co-habited with a sexual partner to whom I am not married?

#### **7. You shall not steal.**

Have I stolen anything, including goods, information, money or software? Have I failed to pay my taxes and debts to others? Have I paid unjust wages or misled my employer by not working as I should? Have I failed to return borrowed property or make restitution for thefts?

#### **8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.**

Have I lied under oath? Have I discussed others' faults and failings unnecessarily? Have I lied about or exaggerated the fault of another? Have I lied in any other way? Have I damaged the good name of another? Have I made rash judgements about another?

#### **9. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.**

Have I desired someone else's spouse? Have I looked at or thought of others as sexual objects? Have I engaged in impure thoughts? Have I looked at impure pictures, read immodest literature, or used any other kind of pornography? Have I engaged in impure conversations or jokes?

#### **10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods.**

Have I been jealous of another's possessions, talents or looks? Have I disliked another because of their achievements? Have I failed to thank God for his gifts to me?

## Saints of the Week

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March St Patrick** was kidnapped while very young and taken to Ireland, where he was put to work looking after sheep. On the lonely hillsides he learned to pray. He escaped, already within him a call to Priesthood. There was also an insistent call to return to Ireland and he spent the rest of his life there building up the Kingdom of Christ. He was fearless in facing opposition from powerful pagan rulers; he practised regular penance which became a strong feature of Irish monasticism; he installed a missionary spirit which has lasted to the present day.



### **St Monica's Warm Space**

**We are offering a warm space and a warm welcome to all every**

Monday & Tuesday 11am to 2pm

Sunday 1pm to 4pm

Everyone is welcome to join us at our warm space to sit, have a warm drink, bowl of soup, people to talk with and save a little on your energy bills.

Free to everyone!

### **Last Man Standing Winner**

Congratulations to Ciaran Hackland who won the Last Man Standing Competition.

Thanks to everyone who participated.



### **GIFT AID**

Gift Aid is one of the simplest and most effective ways of giving to our parish. It is a scheme administered by the Inland Revenue which allows us to claim 25p for every £1 that you donate. So, for example, if you donate £5 in your

weekly offering then we can claim back an extra £1.25 per week from the Government.

No set amount has to be paid every week and we will only claim back from the government 25% of the total amount you have donated for the year.

This is an excellent way to boost our building fund which will allow us to get the much-needed works carried out in our church quicker.

There are two ways to give your weekly offering so that the Church can claim back from the government the extra 25%.

1. Complete the Gift Aid Form and set up a direct debit with your bank.
2. Complete the form and you will be given donation envelopes to allow you to place your weekly offering in the collection basket.

Nothing further from you is required.

At the end of each financial year your donation for the year is tallied up and then presented by the Diocesan Finance Team to the Inland Revenue and they then send us 25% of your total donation. To sign up to the Gift Aid Scheme all you have to be is a UK taxpayer. This can be done if you work and pay tax or if you pay tax on your pension.

We would encourage anyone who currently pays tax to support our Church refurbishment and sign up today to the Gift Aid Scheme.

Anyone wishing to join the scheme please pick up a form from the church porch and return it before 31 March.

Please seriously consider signing up today!

Envelopes for anyone who has already signed up will be available for collection next weekend.