



## St Monica's Church

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Diocese of Motherwell

Charity No. SC011041

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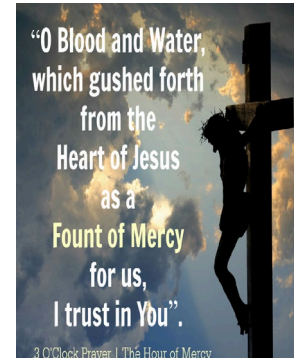
Website: <http://saint-monica.org.uk>

Facebook/You Tube: St Monica's Parish Coatbridge

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

Tele: - 07549042450 Mary Cope

Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi



### 6th Sunday of Easter B 5th May 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 142

- First Reading: Acts 10: 25-26.34-35, 44-48
- Responsorial Psalm: **The Lord has shown his Salvation to the nations**
- Second Reading: Jn 4: 7-10
- Gospel: Jn 15: 9-17

#### 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: £793.85

Building Fund: £490.21

**There is a second collection next weekend for Communications.**

Thank you for your generosity.



**Sick:** Mary Cunningham, Sr Kathleen Owens, Peter Alexander, Alice Gallagher, Kay McDonagh, Carol McGuinness, Caroline Miller, Matt Miller, John, Ann McShane & Family, Anne Wedlock McCann, Catherine McPhee, John Lannigan, Thomas Lally, Jim, Pat, Grace & Felix Dillon

**RIP:** Peter Dornan

**Month's Mind:** James & Sadie Prunty Bill Paul, Lawrence Molloy, Ben & Agnes Ferrie, Patsy McMurray, Betty O'Hagan, Joseph McMullan, William, Margaret, Patrick, Agnes, Helen & Teresa Docherty, Joseph, James & Peter Silvestro, Alex & David Thain, Anna & Joseph Pearson, Jenny Wright, Margaret & Andrew McKinlay, Anna, Brian & Joseph Tierney, Agnes & William McAuley, Rab Bannen

**Anniversaries:** Elizabeth Prunty, John Harkins, Sarah Duffy, Elizabeth Silvestro

**Birthday Remembrance:** Teresa Docherty

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

*Have a lovely weekend!*

## Reflection: 6th Sunday of Easter B.

The first Christian community had been exclusively Jewish. Now comes a turning point—the reception of the first gentiles, the first pagans to receive the grace of Baptism. Paul and Barnabas urge their fellows Jewish to be welcoming towards the gentiles and refrain from imposing useless burden to them, for we are all brothers. And Jesus says: love one another as I have loved you.

St John say: 'My dear friends, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.'

The best way to know God is to love many things. Love a friend, your wife, your husband, your children, strangers, and you will be on the right way to knowing about God.

There is a big gap between knowing God and loving God. Not to love is not to know God. But when we love, the gap is closed. To love is to know God. Where love is, God is; where God is, love is. Hate is a bad thing. It's bad to hate anything. It is a good thing to love something. When we refuse to love, we build a wall around ourselves. But we ourselves are the first to suffer. We condemn ourselves to loneliness and unhappiness. But when we love, the wall falls down. We open ourselves to others. And we ourselves are the first to benefit. We experience friendship, goodwill, peace and joy.

Because we are made in God's image, each of us has an innate (instinctive) capacity for love. However, for this to happen the heart has to be right. If only the heart was right, we could see God in all he created.



There will be Rosary, Adoration and Reflection on the Holy Spirit on **Friday 10<sup>th</sup>, Monday 13<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> & Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm.**

I would invite everyone to attend this in the lead up to Pentecost on the 19<sup>th</sup> May.

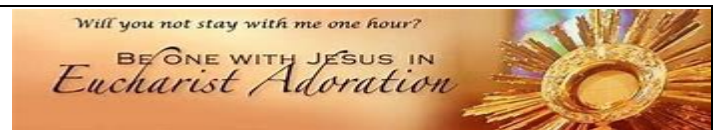
## Holy Day of Obligation

### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Ascension of the Lord

The Feast of the Ascension is on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May. This is a Holy Day of Obligation in which we commemorate Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven. Masses: Vigil on Wednesday 7pm, Thursday, 8am, 10am, 7pm.

### May, Month of Mary

The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful are especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the [Month of May](#), no. 1). **Join us, please, for the Holy Rosary every morning at 9.30am**



Our church will be **open every Monday from 11am to 6pm** for anyone who wishes to come along for Private Prayer & Adoration.

**If you can spare a hour to keep watch over the church during this time, please add your name to the schedule in the church porch.**

**There will be Holy Rosary at 6pm each Monday to conclude and I would encourage you to come along and join us.**

## Building Refurbishment Update

Our Church roof replacement is scheduled to start the week beginning the 20<sup>th</sup> May and it is estimated that the works will last between 10-12 weeks. As there will be scaffolding and materials on the premises for Health & Safety reasons all three gates to the church will be locked and will only be open during services times. There will be no access the path leading to the presbytery and parts of the carpark will also be sectioned off. The building works will not affect any services in the church.

### **500 Club Winners!**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize N Gallagher (89)

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize S Longyear (108)

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Z Roberts (81)



### **Mass for the Anointing of the Sick**

We will be having a mass for the sick on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June at 12 Noon. I am looking for people to volunteer to transport anyone who would like to attend this mass, but is unable to get here by themselves. There is a list in the Church porch for any volunteers who would like to help.

### **Poverty Relief**

There is a box at the back of the church for anyone who wishes to make a donation to our Poverty Relief Fund.

### **MEN OF ST JOSEPH**

Both single and married men are invited to come along and all age groups are welcome.

Our next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm.**

Below is some further information about the group. Please take some time to read this and consider joining.

The Men of St. Joseph are a group of men committed to living a life of conversion, integrity, and honesty, acting as a witness for Jesus Christ in daily life, work, social, parish and family settings. The men of this ministry aim to emulate St. Joseph and become better husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. There are no dues and the Men of St. Joseph do not participate in projects or other volunteer efforts as a group, but instead, gather together for sharing among men to help them be a better person, a better family man, and a better member of the Church.

### **The Five Promises**

The Men of St. Joseph are invited to accept the following five promises as a guide for their daily lives:

### **Dedicate your Life to the Lord:**

Participate in Sunday Mass (with your family if you have one).

### **Grow in Christian Discipleship:**

Develop a personal prayer life and attend weekday Mass once a month.

### **Live with Integrity and Honesty:**

Experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation twice a year.

### **Be Faithful to Your Primary Vocation:**

Married: pray and spend time with your family.  
Singles: pray and act to change the world.

### **Meet Together with Brothers:**

Attend Men of St. Joseph meetings at your parish and gather together with other men for annual and seasonal conferences.

### **What are some specific activities they do?**

The Men of St. Joseph engage in various activities to foster spiritual growth, fraternity, and service. Here are some specific activities commonly associated with this group:

#### **1. Prayer and Reflection:**

- o Regular prayer meetings, including the Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, or Eucharistic Adoration.

- o Spiritual retreats and days of reflection to deepen their relationship with God.

#### **2. Study and Formation:**

- o Bible studies, book clubs, or discussions on topics related to faith, virtue, and manhood.

- o Learning about the life and virtues of St. Joseph.

#### **3. Service and Outreach:**

- o Volunteering at local charities, shelters, or community events.

- o Supporting families in need, especially single parents or those facing difficulties.

#### **4. Fellowship and Brotherhood:**

- o Social gatherings, outings, and recreational activities.
- o Building strong friendships and providing mutual support.

#### **5. Fatherhood and Family Life:**

- o Encouraging men to be better husbands and fathers.
- o Promoting family values and responsible parenting.

#### **6. Accountability and Encouragement:**

- o Accountability groups where men share their struggles, victories, and hold each other accountable.
- o Encouraging one another to live virtuous lives.

#### **Do they organize any annual events?**

The Men of St. Joseph often organize annual events that strengthen their faith, foster brotherhood, and serve their communities. Here are some common annual activities:

##### **1. St. Joseph's Feast Day Celebration:**

- o On March 19th, the feast day of St. Joseph, they come together for Mass, prayers, and a communal meal.
- o Reflecting on St. Joseph's role as the earthly father of Jesus and seeking his intercession.

##### **2. Retreats and Spiritual Conferences:**

- o Annual retreats where members spend focused time in prayer, reflection, and spiritual growth.
- o Inviting guest speakers or clergy to lead conferences on topics relevant to men's spirituality.

##### **3. Outdoor Adventures and Pilgrimages:**

- o Hiking trips, camping, or pilgrimages to holy sites.
- o Connecting with nature while deepening their faith.

#### **4. Service Projects:**

- o Annual community service initiatives, such as food drives, home repairs for those in need, or volunteering at shelters.
- o Living out their faith through practical acts of charity.

#### **5. Consecration to St. Joseph:**

- o Some groups participate in an annual consecration to St. Joseph, following a specific program or book.
- o A period of preparation and prayer leading up to the consecration day.

#### **What can we learn from Joseph's role as a foster father?**

Joseph's role as a foster father provides valuable lessons for all of us.

**1. Obedience and Trust:** Joseph obediently followed God's instructions, even when they seemed unconventional or challenging. His

trust in God allowed him to accept Mary's miraculous pregnancy and protect her honour.

**2. Selflessness and Sacrifice:** Joseph put Mary and Jesus' well-being above his own desires. He sacrificed his plans, reputation, and comfort to care for them.

**3. Protection and Provision:** As a protector, Joseph shielded Mary and Jesus from harm.

#### **Prayer of Saint Joseph**

Saint Joseph, protector and guide of Jesus Christ. Assist me with the help of your intercessions to be a man of integrity, honesty and dignity. May I imitate you in discipleship as brother, husband, father, and son. Pray that I may receive the gifts necessary to be a healer, teacher, mentor, and missionary to the world in need of the Gospel. As you once promised to watch over the Christ Child, pray that through the grace of the Holy Spirit I too may keep my promises to watch and protect all those the Lord has given to me.