



St Monica's Church

Sharp Avenue, Coatbridge ML5 5RP

Telephone: 01236 421750

Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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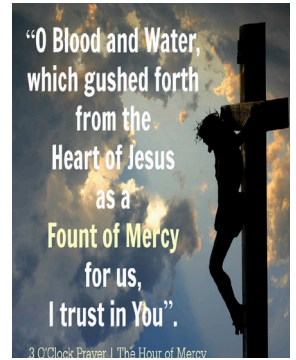
Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

Facebook/You Tube: St Monica's Parish Coatbridge

Parish Hall: Email: stmonicashall@outlook.com

Tele: - 07549042450 Mary Cope

Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



4th Sunday of Lent B

10th March, 2024

Holy Mass & Services

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

Parish Mass Book, Page 83

- First Reading: 2Chr 36: 14-16.19-23
- Responsorial Psalm **O Let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!**
- Second Reading: Eph 2: 4-10
- Gospel: Jn 3: 14-21
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Weekly Collection

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

Last week's collection

First Collection: £798.37

There will be a second collection this for SCIAF

Thank you for your generosity.

500 Club Winners

1st Prize: 554 B Kennedy

2^{ns} Prize: 147 E Gillick

3rd Prize: 279 M Kelly

Lost and Found

A ring was found in the offertory basket last weekend. If you think it's yours, please speak to Father Ghislain.

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, Kelly Noble, Michael McGarrity, Sadie McBride, Mary Torbett, Sharon, Elizabeth McKenna, Alex Cooper, Sr Kathleen Owens; Ann Smith, Helen Smith, Alice Kilmurry, Danny Dick, Peter Alexander, Ann McAlinden, Mary Cunningham, Patricia McGhee, Margaret Wallace, Irene Leckie, Kay McDonagh, Mary Glasgow, John Slevin, Andrew Maxwell, Kerry Marshall; John Paul Devlin, Caroline Miller; Carrie Miller, Mathew Miller, Maria Bolton, John Paul Devlin, Thomas Lally, Marion Moran, Sadie Harkin, John Paul Devlin, James Brown, Jim McCormick, Karen McGuigan, Alice Gallagher, John Lannigan, John McBride

RIP: A Requiem Mass will be celebrated for the repose of the soul of Isabella (Tess) Wallace on Monday 11th March at 10am. Her body will be received into the Church on Sunday 10th March at 6pm, Hugh Kelly, Mechele Bremner, John Fitzpatrick, Charlie Martin, Marie Stewart

Month's Mind: Margaret Rowney (nee Kane), James, John & Richard Cooney, Angela Lilley, Daniel, John, James, John Anthony & Stacey Duggan, Peter Burns, Linda Ann Irvine, Jim McAuley, Sam & John Black, Tommy Reynolds, Thomas & Rose Tiernan, Denis Tiernan, Rosemary O'Neill, Thomas & Janette Tiernan, Denis Leonard, Bill Paul, Lawrence Molloy, Ben & Agnes Ferrie, Patsy McMurray, Rev Cornelius Xavier O'Leary, Helen, Margaret, Agnes & Teresa Docherty, William & Patrick Docherty, Mary & Edward Drummond, Anna & Joseph Pearson, Alex & David Thain, Bernard, Liam & Brian Loney, John & Ann Loney, Jim Kane, Elizabeth, Joseph, James & Peter Silvestro, Anna & Joseph Pearson, Jenny Wright, Margaret & Andrew McKinlay, Anna, Brian & Joseph Tierney, Agnes & William McAuley, Rab Bannen

Anniversaries: Charlene Wallace (nee Kane), Ellen & Catherine Cooney, Catherine Duggan, Isabel Kane, Jim Quinn, Norman MacLean, Justin Waitkins, Agnes Waitkins, Danny Watson

Mother's Day Remembrance: Margaret McAuley, Anne Black, Ita Bolton, Elizabeth Prunty, Catherine Smith, Lily Loney, Elizabeth Silvestro, Margaret Docherty, Teresa Docherty

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

4th Sunday of Lent B -

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. God took the initiative in our salvation. He chose the approach of love, not of power. God is not an absolute monarch, but a Father who is not happy until all his wandering children have come home. His love is all-inclusive. Love directed not at one nation only, nor only for the good, but at all nations, to the children of light and to the children of darkness.

But the gospel also talks about judgement and condemnation. How can condemnation be reconciled with love? God condemns no one. People condemn themselves by adopting a negative attitude. God sent us the light. If people get lost it is because they haven't accepted the light. The fault is not God's but ours. Those who prefer darkness to light have condemned themselves.

Evil people hate the light because it reveals themselves to themselves. They hate goodness because it reveals their badness, they hate industry because it reveals their laziness. They will destroy the light, the goodness, the love, in order to avoid the pain of self-discovery. It is terrible to reject the light, to reject God's offer of love. But how sweet to walk in the light of his love. Our part in the process of redemption is to accept God's gift in all humility, and try to collaborate for our own salvation. We are able to love God because God loved us first.



We welcome Arco, Ava Rose & Aria Grace McGhee 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.

Food Parcels

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far to our foodbank.

If you know of anyone who needs help with food, please ask them to come and speak to Father Ghislain. Discretion is assured.

Service Schedule 4th Week of Lent

Monday	Early morning Mass 7.30am Holy Rosary 9.30am Requiem Mass For Isabella (Tess) Wallace 10am Divine Mercy Devotions 2pm Stations of the Cross 7pm
Tuesday	Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass 10am
Wednesday	Early morning mass in St Monica's Primary School 8.40am Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass 10am
Thursday	Early morning Mass 8.15am Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass 10am
Friday	Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass 10am
Saturday	Holy Rosary 9.30am Holy Mass 10am Vigil Mass 4pm
Sunday	Holy Mass 10am, 12 Noon & 5.00pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation Monday to Saturday 9.30am to 9.55am	

Parish Meetings

Monday 11 th March 7pm	Finance Committee
Wednesday 20 th March 7pm	Ministers of the Eucharist
Thursday 21 st March 7pm	Readers



Thank you to everyone who came along to our Parish meeting on Wednesday evening. It was great to see so many people there sharing ideas and everyone's input is welcomed. A summary of the responses to the questions raised on the evening can be found overleaf. Our next meeting will take place in April and the date will be confirmed shortly.

Where do we want to be in 10 years' time?
Still open and thriving
More young people involved
More accessible church
More comfortable church (heating)
Decor - Flowers/Painting etc
Better attendance
More prayerful space
More open to the wider community
Younger Parish - More children attending
More open ethos - be patient and encouraging others to participate in the mass
Reverence in the Church
Educating adults and children
Full of families
Strong links with the schools
Community Hub
Still St Monica's on its own
God and Church. Mass is a priority
Renew the contract of the school to have the children involved in various ways such as (A) Events created by the school in church (B) For the children to have roles within the grounds of the church ensuring they understand the physical /needs of the church as well as the religious aspect
Renew contract between the parents of children going to school such that a community of church/school. Parents come together to share ideas (barring exception of certain children's needs)
In this chapel it used to be the case the priest and a committee of the church would arrange events for the local people and their children in line with the religious calendar

What groups are disengaged
Children - 5-12/Teenagers/Adults 20-40
Schools/ Sick and housebound/ Those with lack of mobility/ Disabled/ Elderly/ Families/ Nero diverse groups
Parents of children with disabilities can feel unwelcome/uncomfortable/Embarrassed
Some parents/Role Modelling

How can we encourage more people to become active member of our parish?
Build awareness of what the parish needs e.g. hours of work, music needs etc
Prayer groups held regularly
Show by example
Communication
Promote church activities
Building relationships in the parish
Groups/meetings
Activities/Events . Encourage family events
Ask individuals if they would like to help/join existing groups
Welcome and possibility of tea/coffee after mass to build up some community relationships
Publish a monthly bulletin documenting upcoming activities
Have more of a presence in the schools
The action of the previous questions and the changes that would naturally follow would bring the people who have fallen away from the church to eventually be the parents of the children who will ALL return to their religion and love the church

How can we collectively do more?
More help given out/ More Volunteers/Participate
Spread the word/ Education - group sessions
Tap into people's skills/knowledge
Try to encourage our kids back to church is a start
Get actively involved in organising church/community events/Organise events
Together, Recovery , Youth
Creation of more activity in the church hall
Creation of sub groups to focus on specific topics
Visit sick, housebound & lonely
Be a minder to allow people who are carers some respite
Wellbeing group
Come together collectively to improve socially. Build relationships within the parish.

What can we do to encourage these groups to come back?
Asking! Engaging youth through asking what their thoughts are
Asking primary school children about things they'd like to do/see included in the mass
Pray
Engage with the school
Bus service for housebound
Youth events, Youth Mass
Activities in the church hall
Summer trips
BBQ, film shows, race meetings, discos & football matches
Encourage families to attend events
Home visits
Incentives for altar servers (training too!)
Parish Mission
Make better use of cry chapel
Presence on social media - Interactive page

What's working now?
Mass Time Options
Dedicated volunteers/ Small but committed group of parishioners who keep things going
Father G Is providing a good service regarding masses etc
SVDP is still going but needs new members
Divine Mercy still active
Eucharistic Ministers still working
Financially viable
Parish Priest Positive Leadership
Strong Community
Good focal point/access
Children' liturgy - more children from school attending
Social media - Live streaming of mass
Facebook sharing information
Fundraising
Caring community at morning mass
Church is still open
Presence in the community

What can we improve?
Social nights for under 12's
Encourage young kids to come along for activities
More communication/Interaction between parishioners
Creation of a livelier sense of community
Every service needs more numbers
Encourage your children, grandchildren and great children
Family/School - Religious education
Parishioner Participation
Increase events /Activities for all age groups
Stronger links with school starting with teachers
Environment of the church
Bring in more music - Choir, parishioners who are musicians, Liturgical Music
Engage with parents of young kids to encourage them to come to mass
Offer transport to the people who can't make mass
Better participation in the liturgy. E.g. rotas for offertory procession
Life connection to the Gospel
We should have an outreach forum for people who are prepared to offer help and assistance for those in need of support, such as carers who need a bit of space and time. Could be someone to speak to someone who just needs a chat.
Information needs to be fed into the summons in terms of people who are lonely, physical help, emotional support or even resting and making a cup of tea.
Someone with experience such as a nurse or a carer would be valuable to have a route of action in terms of approach
Remove altar partition
Attitudes - allowing new people to participate
Listening to new ideas from parishioners
Charismatic masses

**Wishing you a Holy and Peaceful
Sunday**