

St Anthony's and St Mark's

10th January 2021

Baptism of the Lord

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14-16

Your house and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me

Psalm 88

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord

Romans 16:25-27

The mystery is revealed that was kept secret for endless ages

Luke 1:26-28

I am the handmaid of the Lord

Sick

Baby Emma Burnett, Robert Blair, Thomas McKell, Jon Land, Margaret Harris, Tommy McKenzie, John Shields, Moira Boyce, Baby Harris Little, Mary Husband, Chris Wetson

Recently Dead

Tony Reilly (funeral Monday), Cathie Bowman, Anne Young, Marie Fallon, Mary Brenda Blair-Craig, Anne O'Donnell (funeral Tuesday), Anne Duggan, Arthur Fellows, Christine Smith

Anniversaries

Jane McLaughlin, Ian McDougall, Elsie and Jimmy Douglas, Helen Daly, Christine Daly, Anna McIntyre, Canon Allison, Catherine and Patrick McCarry, Margaret and Patrick McKell, Fred Wylie, James McLaughlin, Arthur Johnstone, Betty Johnstone, Ann Meehan, James and Josephine Carroll, Charles McLaughlin

Reflection on the Readings

Christmas ends with the adult Jesus' baptism. Christmas is the celebration of the Saviour coming to earth. Mostly, the emphasis is on human acceptance (or rejection) of the Saviour. Now, Jesus, accepts his destiny as the Saviour. Baptism means 'immersion'. In baptism, the adult Jesus immerses himself in his Father's will. Hence God's voice: 'This is my Son, the Beloved'; hence the Spirit is uncharacteristically present in a visible form – the dove. The entire Trinity is present.

Thank You

The New Year is a good time to give an inadequate thank you to so many people. I am overwhelmed at the generosity of spirit of so many people in the parish. Were it not for you, this parish would not exist? And so many people have given so much, especially since March last year. I cannot name you all, but it is through your efforts that so much was done to open the churches safely for months. When we are able to reopen again in the future, we will already be confident that we can do so with your continued help.

On a personal note, I have always known myself to be lucky to be parish priest of St Mark's and St Anthony's, but that has been driven home in the last few months. Thank you for your personal support and care.

Virtual Crib Appeal

St Margaret's Children and Family Care Society, which supports some of Scotland's most vulnerable children, is also fundraising online with a 'Virtual Crib Appeal'. The charity is expecting to lose out on many vital donations normally made by this congregation to its Crib Appeal collections as so many are unable to visit in person this Advent. Please help us by sharing the message that it is also possible to donate online at <https://stmargaretsadoption.org.uk/>

Letter from Bishop Toal

Bishop Toal has addressed the following (excellent) letter to you all:



Diocesan Centre
Coursington Road
Motherwell
ML1 1PP

Rt Rev. Joseph Toal STB KC*HS
Bishop of Motherwell

8th January 2021.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope this finds you well and safe at this very difficult time. I offer my prayerful support for all who are ill, and for those adversely affected by the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our lives.

As we are well aware, the gravity of the threat posed by the more rapid spread of the virus in recent weeks led to the Scottish Government introducing a law telling us all to stay at home unless we have an essential reason for leaving our homes. My understanding of the need for such a law is the severity of the situation we are in and the resulting need to limit moments of physical social contact with one another as much as possible. Presented with this reality, it is right to assess whether we should gather together for services of public worship and my judgement as a Catholic Bishop is that we should not gather for Mass or other public services while we are required by law to stay at home for our own safety and that of other people. I recognise though that there will be critical moments during this extraordinary period for some people to leave their houses and gather in a church for an essential reason, most notably, but perhaps not exclusively, for the Funeral Mass of a loved one.

The Scottish Government, as well as requiring us to stay at home, has mandated that places of worship be closed, apart from services for the celebration of marriages and funerals. It is argued by some that the Government should not have imposed this regulation on religious bodies, and the Scottish Catholic Bishops have expressed this view, and it does feel that the Churches and others could have made this decision ourselves in a spirit of cooperation and understanding with the Government in the face of the difficulties we face. Although some do object, I think the majority of Catholics in the Diocese of Motherwell, both lay faithful and clergy, agree that we would accept the closure of our churches for our regular acts of worship as a necessary consequence of being required to stay at home. There is a sacrifice in this, and a loss of the spiritual benefit and consolation we experience particularly in the Celebration of the Eucharist, but it has to be recognised that the previous limits in numbers at our services have restricted attendance and some have not felt able to return to church despite the precautions in place. The present closure of our churches means we all share in the gravity of our present vulnerability and have to rely on our personal and family resources of faith, which are often deeper than we realise, and the enhanced offering of on-line and audio services which our parishes have learned to facilitate in recent times. We can still receive much spiritual sustenance, and our prayer-life and our communion with the Lord, and with one another in his Body, should continue and perhaps grow in depths as we seek the Lord's help and the intercession of Mary and the Saints in our present need.

I and the clergy of the Diocese offer our prayers and support to you through our continued celebration of Mass, which we have the great privilege of offering daily. We hope and pray that the present physical separation may not be prolonged, and that we may return in due course to the normal liturgical, sacramental and social life in our parishes with renewed spiritual vigour and hope in the Lord's goodness, and in our compassion for one another and those most in need.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Yours in Christ,



+ Joseph Toal

Parish Contributions

There are now two ways to make an offering online. The first is as given on the parish website. There is also an easier way via the Diocesan website:

1. Go to: https://www.mygivinghub.com/detailed/donate?charity_id=1086524
2. In "search" type in either St Mark or St Anthony and it will take you to the payment page
3. Follow the instructions

The same page also allows you to make to donations to things like Peter's Pence.

Please let me emphasise: if this were to put you under a burden then do not make an offering!

Online Masses (Youtube Channel CatholicG73)

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 11.30am

Tues 7pm (with Novena to St Anthony)

Wed-Fri 10am

Online Rosary

Sat 10am

Online Addresses

Facebook: [@stanthonyandmarkrutherglen](#)

Twitter: [@AnthonysandSt](#)

Website: <https://www.stanthonystmark.org.uk/>

Email: stanthonystmark@rcdom.org.uk

YouTube: [CatholicG73](#)

Other Resources

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

<https://www.rcdom.org.uk/>

<https://www.universalis.com/>

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.
Since I cannot receive you Sacramentally now,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
As though you were already there,
I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you;
permit not that I should ever be separated from you.
Amen.

THE NINE TUESDAYS IN HONOUR OF ST ANTHONY

Novena

O glorious St Anthony, safe refuge of the afflicted and distressed, who hast revealed that all who piously invoke thee on nine consecutive Tuesdays shall experience thy powerful help, I a poor sinner, come to thee. Encouraged by thy promise, in all confidence, I implore thy counsel and thy protection.

Obtain help for me, O Blessed Anthony, in my present need.
(silently mention it)

If, however, the favour I ask be opposed to the Will of God and the welfare of my soul, do thou obtain for me such other graces as shall be conducive to my eternal salvation.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be (3 times)

O gentle and loving St Anthony, in whose arms the infant Jesus did linger, grant the intercessory aid and at thy word our prayers shall be heard.

Leader: Pray for us O Blessed Anthony!

All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God, give ear on our behalf to the intercession of thy holy confessor Anthony, upon whom, adorned with heroic virtue, thou didst bestow the gift of miracles, even unto working prodigious signs and wonders.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If then you ask for miracles, death error, all calamities,
the leprosy and demons fly, and health succeeds infirmities.

Response
The sea obeys and fetters break, and lifeless limbs thou dost restore,
while treasures lost are found again,
when young and old thine aid implore.

All dangers vanish at thy prayer, so too incessant care and need,
let all who know thy power proclaim, Padua tell, tis so decreed

Response

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

Response

Leader: Pray for us O Blessed Anthony!

All: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: O God, may the intercession of Blessed Anthony, thy confessor, be a source of joy to thy Church, that we may be always fortified by thy assistance and deserve to enjoy eternal happiness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Brief of St Anthony

Behold the Cross of the Lord: Fly ye powers of darkness;
The Lion of the Tribe of Juda, the root of David has conquered.
Alleluia

Hymn to St Anthony

St Anthony, our Father dear, we meet around thy throne once more;
Thy wondrous praises to proclaim, and make them sound from shore to shore.

O ye who for great wonders seek, go visit once his sacred shrine;
Ah there you'll hear that even death has yielded to his power sublime.

Before his wisdom's wondrous rays, dark error takes its rapid flight;
The demons even cannot bear the starlight gleam of his chaste light.

And raging sea obeys his voice, and from the shore doth quickly fly;
For health, things lost and liberty, both old and young to him do cry.
Repeat 1st verse



[Return to Home page](#)

