

ST ANTHONY & ST MARK'S

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Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell Scottish Charity No. SC011041

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 8TH SEPTEMBER 2024

HOLY MASS	Mon 9.30 am at St Mark's	Sat 9.30 am at St Anthony's (funeral)
(NOTE CHANGE FOR THIS WEEK ONLY)	Tues 9.30 am (funeral) and 7.00 pm at St Anthony's	5.00 pm Vigil at St Mark's
	Wed 9.30 am at St Mark's	Sun 10.00 am at St Mark's
	Thu NO MASS	Sun 11.30 am at St Anthony's
	Fri 9.30 am at St Mark's	Sun 5.00 pm at St Anthony's

SUNDAY READINGS

Reading 1	Isa 35:4-7	The ears of the deaf shall be unsealed and the tongues of the dumb shall be loosed.
Psalms	Ps 145: 7-10 r. 1	My soul, give praise to the Lord. Or Alleluia!
Reading 2	Jas 2:1-5	God chose the poor to be the heirs to the kingdom.
Gospel Acclamation		Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life.
Gospel	Mark 7:31-37	He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who died recently, especially: Liz Swinton (**funeral Tuesday 10th Sept 9.30 St Anthony's; vigil reception 6pm St Anthony's**); James Owen (**funeral Saturday 14th Sept 9.30 St Anthony's; vigil reception Friday 6.30pm St Anthony's**). Patrick Shearin; Matthew Lyden; Patrick McBride; Joe McGaughan.

All sick and housebound of the Parish: Beatrice Hannah; Pauline Mahon; Mary McColgan; Ella Connolly, Isa Daniels, Finn McGuinness, Hope McKenna, May O'Donnell, Margaret Rice; Sandra Morgan; Neil Morton; Steven Murphy

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2024-25

Following new Wellspring guidelines from the Diocese, parents of children wishing to make the sacraments must register their intention with the parish before children undertake preparation. We will also be piloting a parental engagement programme this year.

Sacramental meetings with parents: St Anthony's Thu 24th October 6- 7.30 pm; St Mark's Thu 7th November 6-7.30pm

Enrolment Masses: St Mark's Sunday 24th November 10 am; St Anthony's Sunday 24th November 11.30 am

First Reconciliation: St Mark's Thursday 20th February 6 pm; St Anthony's Thursday 27th February 6 pm

First Holy Communion: St Anthony's Saturday 10th May 11 am; St Mark's Saturday 17th May 11 am

Confirmation: St Mark's Tuesday 4th February 7 pm; St Anthony's Wednesday 12th February 7 pm

MONDAY MASS REPLACES THURSDAY MASS THIS WEEK. You may know that Fr Stephen has for around 20 years been a member of an inter-diocesan clergy support group (along with Bishop Frank, Fr Parkes etc) which meets once per month for an overnight. This week the overnight is on Wednesday-Thursday, and so there will be a Monday morning Mass at St Mark's on 9th Sept, replacing the Thursday morning Mass on 12th Sept. Please also note the funeral on Tuesday morning this week.

NEXT SUNDAY: COLLECTION FOR SEMINARIANS

As this is vocations awareness week, there will be a second collection taken up **next** weekend to support our diocesan seminarians in their studies. They are Christopher at Oscott College in Birmingham; and Kieran, Matthew and Aidan at the Scots College in Rome. Please also keep them in your prayers as they discern whether the Lord is calling them to diocesan priesthood.

PARISH FAMILY FUN DAY SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

Everyone is very warmly invited to our Parish Family Fun Day next **Sunday, 15th September**, running on from the 11.30 Mass at St Anthony's. This will be a great chance to showcase our wonderful parish, especially to visitors and returning families, and to show how family-friendly we are trying to be. Featuring stalls, burger van, tombola, raffle, facepainting, home baking, arts & crafts and special prize raffle with tickets for hospitality/seats in the director's box at Celtic Park. Please consider using the overflow car parking in St Anthony's Primary on the day. The 11.30 Mass will be a Children's Mass and be especially family friendly, so please consider asking your friends to come along: you can promise them it will be a very enjoyable experience. The event's main purpose is outreach and celebration rather than fundraising, but we'll be delighted to donate all proceeds to Killybride Hospice and Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Scotland. Please support the organising team with your presence and enthusiasm!

RCIA ENQUIRY EVENING

We were blessed this past year to have two young men who wished to join the Catholic Church or to complete their initiation, and we celebrated their sacraments at the end of June. Now is the time for us to ask if anyone else would like to undertake the same journey in the coming year? Fr Stephen has already received 4 firm expressions of interest so it should be another exciting year ahead. Do you yourself want to learn more about the Catholic faith and join the Church? Has your husband or wife been considering this, and could you encourage them to take the first step? Do you know anyone in our community who would like to know more about us? Please encourage them to get in touch, and in particular to come along if they're free to a completely no-obligation enquiry evening on **Thursday 19th Sept** at 7-8pm in St Mark's parish house, where there will be hospitality and a chance to chat over the process.

JUSTICE & PEACE SCOTLAND CARITAS PILOT PROJECT

We are very excited to be the first parish in Scotland working with Justice and Peace Scotland on a national pilot involving our young parishioners undertaking their Caritas Award. To obtain their Award the candidates volunteer for 20 hours in their parish, and we are offering them a structured pathway to engage with a Justice & Peace issue (in this case human trafficking and modern slavery) in light of Catholic Social Teaching. You'll be hearing from them over the next few months as they invite you to learn, pray and act in this area. Our first gathering with them will be on **Sunday 22nd Sept.** at 6pm in St Mark's parish house. If you are undertaking Caritas but are not at Trinity, you are warmly invited to join the group. Many thanks to our parish J&P group and to Anne-Marie Clements from J&P Scotland for taking this initiative forward along with Fr Stephen. Please keep our young parishioners in your prayers.

IONA PILGRIMAGE MEETING

The parish pilgrimage to Iona will be from Friday 4th-Sunday 6th October, and we'll be praying for the whole parish at the sacred place where St Columba brought the faith to our shores. There will be a final meeting for all pilgrims on **Tuesday 17th Sept** from 6-7pm in the side chapel of St Anthony's, to go over the programme and have any questions answered.

WELCOME TO TRAINEE DEACON PAUL MAY

Fr Stephen is delighted that Bishop Toal has asked our parish to contribute to the formation of a man who is beginning the process of discernment and training to become a permanent deacon. His name is Paul May, and he is a parishioner of St Cadoc's in Halfway. Paul journeyed with us last year on the Alpha process, so he will be a well-kent face to many. You'll no doubt be familiar with the diaconal process thanks to Kevin Kirby's years in the parish, and similarly we look forward to working with Paul.

COMMUNITY CHOIR HAS RESUMED: PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING!

Our parish is blessed in its music ministry, not least because of the Community Choir, which rehearses every Thursday evening from 7-8pm at St Mark's, and which provides singers for the various Masses across the weekend. Having a weekly rehearsal really raises the standard on a Sunday and allows us to introduce new pieces instead of the repertoire becoming stale. Please do consider coming along: it's great fun and it welcomes people at all stages of confidence and expertise.

FOODBANK NEWS

This week we welcomed 87 visitors to our Foodbank's. As always, the team made sure they left with what they needed. We couldn't do this without the continued support of our Parishioners, The City Charitable Trust, local business people and local residents. Thanks also to those who have kindly donated clothing, crockery and baby wipes- it is appreciated. The P7 pupils at St Mark's had a cake and candy and raised £215.50 for us which is just wonderful and we are very grateful to you all. This week we are running low on crisps, biscuits, pot noodles, weetabix, and general snacks. Anything you can donate can be left at the back of both Churches, at Jingers or at Le Sorelle.

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 QR code.

