

Prayer for Vocations:

Loving and generous God, we are your people, the work of your hands. Jesus calls us to heal the broken-hearted, to dry the tears of those who mourn, to give hope to those who despair, and to rejoice in your steadfast love.

Grant to us faith-filled leaders who will embrace Christ's Mission of love and justice.

Bless the Church of the Diocese of Motherwell by raising up dedicated leaders from our families and friends who will serve your people as priests.

Inspire us to know you better and open our hearts to hear your call.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for the Sick:

We remember all of those who have died recently: Thomas O'Donnell; Nancy Loughlin; Rose O'Donnell; James Scally.

We pray for the Anniversary of: Paul Wilson; Keith Mooney; Gordon Wood.



Parish Information

Celebrating the Sacraments

Baptism: by arrangement with the Parish Priest. In line with Diocesan policy, there is a preparation meeting for the celebration of this Sacrament.

Marriage: in line with Diocesan policy, a minimum of six months notice must be given, during which all couples will be expected to participate in Preparation Meetings for their celebration.

Anointing of the Sick: on request. Anyone with a planned stay in hospital, should arrange to celebrate this Sacrament before going into hospital.

St Mary's Clubrooms: For bookings contact: clubrooms@outlook.com or call 01555 662234

Contact us:

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Parish Priest: Fr. Jim Thomson



St. Mary's Church, Lanark

26th Sunday of the Year (B)

30th September 2018

INTRODUCTION TO THE MASS We gather together here as God's people at home in our Father's house, listening attentively to God's word, broadening our faith-perspectives, nourishing ourselves spiritually, experiencing prayer and worship as a community of faith.

LITURGY OF THE WORD



First Reading (Num 11:25-29). Moses does not pretend to control the outpouring of the gifts of the Spirit nor to wish it to be restricted to his own immediate companions. God paints on a broader canvas than some of his people think.

Responsorial Psalm: The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

Second Reading (Jas 5:1-6). Woe to the rich! You accumulate wealth unjustly to your own peril. The victims of your avarice cry out for your condemnation.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel (Mk 9:38-43.45.47-48). True friends of Jesus identify with all his friends. We see and serve him in all others. Our respect for others admits of no exception. The kingdom comes first, cost what it may. Its priorities are absolute.

Think Vocations: "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put His spirit on them." All Catholics share the prophetic ministry of the Lord through baptism. Will you follow Him as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? Call your diocesan Vocations Director or visit www.priestsforScotland.org.uk

SERVICES FOR THE WEEK:

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|-------------------|--------|------|-------------------------------|
| Monday: | 9.30am | Mass | St Therese of the Child Jesus |
| Tuesday: | 9.30am | Mass | Holy Guardian Angels |
| Wednesday: | 9.30am | Mass | |
| Thursday: | 9.30am | Mass | St Francis of Assisi |
| Friday: | 9.30am | Mass | |
| Saturday: | 9.30am | Mass | |

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Saturday Vigil Mass : | 5.00pm |
| Sunday: | 10.30am |

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday: after 9.30am Mass; 4.30pm - 4.50pm; and on request.

St. Mary's Gazette

FAITH IN FOCUS: JEALOUS OR ZEALOUS?

Moses and Jesus faced a similar problem. Moses picked seventy people who received the spirit of prophecy. But people complained that two other men had received the same gift even though they hadn't been picked by Moses. And in today's gospel John tries to stop a man from casting out devils because he wasn't one of the disciples.

Both Moses and Jesus deal with the problem in the same way: if only everyone could prophesy; if only everyone could cast out devils; if only everyone were so zealous. Anyone not against us must be on our side. So leave them alone and just be happy that they're doing something good!

You can't help thinking that there's a bit of jealousy and envy in these two scenes. Why else would you complain about someone doing good, unless you were jealous of them? But jealousy easily parades as righteousness.

Jealousy is a strange emotion. On a human level it involves us feeling that we should be in the same position as the other person. We should be as popular, as important, as rich or as valued as the other. But on a religious level it shows a lack of trust in God: if we are jealous of others then we are fearful that God hasn't given us enough.

If we find we're envious of other people then it's a sure sign that we're not at ease with ourselves and with our relationship with God. For God loves each person as if they were the only one to exist. God doesn't have favourites and he gives to each of us according to our needs. Maybe if some people "have all the luck" then it's a sign that they need it? As for jealousy about other people having more money or possessions than us, St James puts it into perspective in today's reading. What's the point of flaunting your temporary wealth on this earth if you fail to prepare yourself for the life that will last for ever?

Oddly enough, we sometimes talk about God being a jealous God. What this means is that God is zealous for his people. God will never let us down. He will never leave us wanting and he promises us all we need. So if we try to become like God then we need to be zealous about our faith, not jealous.

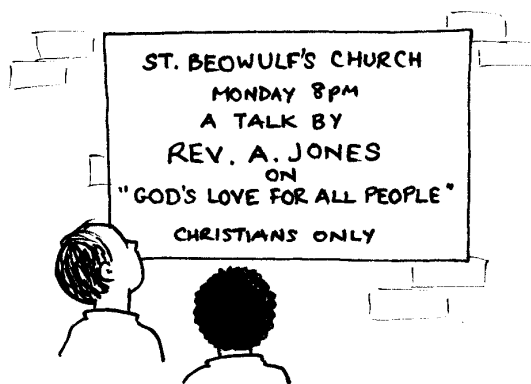
WORD FOR TODAY

When we see others and are jealous or envious of them it's because we have failed to see how much God has given us. We are looking in the wrong direction. Jealousy is actually lack of faith in God's ability to deliver to us what we need in daily life.

Jealousy is simply and clearly the fear that you do not have value. Jealousy scans for evidence to prove the point - that others will be preferred and rewarded more than you. There is only one alternative - self-value. If you cannot love yourself, you will not believe that you are loved. You will always think it's a mistake or luck. (Jennifer James)

Catholic Nurses' Guild of Scotland

The Guild will hold its Annual Day of Recollection on Saturday 17th Nov 2018 from 10.30am - 4.00pm at the Schoenstatt Centre, The Clachan, Campsie Glen, Glasgow G66 7AB. The cost is £20. All nurses, health care workers and friends welcome.



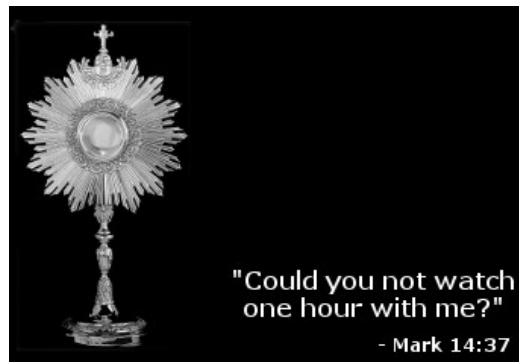
What's on @ St. Mary's

Items for inclusion in St. Mary's Gazette should be handed into the Presbytery in writing by Thursday.

Church Collections

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 23.09.18 | £1411 | £750 to Diocese of Motherwell | £661 left to the Parish |
| 300 Club Winner | | Daniel Stewart | No. 107 |

There are about 9 places available in the 300 Club. It costs £1.00 per week with a chance of winning £100! The proceeds goes to help pay for the insurance of our Church and other buildings.



40 Hours Adoration

Now that the fabric of the Church building has been renewed, we need to look to renewing the Spiritual Life of our Church and Parish. Starting on Sunday 6th October, at the end of the 10.30am Mass, we will have Eucharistic Adoration until the Holy Hour at 7.00pm. On both Monday and Tuesday we will have Eucharistic Adoration from after Mass till the Holy Hour at 7.00pm. Our services will be led by the newly ordained Fr John Paul McShane and Fr Sean Wylie.

We need people to "Watch" in front of the Blessed Sacrament during our Forty Hours Adoration. Are you able to give an hour sometime on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday? A list will be at the back of the Church next weekend for people to "sign up".

Christmas Fayre

We hope to hold a Christmas Fayre on Sunday 9th December. A number of people have already expressed an interest in helping to prepare for this event and/or help on the day. There will be a meeting on Monday 1st October at 7.00pm in the Parish Meeting Room (upstairs in the Parish House). Please come along to share your ideas/offers of help. All welcome.



Contemplative Theology

The autumn season of Contemplative Theology will take place in the Xavier Centre in Carfin on 27th September, 4th, 11th and 25th October from 7.15 - 9pm. Not sure what it's about? Come along and see!

Upcoming Events in the Clubrooms

Sat 13th October - The Words (formerly losferwords) - tickets will be on sale soon
Sunday 11th November - Afternoon Tea in the Clubrooms.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic?

If you would like to get more information about becoming a Catholic then please contact Fr Jim

St Mary's Contemplative Prayer Group

St Mary's Contemplative Prayer Group will meet on Wednesday 3rd Oct, 7.30 in the Call Room. Meeting dates for this year are posted on the notice board and on the Parish Website. If you would like to know more please call Gemma on 07891918374. Looking forward to a prayerful and peaceful year!