

### 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:** Sr Catherine Tierney DC; Donna McCulloch.

**We pray for the Month's Mind & Anniversary of:** John Reilly jnr; Anne Boyle; Mary & Jim McLaughlan; James Tait; Edward & Pat McKenna; Vincent, Henry & Margaret Meahan.



## 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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# St. Mary's Church, Lanark

**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (C)**

**14th April 2019**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE MASS** Today we begin the celebration of the Church's most important, most holy week. We will remember the Lord's gift of himself at his last supper. We will share in the experience of his passion and death. We will experience his joy at achieving his mission and his Father's will as he rises to new life. Today we enter into this celebration.

### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**First Reading** (Is 50:4-7). As he is about to face suffering and humiliation, the Servant of the Lord speaks of his complete obedience to God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

**Second Reading** (Phil. 2:6-11). St Paul's beautiful hymn on the love for us shown by Christ in his passion, suffering and death.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory. Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross, But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory.

**Gospel** (Luke 22:14 - 23:56). The Passion narrative according to St Luke.

**Think Vocations** "The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious." Docility in prayer is essential to vocation discernment. Are you open to a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or the consecrated life? Call your diocesan Vocations Director or contact [www.priestsforScotland.org.uk](http://www.priestsforScotland.org.uk)

### SERVICES FOR THE WEEK:

<b>Monday:</b>	9.30am	Service
<b>Tuesday:</b>	9.30am	Mass
	12.00noon	Stations of the Cross
<b>Wednesday:</b>	9.30am	Mass
	7.00pm	Service of Reconciliation with Confession
<b>Thursday:</b>	11.30am	Mass of Chrism Motherwell Cathedral
	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
	10.00pm	Night Prayer
<b>Friday:</b>	3.00pm	Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
	7.00pm	Veneration of the Holy Cross
<b>Saturday:</b>	8.00pm	Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

**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: GOING WITH THE FLOW?

When the word "crowd" is used in the gospels it's almost as if it is some sort of audience. The crowd follows Jesus here and there wanting to relish the cut and thrust of the arguments between him and the authorities; it's there for something to eat in the desert, to see the scribes and the Pharisees put in their place or to enjoy a good miracle. Jesus says it's like sheep without a shepherd. And most of all it's fickle. It can change allegiance as quickly as the wind can change direction.

So on Palm Sunday we see the crowd gathering to watch its hero as he approaches Jerusalem. The people even spread their coats on the floor in front of him and cheer him as their great white hope in shining armour, even though he is unarmed and riding on donkey. But by Friday the mood changes and the crowd bays for his blood. Offered the chance of releasing a prisoner they choose Barabbas, a well-known criminal. Never trust a cheering crowd.

But before we get on our high horses and throw scorn at the crowd, let's admit that we're just the same. We have our moments of great faith and devotion and then the next minute we behave in ways that are far from the gospel.

During this Holy Week we are inevitably going to be in the crowd, but we are offered the opportunity of standing out from it, of not simply going with the flow. On Maundy Thursday we are given the chance of pledging ourselves once more to service of each other, symbolised by the Washing of the Feet, a service that culminates in Eucharist. On Good Friday we praise God for the victory of the cross and offer ourselves to be taken, broken and used in whatever way God chooses to use us. And on Holy Saturday, as the Easter event becomes clear, we celebrate the core of our faith that Jesus has conquered all evil and that he invites us to share life to the full. Singing our alleluias means that we are signing on the dotted line to be permanent witnesses of this by our lives. So let's take our place in the crowd. But let's not simply go with the flow.

## WORD FOR TODAY

During this most important week in the church's year we can either decide to be spectators like the crowds who watched from afar, or we can join actively in the liturgy and ask that God's Spirit may renew us in our commitment to dying and rising with Christ. Day by day, and especially during the Triduum, the choice is ours.



## Worship

- Before service we speak to God.
- During service God speaks to us.
- After service we speak to each other!



## Quiet in Church

Last week I received a complaint about the amount of talking in Church before Holy Mass. They were not complaining about a baby crying or children speaking but about adults chattering away to such an extent that they couldn't get peace to say their prayers. Please have consideration for others and spend the time before Holy Mass by speaking to God in the silence of your heart.

## 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

07.04.19    £1721    £750 to Diocese of Motherwell    £970 left to the Parish  
300 Club Winner    Kathleen Bryce    No. 278

### Friday is Good Friday - a day of Fast and Abstinence

### Palm Sunday Activities

St Mary's Social Committee are planning some Easter Activities after Holy Mass on Palm Sunday, 14th April. Activities include Easter Egg Hunt, Face painting, Easter Arts & Crafts.

### Quiz Night

St Mary's Social Committee are hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 10th May at 7.30pm. If you would like to enter a team, the Social Committee will be available to take your team details after mass. If you would like to take part but don't have a team, let us know. Cost £2 per person with a maximum of 6 people to a team. Monies raised from the Quiz will go towards our Annual BBQ.

### Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

During the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday we will renew the commission of the Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in their ministry of distributing Holy Communion at holy Mass and taking the Eucharist to those who are sick and housebound.

Any Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion who cannot come along on Holy Thursday should speak to Fr Jim to arrange for them to be re-commissioned.

### Collection Envelopes

The collection envelopes for the next year are available at the back of the Church. If you pay tax and give to St Mary's then we are able to claim back the tax you have paid on your donation but only if you have signed a Gift Aid Declaration. This is a very valuable source of income for the Parish. Please remember to reassess your donation in the light of inflation. When did you last increase your donation and over that period how much have costs increased?

### Easter Remembrance

If you would like someone to be prayed for and remembered at Holy Mass during the Easter season, then please hand in their names before Holy Thursday.

### Holy Week and Easter Services

<b>Wednesday</b>	7.00pm	Service of Reconciliation and Individual Confession
<b>Holy Thursday</b>	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
	10.00pm	Night Prayer
<b>Good Friday</b>	3.00pm	The passion of the Lord and veneration of the Cross
	7.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion and veneration of the Cross
<b>Holy Saturday</b>	8.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection - Easter Vigil
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	10.30am	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

### Confessions in the Deanery

Monday 15th April	7.00pm	St Ignatius, Wishaw
Tuesday 16th April	7.00pm	St Athanasius, Carlisle
	7.00pm	St Brigid, Newmains