

St Monica's Church

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<u> Parish Priest: Father Ghislain B. Mulumanzi</u>

<u>11th Sunday, Year B</u> <u>16th June, 2024</u>

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 Personal prayer: from 10.30am Rosary & Solemn blessing: 6PM Confessions: Mon - Sun 9.30am – 9.55am Baptisms & Marriage: - To arrange a baptism or marriage please contact Father Ghislain

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- First Reading: Ezeckiel 17:22-24
- Responsorial Psalm: It is good to give
- thanks, O Lord
- Second Reading: 2 Cor 5: 6-10
- Gospel: Mk 4: 26-34

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: £ 685.52 Building Fund: £ 488.43

This weekend there is a second collection for Mill Hill Missionaries who are with us for a Mission Appeal.

Thank you for your generosity.

Please keep in your Prayers

Sick: Mary Cunningham, Sr Kathleen Owens, Peter Alexander, Alice Gallagher, Carol McGuinness, Caroline Miller, Matt Miller, John, Ann McShane & Family, Catherine McPhee, John Lannigan, Thomas Lally, Jim, Pat, Grace & Felix Dillon, Patricia McGhee, James Brown, Mathew Miller, Robert McKirdy, Georgette O'Neill, Mary Hughes, Christine Clelland, Carrie Miller, Mathew Miller, Ann McAlinden, Andrew Maxwell, Margaret Trower, Maria Bolton, Mary Torbet, Elizabeth McKenna, Hugh Docherty, Teresa Marshall

RIP: Frank Reilly, Elizabeth Shaw (**Elizabeth's body will be received into our Church on Thursday 20th June, at 6pm; Requiem Mass Friday 21st June at 10am)**, Yvonne McAlaistair, Edward Devlin, Gillian McHenry, Father John Lochran (**Fr Lochran's body will be received into the church on Monday 1st July at 7pm and the Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 2nd July at 11.30am. There will be no 10am mass on this day.)**

Month's Mind: Stephen Henry, Frank & Cathie Wilson, John & Bridie Docherty, Eddie McGonigal, Tommy Reynolds, Thomas, Rose, Eric & Denis Tiernan, Thomas & Janette Tiernan, Rosemary O'Neill, June Stewart, John, Cathy & Thomas Finnigan, Cathy Seggie, Kristopher Toye, Baby Victoria McCann, Lily, Liam & Brian Loney, John & Ann Loney, Jim Kane,

Anniversaries: Margaret Gould, John Gould, Francis, Elizabeth, Mary, Margaret, Rose & Anne McGeehan, Catherine & James McDonald, Sheila Kennedy, Charlotte Costello, Moira Skillin, Lila Williamson, Ann Sood

Father's Day Remembrance: Gerald Joseph Murphy, John Parker, Bernard Loney, James Prunty, James Smith

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

Sunday Reflection: Spiritual growth.

The readings are about spiritual growth. It is important for us to come to God in prayer and good works in order to grow in God's favour and friendship. God is at work in every age and in each of our lives. The seed of his word was first planted in our heart at baptism. Our task is to water and tenderly care for it so that it can work powerfully with us.

As most of us were baptised as infants, parents have the vital role in nurturing the seed of God's word in their children. The example they set by prayer and good Christian living in the home will go a long way in determining their children's attitude to life and God.

The mustard tree reminds us of an important truth of the Christian life: the seed of God's life within us grows slowly and invisibly. We cannot rush the growth of the seed in the earth and neither can rush God's growth in our hearts. There is nothing we can do to hurry it. Our path to perfection seems so frustratingly slow and we often lose heart. Many of us have the uneasy feeling that after years of struggling with Christian life, we are no nearer to God. There appears to be no mastering of our personal shortcomings. The same old sins keep recurring preventing our progress on the roadway to perfection. Patient endurance and unbounded hope are virtues we need to develop. How easily we forget that God rewards our efforts, our ability to keep trying, and not our excellence. We fail to realise that his grace can work through our human weaknesses and limitations and can accomplish what is beyond our dreams. We are not going to be able to measure it but we can be certain that it will happen provided we play our part and intend on pleasing God.

We tend the seed of the word of God that has been planted in our hearts by prayers and sacraments, which dispose us to perform good works and acts of loving kindness. In this way we make ready the earth in which the seed of God's word can blossom. There is no age at which we cannot grow in God's grace. So let us realise that life is but a passing shadow and the few years given to us here below are for soul-making. If we do not grow in moral and spiritual stature while on earth, there will be lots of growing up to be done in purgatory.

Church Roof Repair

As the work on the roof has started, we appeal to the residents on Sharp Ave and Cumberland Place to keep the access to our church grounds clear for lorries. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated. The gates to the church will be closed during the works and will only be open for church services.

Primary 7 Leavers Mass Wednesday 19th June at 9.30am

Our mass will be celebrated at <u>9.30am</u> on Wednesday and we will be joined by our Primary 7 children who are leaving primary to go to secondary school.

Welcoming group.

When anyone moves to a new place, they may find it difficult to settle in, meet new people and experience being made welcome. This can be especially true in a large parish. The presence of a **Welcoming Group is needed for each of our services** to help new parishioners feel welcome in our parish and settle in more easily, especially when joining us for the Holy Mass. I am looking for people to help distribute the mass/hymn books at each mass and to welcome people as they arrive. If you can help with this then please speak to me.

Feasts during this coming week

Friday 21st June St Aloysius Gonzaga – was born of a noble family in Lombardy, the oldest of seven children. At 17 years of age, he won a four-year battle with his father to give up his inheritance to become a Jesuit. When a plague broke out in Rome in 1591, the Jesuits opened a hospital to care for the sick. Aloysius, who had never enjoyed good health, was infected and died, aged 23. He is one of the patrons of young people.

Thursday 22 June – St Paulinus of Nola was born in Bordeaux, the son of the Roman Prefect of Gaul. He married Teresa in 384 and was himself baptised. Ten years later he was ordained a priest and he and his wife moved to Italy. After his wife died, he was chosen as Bishop of Nola. He was a renowned religious poet, and a prolific letter-writer to Saints Jerome, Augustine, Martin of Tours and Ambrose.

500 Club Winners!

1st Prize: A McAlinden (234) 2nd Prize: M McLaughlin (670) 3rd Prize: J Battersby (292)

Have a lovely Weekend!