



St Monica's Church

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Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi

2nd Sunday of Lent - A 5th March, 2023

Holy Mass

Mon - Fri: - 10am

Saturday: - 10am, 4pm (Vigil)

Sunday: - 10am 12 Noon & 5pm

Children's Liturgy 12 Noon Mass

Earlier Mass during Lent:

St James: Wednesdays & Fridays 7.30am

St Monica's: Tuesdays & Thursdays 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

Parish Mass Book Page 80

First Reading: GN 12: 1-4

Responsorial Psalm: **May your love be upon us,
O Lord, as we place all our hope in you**

Second Reading: TM 1:8-10

Gospel: Mt 17:1-9

Weekly Collection

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

Last Week's Collection - £714.95

Building Fund: 752.39

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

Thank you for your generosity

Warm Hub

Our warm hub will open in the church hall on Monday 13th March. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help. The rota will be available to collect from the church porch on Wednesday 8th March.

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 (Requiem Mass on Thursday 9th March at 10am), Mrs Margaret McCreddie (Canada)

Month's Mind: Daniel, John, James, John Antony & Stacey Duggan, Peter Burns, Linda Ann Irvine, Frank & Agnes Wilson, May & Jimmy McLaughlin, Kathleen & Peter Dolan, Tilly & Marie Clarke, Mattie, Tommy & Thomas Collins, Jim Boyle, Betty O'Hagan, Danny Watson, Martin Coyle, Tom Kelly, Ellen & Helen Moore, Eddie Fagan, Betty & Jim Duffy, James, Elizabeth & Sadie Prunty

Anniversaries: Catherine Duggan, Jim Halliday, Annie Mulholland, Peter Moore, Phil Duffy

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

1st Prize - No. 141 M Longyear
2nd Prize - No. 226 J Gallagher
3rd Prize - No. 97 A McAuley

What Is Eucharistic Adoration?

Eucharistic Adoration is time devoted to intimate and deep prayer before Our Lord in His real sacramental Presence. It is our pious and devout adoration of Our Saviour, Who is truly present in the Eucharistic Host. As Catholics know, it is the infallible teaching of Holy Mother Church that the bread and wine consecrated at Mass each *become and remain* the Sacred Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ. Thus, when we pray before the Eucharistic Host during Eucharistic Adoration, either in a monstrance or in the tabernacle, we are praying before Our Lord Himself.

One should pray **silently** so as to render respect to His Divine Majesty and out of consideration for others who are adoring Our Lord. Also, when one enters or leaves a church with the Blessed Sacrament exposed, one should kneel on both knees.



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



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 16th March 2023 at 6pm.**

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



CATHOLICS AND FAMILY LIFE IN MIXED MARRIAGE

BRINGING UP CHILDREN

What part I am expected to play in bringing up our children as Catholics?

The obligations in this matter are on your Catholic partner, not on you. But your partner will appreciate any interest you show or moral support you feel able to give in the religious education of your children. It is important, too, that you are willing to explain to your children your beliefs and ideas about religion. In this way they will learn to be understanding and tolerant of differing views – an important part of any Christian education.

UNFAIR TREATMENT

When you're married to a Catholic your home life seems to revolve round Catholic principles. I seem to have to give in to them all along the line. Is that fair?

If that's how you are made to feel it is certainly not at all fair. Catholics are supposed to be trying to live sincerely as Christians. And being a Christian does mean putting burdens

on other people's shoulders or ignoring their opinions and beliefs. A Catholic whose partner is not a Catholic needs to be particularly sensitive about this.

Your ideas and beliefs should not be ignored and you should make this clear to your partner. Try to discuss your differences of opinion openly so that your partner understands your point of view.

PRE-NATAL SCREENING

I am expecting our first child and have been offered pre-natal screening tests. If they show that the baby is disabled, I would want an abortion. My husband is Catholic. Would he object to this?

Many of the screening tests offered to expectant mothers are extremely useful in checking the progress of the pregnancy and providing early warning of any trouble, which may then be rectified. Some of them also predict whether the baby is likely to be disabled. Unfortunately, experience has shown that such predictions are by no means completely reliable and instances have been reported where a baby has been aborted and then found to be perfectly normal. Other babies have been born disabled or with learning difficulties although tests revealed no abnormality. The first lesson then, is that these tests are not 100% accurate. You could destroy a perfectly normal baby.

The Catholic Church is opposed to abortion, for any reason, because it is the deliberate killing of another human being. The fact that the baby is very small does not alter that.

The birth of a baby with some disability is a traumatic experience and the Catholic Church is very insistent that proper care and support be provided for all disabled people and their families. There is ample evidence that disabled people and those with severe learning difficulties, given the appropriate help, can live just as fulfilled and enriching lives as anyone else.

Many women refuse screening tests which may result in offers of an abortion. In this way they avoid the slight risk involved in having these tests and they also avoid several months of sometimes needless anxiety which can cloud their pregnancy.

GODPARENTS

My family are not Catholics but I would very much like my sister to be godmother to our baby son. Is this allowed?

Godparents go back to the days when most adult converts to the Christian faith had no Christian parents. They spoke up for the baptised person and if necessary, helped him or her to grow in the faith. But most parents choose two. When this happens, provided one godparent is a confirmed Catholic, it is certainly allowable for a non-Catholic to act as a witness to the baptism as long as they are baptised and of sufficient age and maturity to understand their role.

STATE EDUCATION

There is an excellent school near our home. The Catholic school is some distance away and doesn't have a very good academic reputation. Must I send my son there?

All parents want to ensure that their children receive the best education possible. And the choice of school inevitably plays a major part in this, particularly at secondary level. Education is, of course, a much wider concept than simply what is learnt academically. It embraces attitudes, relationships and an overall preparation for life. Catholic schools aim to provide a good academic education within a totally Christian atmosphere. This is why Catholics prefer to send their children to a Catholic school where possible.

When a Catholic school is failing to provide a good academic education or where distance makes travelling difficult, parents are under no obligation to send their children to it. What they must ensure, though, is that the religious education of their child is not neglected. In many families this means that the parents must undertake it themselves. If you decide to

send your child to a non-Catholic school, your Catholic partner will have to be prepared to teach your child about the faith at home.

HOME PRAYER

What is meant by “family prayer”?

Family prayer is a time when the family spend a few moments together thanking God for their lives and his gifts to them. It is a time when they also pray for any special needs they may have. These prayers are not meant to be lengthy or very formal in style of language. They are simply a reminder of unity and love within the Christian family. The best time for such prayers is when everyone is present, perhaps at the youngest child’s bedtime or just after the evening meal.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

By sending children to denominational schools, don’t we increase misunderstandings and division within our society?

Sadly, this is often the result of such schools. Their presence seems to fuel bigotry and suspicion. Yet at the heart of Christianity lies the firm belief that all men and woman are of equal value and share equally in the love of God. A good Christian school should be able to convey this important point to its pupils. In a denominational school a child will also learn about the traditions, customs and beliefs of the particular religious’ “family” he or she belongs to. This should enhance and broaden understanding and promote a sense of mutual respect for other faiths.

WORSHIP TOGETHER

I am a practicing Anglican and my husband is Catholic. Is he allowed to attend church regularly?

Yes, he is. In a mixed marriage, where both parties are practicing members of different denominations, attendance at each other’s church can be an important part of the sharing and the unity which is at the heart of their marriage. At present sharing communion between Christians is not generally permitted

so neither of you is free to receive Holy Communion in the other’s church. But there is no reason why your Catholic partner should not attend your church as long as he fulfils his obligations as a Catholic.



Saints of the Week

Tuesday 7th March - St Perpetua & St Felicity

were among a group of catechumens arrested in Carthage in 203. They were baptised in prison. Perpetua had just given birth and her father pleaded unsuccessfully for her to renounce her new faith. Felicity was a slave and pregnant. They were thrown to the lions. They both have a permanent mention in the First Eucharistic Prayer.

Thursday 9th March - St Frances of Rome

unwillingly entered an arranged marriage, aged twelve, but she was happily married for forty years, giving birth to three children. Her husband was a soldier and his absences from home gave her the freedom to devote herself to the poor and the needy in the city of Rome which was experiencing a time of internecine conflict and economic hardship.

Friday 10th March - St John Ogilvie, Martyr

was born in 1580 at Drum, near Keith. Educated a Calvinist, he went to the Low Countries and was received into the Catholic Church by Father Cornelius à Lapide. He became a Jesuit, was ordained priest in 1613 and landed in Scotland that year. In Edinburgh and Glasgow, he reconciled many to the Ancient Faith, but was betrayed, imprisoned and tortured, and finally hanged in Glasgow in 1615.

Saturday 11th March - St Constantine

was King of Cornwall. After his wife’s death he converted to Christianity and entered monastic life as a penance for earlier sins. There he encountered St Kentigern who encouraged him to share his Faith. He founded a monastery in Govan, from where he and his monks, preached the Gospel of Christ. He met a martyr’s death and was buried in Govan in 590.