

St Mary's Lanark

A Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell (founded 1859) Charity No - SC011041

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Parish Priest

Fr John-Paul McShane

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4th Sunday of Advent

22nd December 2024

Bishop Toal's Christmas Message

On the First Sunday of Advent, a phrase from the Reading from St Paul's Letter to The Thessalonians caught my attention – it was “more and more”. In some ways “more and more” may sum up Christmas for many of us - more lights and decorations, more shopping and presents, more parties and festive treats, more songs and entertainment, more gatherings of family and friends. The list can continue and we are very lucky when we can enjoy many of these good things.

Why did St Paul use these words then? Here is what he wrote:

**Brothers and Sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus,
That, as you received from us, how you ought to walk and please God,
just as you are doing,
that you do so more and more.**



It sounds that he recommends making more and more room for Jesus in our lives, so that we can walk and please God in the way Jesus himself and the Apostles taught. We should certainly try to make more room for Jesus at Christmas as we listen again to the great story of his birth at Bethlehem, and celebrate it in prayer and in song in our churches, homes, and schools. The true and full celebration of Christmas is a mark of our identity as Christians, and our joy that God became one of us to bring us salvation. In the spirit of St Paul's instruction let us be united in the Lord Jesus this Christmas and, through his grace, draw more and more closer to him, through our prayer and our charity to those more needy than ourselves. By doing this we strive to fully please God as true and faithful followers of Jesus, his Son and Our Lord.

On Christmas Night Pope Francis will begin the Jubilee Year of 2025 by opening the Holy Door of St Peter's in Rome. Along with dioceses throughout the world we will begin the Jubilee here in Motherwell on Sunday 29th December, the Feast of the Holy Family. I invite you me to join me that afternoon for the Opening Service, followed by Mass in the Cathedral. Like Christmas, our Jubilee Year will be a period of more and more as we make extra efforts to celebrate and live our faith both at home and on pilgrimage. The theme for the year is Pilgrims of Hope, and as we page 2 continue our earthly pilgrimage in our difficult world we do indeed need more and more hope, flowing from our faith in God, and witnessed by our charity as members of Christ's Body.

May the Lord bless you and your families with love and peace this Christmas, and may our celebration of his birth bring renewed hope to all in hardship and distress.

Joseph Toal

Bishop of Motherwell



Please Pray For The Following



Recently Dead: Patricia Drain Glebe Court
Andrew Sharkey; Josephine McGinty;

Months Minds & Anniversaries: John Woodlock; Bobby Dykes; Joe Hughes; William Kennedy; Flannigan Family; All Victims of the Lockerbie Disaster; Peter & Helena De-Shuster; John Renton; Paul Reilly; Rose Scott; Margaret Toner; Jim Reilly; Nessie McEwan; Catherine Stewart;

Funeral Arrangements: Patricia Drain Reception & Requiem Mass: Monday 30th December 9.30am, St Mary's

Music Marathon Sunday

Last Sunday The Choir of St Mary's performed their Christmas Show in the Clubrooms raising funds for the Wayside Club in Glasgow. It was such a joyous and fun filled afternoon, and as always, a sell out! A total of £861 was raised for the Wayside Club, an incredible effort by all. Thank you to everyone who supported this event, and a special thank you to Mary Margaret and the Choir for such a terrific performance.

In the evening of last Sunday the Diocesan Choir visited Lanark and were joined by our school choir, to perform some Christmas Carols. It was such a special evening with the children excelling, and over 200 people in the church.

A special thank you to The Choir of St Mary's, the Social Committee and Bar Staff from last weekend for giving so freely of their time, and for making such memorable events possible.

Jubilee Year Opening Liturgy - Sunday 29th December

The Holy Year opens in our Diocese with a pilgrimage moving towards the Cathedral behind the Cross prepared by Holy Cross High School for the Jubilee – a pilgrim people behind the Cross of Christ which remains the anchor of salvation.

People are invited to gather at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in Carfin at 1pm on Sunday 29th December for a short introduction to the Pilgrimage and the Opening of the Holy Year. Bishop Toal, with a small group of young people, will then make the first part of the pilgrimage towards the Cathedral.

At 2.30pm, all people from across the Diocese are invited to gather in St Bride's Hall (across from the Cathedral) for another gathering time on the journey behind the Cross and for the short pilgrimage to the Cathedral, the veneration of the Cross, a memorial of our baptism and the celebration of Mass.

Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations: £ 1,301.00
Standing Orders: £ 524.50
Votives: £ 300.00
Stall: £ 255.00

St Marys Mission RCDM
80-17-02 00265809

Thank you *for your*
continued generosity



St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

21st/22nd December	28th/29th December
5.00pm G. Abernethy	5.00pm R. McConnell
10.30am R. Colpitts	10.30am P. Roberts
5.00pm S. Casserly	5.00pm M. Davis
24th/25th December	4th/5th January
<i>Christmas Rota</i>	5.00pm A. Haetzman
	10.30am A. Servers
	5.00pm S. Casserly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

21st/22nd December	28th/29th December
5.00pm K. Bryce	5.00pm M. Keenan
A. McGown	C. Callaghan
10.30am C. Duddy	10.30am P. Cunningham
D. McFarlane	K. Lawrence
I. Maxfield	J. McFarlane
24th/25th December	4th/5th January
<i>Christmas Rota</i>	5.00pm J. McBride
	R. Sinton
	10.30am G. Duddy
	A. Gillespie
	M. Keenan

Christmas Remembrances

Bishop Frank Thomson; Bishop Joseph Devine; Fr Joseph Brannigan; Canon Willie Donnachie; Canon Giles Goward; Canon David Mellor; Fr John Breslin; All Deceased Members of The Vincentian Fathers; All Deceased Members of The Daughter's of Charity; Jim McShane; John & Mary McShane; Rosemary McShane MacIntyre; Frank McMahan; Annie & Arthur Lenagh; Hughie & Mary McShane; McShane Family; McGuire Family; Lenagh Family; McMahan Family; Kate & William Campbell; Bernie & Jim McEwan; Campbell Family; McCafferty Family; McEwan Family; James E. Reid; Gerry Wyllie; Wyllie Family; Deerin Family; Valentie Family; Bogan Family; Dunbar Family; McFarlane Family; Haney Family; Stewart Family; MacIntyre Family; Cathy Gallagher; Joseph & Betty McLeish; McLeish Family; Peter Brannen; Brannen Family; Edgar Family; Dan O'Neill; O'Neill Family; Thomas & Helen Lamb; Thomas Lamb Jnr; Lamb Family; McGuigan Family; William & Sarah Donnachie; Donnachie Family; Michael Pavilonis; Pavilonis Family; Paul & Cathie Millar; Paul & Nee Millar; Janice Millar; Millar Family; Rodger McConnell; Bernard & Rose Scott; Beverley & Alan Milliken; John, Annie, Liam & Jane McConnell; William Kay; Frank & Helen Carway; Michael, John & Annie Tierney; John & Frances Dickson; Martin Carway; Lisa McAlavey; John McAlavey; Blanche McAlavey; Susan Mays; Gerard Mays Snr; Gerard Mays Jnr; Brian Mays; John O'Neill; Steven, Mary, James & John Donnelly; Mary & Tommy Cavanagh; George Eddie; Matt & Peggy Reilly; Betty Thomson; Madge Reilly; Ann & Alasdair MacDonald; Matt & Betty Reilly; Bill & Annie Gennie; Eddie, Annie & David Main; Michael & William Maybank; Emilio & Cesarina Coia; Ungaretti Family; Coia Family; Valerio Family; Coli Family; Joe Molinaro; Kate Hanlon; Edward Hanlon; Anne Lindsay; Archie Lindsay; Mary Sheely; Michael Sheely; Kate Nevin & Brothers; Michael & Elizabeth McCue; Charles & Annie Coyle; Annie Cowe; Charles & Elizabeth Coyle; Martha & Tam Smith; Mary Jane Brennan; Jim Brennan; Agnes Jack; Anne Elder; James Brennan Jnr; Evelyn Brennan; Agnes Kennedy; John Kennedy; Joseph McGuire; Josephine Whitefield; Willie Whitefield; Frank & Bridget Brady; John Davis; Jim & Helen Beveridge; Josephine McGinty; Anne & Phil Kinsella; Martin Hilland; Frank Hilland; Kathleen & Bill Grieve; Joe & Frances Jackson; Clare Nicolson; Evelyn Grant Quinn; Christopher Campbell; William & Cameron Quinn; George, Lilly & Hannah Grant; Diane Curran; Quinn Family; John & Marion Renton; Reilly Family Kirkfieldbank; James McCardie; Sarah & Jimmy McEwan; Anne Paisley; Anne Skeldon; Harvey Family; Fox Family; Patricia Miller; Karen Reilly; John Reilly Jnr; Betty Hutchison; Tommy & Christina McNulty; Maureen Logan; Annie Veitch; Linda Tierney; Sandy McLean; Mary McLean; Catherine McLean; Jessie Clark; Susan Mackie; Frank Mackie; Leah & Albert Welsh; Morton Family; Graham Munro; Mary & Jim McLaughlan; Mary, Bill & Stephen Murray; Anne & John Boyle; Michael McLaughlan; Lizanne Inglis; John Hughes; Jock, Sheena & John Craig; Sarah Savage; Owen, Margaret & John Dempsey; William & Martin McPhail; Harry, Jean & Dan McPhail; Harry & Doreen McPhail; James & Mary McCrossan; Jim & Theresa Casagrande; Bert & Betty Sinton; Brendan McCaughey; Stuart McDougall; McCrossan Family; Hagan Family; Keenan Family; Hume Family; Margaret, John & Bobby Dykes; Irene & Eddie O'Donnell; Dan & Marion O'Donnell; James, Clare & Evelyn O'Leary; Jimmy & Sadie Littlejohn; Frances & Monica Cassidy; John Kerr; David Tinto; Joe McGarrigle; Pat McGarrigle; Gerry McGarrigle; McGarrigle Family; Dean Family; Tommo O'Grady; Mandie O'Grady; Martina O'Grady; Arthur Christie; Jessica & John Christie; Mary & John Christie; Pat McTaggart; Mary McTaggart; Geraldine Murphy; Margaret McAllister; Kathleen Mangan; Teresa McTaggart; Michael McCulloch; Brian Hughes; John Taggart Jnr; Charles McAllister Snr; Maggie McAllister; Joe McAllister; Peter & Susan Mulligan; Jack McGowan; Bridget Donnelly; Veronica & Charles McKenna; Ann Power; Joanne & Peter Strain; Alys & John Scott; Maisie Conlon; Teresa & Bill McArdle; Jim Anderson; Paul Halloran; Halloran Family; Helen & Robert Dennis & Families; May & Veronica Quinn; Maureen Mathers; Victor & Mary Doolan; Father O'Rafferty; Father Hughes; Isobel & Leonard Mayes; George & Violet McMorrans & Family; Jim Reilly; Margaret Toner; Therese Kennedy; Jim and Esther Oliver; Tommy Oliver; Jim Oliver; Hugh and Mary Kennedy; William Kennedy; Robert Kennedy; Walter and Agnes McEwan; Agnes McQuade; James McEwan; Brian Joseph McEwan; Kathleen Caulfield; David Tinto; Betty & David Dunlop; Mary, Tommy, Sadie, James & Jackie Martin; Martin Family; Connelly Family; Theresa & Roddy O'Connor; O'Connor Family; O'Neill Family; Arthur Kane; Louise, Nan, Whitey & James Jnr Keenan; Betty & Moses Smith; James Stark; Moira & Alan Beattie; William & Florence Kennedy & Family; Joseph & Helen McAreavy; Tom & Sadie Palmer; Rona Palmer; John Murray; Karen Murray; Robert Monteith; Frank, Maryann, Frank Jnr, James, John, Nan, James Jnr, Lisa & Louise Keenan; Angela O'Connell; Jack Hamilton; Ray Ward; Elle-May McNally; O'Connell Family; Stewart Family; Jenny & Wullie Todd; Robert Scott; Seamus Coll; Anthony Kearney; Henry McKenzie; Diane Jamieson; All Souls with no-one to pray for them; James Callaghan; Agnes & Alice Bamford; Anna Marshall; Hughie & Gerod Connolly; Callaghan Family Sligo; Thomas Cloonan; Cecilia Cloonan; Mark Cloonan; Cloonan Family Liverpool; Rotherham Family Liverpool; Vincent Schmidt USA; Pauline & Mike Thompson; Rosina Baird; Baby Luka Gunning; Ron Meldrum; Jean & Jimmy Meldrum; Catherine & Daniel Stewart; Meg McConville; McConville Family; Eileen Prior; Janette Irvine; May Quinn; Geoff Coyle; McConville Family; Deceased Members of Choir of St Mary's; Vera & John Livingstone; Lisa Geddes; Margaret Stack; Doreen McGeachy; Elizabeth Scott; Estelle Higgins; Markie Higgins; Noone Family; Dowds Family; Farrell Family; Francis & Grace McManus; Francis McManus Jnr; Rosemary McManus; Willie Connor; Ian Connor; Mark Stewart; Hynds Family; Graham Family; Charlie Lively; Jimmy Lively; Mary Josephine Lavery; Felix Lavery; Lively Family; Lavery Family; Maher Family; Jim & Sandra Collins; Patricia & Edward Brien; John Doolan; Jane Doolan; Henry Doolan;



Weekly Parish Schedule

Daily Mass & Devotions from St Mary's are broadcast on the parish YouTube Channel.

Sunday 22nd December *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.50am** Confessions until **10.20am**
- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)
- 11.30am** Christmas Carols (Holy Trinity)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent (Holy Trinity)
- 12.35pm** Light Bite Mince Pies (Holy Trinity)
- 4.30pm** Confessions until **4.50pm**
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)

Monday 23rd December *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Tuesday 24th December

- 5.00pm** Vigil Mass of Christmas (St Mary's)
- 7.30pm** Carol Service (St Mary's)
- 8.00pm** Midnight Mass of Christmas (St Mary's)

Wednesday 25th December

- 10.30am** Day Mass of Christmas (St Mary's)
- 12noon** Day Mass of Christmas (St Mary's)



Thursday 26th December

- 12noon Angelus & Holy Mass

Friday 27th December

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Saturday 28th December *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 4.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family (St Mary's)

Sunday 29th December *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family (St Mary's)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family (Holy Trinity)



NO 5PM MASS THIS WEEKEND

St Mary's Primary School Notices

- The Sacramental Enrolment Mass will take place on Sunday 2nd February 2025 at 10.30am. All parents presenting their children for the Sacraments in 2025 must attend this Mass with their children and receive their Sacramental Passport.
- P1 enrolment - Children who are age 5 between 1st March 2025 and the end of February 2026 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2025 by completing an online registration form which will be available from Monday 6 January 2025. The registration form is available on the SLC website Enrolling your child for school - South Lanarkshire Council