ST ANTHONY'S & ST MARK'S

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5th NOVEMBER 2023 PARISH SERVICES - THIRTY-FIRST WEEEK OF THE YEAR

HOLY MASS SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tues 7.00 pm at St Anthony's Sat 9.00—9.20 tat St Anthony's Wed 09.30 am at St Mark's Sat 4.30-4.50 at St Mark's

Thurs 09.30 am at St Anthony's Sun 4.30-4.50 pm at St Anthony's

Funeral Mass—Willie Robertson

Fri 09.30 am at St Mark's

Sat 09.30 am at St Anthony's

Sat 5.00 pm at St Mark's (Vigil)
Sun 10.00 am at St Mark's

11.30 am at St Anthony's

5.00 pm at St Anthony's

RECITATION OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

Tues 6.30pm at St Anthony's Wed & Fri 9.00 am at St Mark's

Thurs & Sat 9.00 am at St Anthony's

SUNDAY READINGS

Reading Mal 1: 14-2:2.2-10 You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your

teaching.

Psalm PS 130 Keep my soul in peace before you O Lord

Reading 1Thess 2: 7-19, 13 We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives

as well.

Gospel Matt 23: 1-12 They do not practise what they preach.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who died recently, especially: Willie Robertson; James O'Keefe; Joe Friel; James Mahoney; Tom Harley; Jim Carr, Annmarie Glencross

Those whose anniversaries occur: Bill Cowie; Marie McCulloch; Ellen Reynolds; John & Nessie McLaughlin; Dan, Willie and Elaine McLaughlin; Annie Paterson; John Biggins.

All sick and housebound of the Parish: Mary McColgan; Ella Connolly, Isa Daniels, Peter Kavanagh, Baby Finn McGuinness, Baby Hope McKenna, May O'Donnell, Margaret Rice; Annie O'Donnell.; Ellen Collins; Pauline Mahon; Sandra Morgan; Teresa McKeown.

MASS, PRESENTATION AND DINNER FOR FR CHARLES

Many thanks to everyone who organised the day of celebration for Fr Charles' ministry among us. The Mass in St Mark's Primary and the presentation dinner in the Burnside Hotel were a great success, which Fr Charles and his family enjoyed to the full. Thanks to all who contributed so generously to the presentation cheque.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR THE 29th OCTOBER 2023:

Plate collection including Gift Aid envelopes: £1554.06; Gift Aid to Bank £ 192.50; Total Offertory £ 1746.56 Refund of Offerings made directly to the Diocese of Motherwell £ 260.00. Thank you for your generosity.

FOODBANK

Today we welcomed 72 visitors to our foodbanks. We were able to support them thanks to your ongoing generosity. Thanks also to The City Charitable Trust for their continued support. We received a donation from Kilbryde Hospice which is wonderful. Thanks also to the many local residents for their donations. Your support is invaluable. This week we are running very low of the following items: Nappies size 3&5, baby wipes, shower gel, shampoo, hot dogs, tuna, diluting juice, jam, washing up liquid, pot noodles and cereal. As always donations can be left in the Church porches. We want to end by thank our young helper Chloe who came along on Wednesday to assist us. She was a star! We also sadly said farewell to Betty, who has been a stalwart volunteer since we started. We thank you for your time and commitment to making the foodbank what it is. You will be missed.

QR CODE FOR PARISH GIVING

If parishioners or visitors would prefer to use their mobile phones to make a donation at Sunday Mass, then please feel free to use the new QR code.



PROPOSED FABRIC ENHANCEMENTS TO BOTH CHURCHES

Fr Stephen intends to convene the Fabric Committee soon. In the meantime, here are some proposed enhancements:

St Mark's church:

- dimmable lights. The middle 4 candelabras have been fitted with dimmable lights which will greatly improve the atmosphere at events such as Carols by Candlelight, Christmas Eve Mass, and the Easter Vigil. Many thanks to Danny for doing this at minimal cost.
- a new Paschal Candle stand for St Mark's. This has already been actioned, as there was a sale at Ormsby of Scarsbick in Motherwell this week and Fr Stephen picked up a refurbished second-hand stand at a bargain price. Have a look and see what you think!
- removal of altar rails. The rails served a purpose in the pre-Vatican II liturgy but they are now obsolete, and they block the flow at the entrance and exit procession from Mass, and at the offertory procession, as well as at Baptisms. They can be stored in the choir loft in case a future parish priest wishes to restore them.
- repositioning of stair rails. The rails which readers use to go up and down the sanctuary stairs are very useful, but can be moved to the sides, to open up the space of the sanctuary.
- refurbishment of kneelers. Fr Stephen took the opportunity to ask Ormsby of Scarsbick to price the renovation of the underside of the kneelers, many of which are torn and very unsightly. This is likely to be quite an expensive job, and will be brought to the Fabric Committee and the Finance Committee for discussion.

St Anthony's church:

- renovation of the side chapel. The new boiler system allows heating to be put on in 4 separate zones: church, side chapel, hall and house, thus providing an opportunity to be smart in our use of space. An underused space is the side chapel. In addition, with the Poor Clares moving into the parish house, we will lose the storage space in the house and the current altar servers' sacristy. Fr Stephen proposes to use the current main sacristy as more of a working and storage space, and to move the vesting sacristy to the side chapel. If we remove all the benches in the side chapel and replace them with moveable soft chairs, we'll have flexibility to use that space as e.g. the vesting sacristy, a winter chapel/adoration chapel and mid-sized meeting room which will always be cosy at a fairly low cost. Please let Fr Stephen know what you think of these proposals: they will also be discussed at the Parish Council. If you have any other ideas to improve our fabric please be in touch!

NOVEMBER LISTS

The lists of your beloved dead and any donations can be placed in the box at the back of the church. The parish Mass each day will be celebrated for all of those included in the November lists.

PARISH COUNCIL

This is open to all parishioners and will take place on Tuesday 14th November from 7.30-9pm in St Anthony's hall. This will be an extraordinary council and differ from the usual format, as it will refocus on the pastoral planning process which was undertaken by Fr Dougan in 2019-20 and continued by Fr Charles, and it will begin to steer a way forward for the parish.

BLESSING OF GRAVES SERVICE

Fr Stephen and Fr Bernard will lead a short service at Rutherglen Cemetery on Sunday 12th November at 1.30pm. Bottles of holy water will be available for you to bless the graves of your loved ones.

MASSES FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

These Masses, during we which we will remember and pray especially for those who have died over the past year, will take place in of our parish churches on the following dates: St Mark's: Monday 13th November 7pm: St Anthony's: Tuesday 21st November 7pm. Refreshments will be provided in the halls after Mass: please do come along in order to welcome and support the bereaved families who may be visiting our parish from elsewhere.

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The sessions began with a bang on Thursday, with 19 participants discussing devotion to Mary, and beginning to explore her place in the Old and New Testaments. The course continues this Thursday 7-8pm in St Mark's Parish House: feel free to come along, whether or not you attended the first session.