

ST ANTHONY & ST MARK'S

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Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell Scottish Charity No. SC011041

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) 19TH JANUARY 2025

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 30 mins before weekday/Saturday Masses

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|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| HOLY MASS | Tues 7.00 pm at St Anthony's | Sat 5.00 pm Vigil at St Mark's | |
| | Wed 9.30am at St Mark's | Sun 10.00 am at St Mark's | |
| | Thu 9.30 am at St Anthony's (funeral) | Sun 11.30 am at St Anthony's | |
| | Fri 9.30 am at St Mark's | Sun 2.00pm St Anthony's (Syro-Malabar Qurbana) | |
| | Sat 9.30 am at St Anthony's | Sun 5.00 pm at St Anthony's | |
| HOLY ROSARY | Tue 6.30 pm at St Anthony's | Sat 9.00 am at St Anthony's | |
| CONFESSION | Sat 9-9.20am St Anthony's | Sat 4.30-4.50pm St Mark's | Sun 4.30-4.50pm St Anthony's |

SUNDAY READINGS

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|-------------|---------------|---|
| Reading 1 | Isaiah 62:1-5 | The Lord delights in you. |
| Psalms | Ps 96(95) | Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples. |
| Reading 2 | 1 Cor 12:4-11 | The one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. |
| Acclamation | Thess 2:14 | God called us through the gospel, so that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. |
| Gospel | John 2:1-11 | This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee. |

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who died recently, especially: Carol Anne Rice (funeral Wed. 29th Jan. 9.30am St Mark's); Janet Gallagher; Anne Daly; Ealonor McGrotty; Lucy Meechan; Jimmy Carrie.

Anniversaries: Anne Cowie; Rosemary Reynolds; Patrick & Mary McElwee; Ellen Collins; Joe Daly; Marie McAuley

Sick & housebound : Steve Kolbay; Tim Kolbay; Rose McCorley; Patrick Gallagher; Catherine Scott; Erin Lavery; 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.

HOLY YEAR 2025: PILGRIMS OF HOPE IN OUR PARISH

A Holy Year (also called a Jubilee Year) is time of grace which is celebrated every 25 years within the Catholic Church. It has biblical roots on the Old Testament Jubilee when debts were forgiven and the land returned to its original owners. In the Catholic Church, Jubilee years are associated with specific practices such as pilgrimage, a focus on penance and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, opening of holy doors, and the granting of indulgences. Pope Francis has chosen 'pilgrims of hope' as the theme for the Jubilee Year 2025. Our parish pilgrimage to Salamanca in September will be an opportunity to travel as pilgrims of hope.

Pope Francis has written a papal bull to mark the Jubilee and outline his priorities for the year ahead: it's called 'Spes Non Confundit' ('Hope does not deceive'). He asks that the Jubilee be a springboard to pastoral renewal, and an opportunity for outreach to the wider community, especially support to e.g. the poor, migrants, the elderly, young people and prisoners..

With this in mind, an open meeting was held at St Mark's on Monday. As well as reaffirming ongoing events and initiatives such as LifeTeen, SALT, Ignite Club, Caritas J&P, Taize evening etc, many initiatives were proposed such as:

- inviting an addiction recovery group to use one of our parish halls.
- an annual Mass for the sick
- considering opening part or all of our churches through the day
- a renewed focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- a regular afternoon tea to build community and combat isolation
- 40-hours devotion with guest speaker
- a Church Workers' Social to thank all parish volunteers
- a jubilee concert of hope

The next meeting of the steering group is on **Wed. 19th February 7pm** at St Mark's, and all parishioners are welcome to come along.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN

Enrolment for entry into Primary 1 in August 2025 is now open. We are blessed with two excellent Catholic primary schools in our parish and we would encourage all parishioners with children of the relevant age to consider enrolling their children there: just contact the school. If you are a parishioner but you live outwith the boundaries of the parish, you can easily ask for a placing request for your child to attend St Anthony's or St Mark's, even if you live in a different local authority e.g. Glasgow City Council. We are particularly keen to reassure the many New Scots parishioners that—unlike in most parts of the world—Catholic schooling is not private and fee-paying, but is free and part of the state system.

DAY OF REFLECTION ON THE FINAL DOCUMENT ON THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY THIS TUESDAY

Bishop Brian McGee of Argyll and the Isles has kindly agreed to come to Motherwell this **Tuesday 21st January** to share his experience of participating in the Synod on Synodality in Rome in October 2023 and October 2024. He will be leading a Session for everyone from **7-9pm** at the Xavier Centre in Carfin. Our parish is invited to send two delegates from their parish, and others are free to attend: please let Fr Stephen know if you'd like to go along.

NEW: RCIA TEACHING SESSIONS OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

Our parish Alpha programme is drawing to a close. One group which has followed the process has been the 6 people (4 adults and the two daughters of one of the adults) who are discerning God's call to Baptism and entry into the Catholic Church, which is scheduled for the Easter Vigil. They will be welcomed as catechumens at the Rite of the Elect in the Cathedral on Sunday 9th March. They are now moving into a teaching and learning period, and considering more specifically Catholic themes between now and Lent. Fr Stephen will be leading these sessions, and we are opening them up to the whole parish and friends to help increase your faith and knowledge. The current planned dates and topics are as follows (all sessions 7pm—8.15pm at St Anthony's side chapel):

Thursday 30th Jan: Heaven, Hell and Purgatory: what awaits us beyond the grave?

Thursday 6th February: Why be Catholic? A clear-eyed look at the Catholic Church

Thursday 13th February: Mary, the first and model disciple

Thursday 20th February: Is Baptism necessary for salvation? Is there hope for non-Christians?

Thursday 6th March: More than a symbol? What do Catholics believe we receive in Holy Communion?

IGNITE CLUB FOR FIRST COMMUNICANTS BEGINNING TODAY AT ST ANTHONY'S!

This year, our parish is joining many others across the diocese in launching the Ignite Club, a parish-based club for children preparing for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. Following the successful first session in St Mark's last Sunday, the same session will run today, **Sunday, 19th January**, in the side chapel of **St Anthony's** from **12.20-1.15pm**. The **Session 2** dates (same times) are as follows: Sunday 26th January at St Mark's; and Sunday 2nd February at St Anthony's

Many thanks to the team of parish volunteers who are working with the children along with their parents and teachers.

NEW PARISH TODDLERS GROUP: COULD YOU BE INVOLVED?

As mentioned before Christmas, as part of our pastoral focus on children, young people and families, we are looking to set up a parish Toddlers' Group based at St Mark's hall, probably on a Thursday morning or afternoon. This would really help to build the parish of the future and provide support to parents, grandparents and carers. We're especially keen that our New Scots parishioners can take part and feel welcome among friends.

There is an enthusiastic core group happy to take a lead on this, but we really need more volunteers!

We'll be holding a meeting next **Sunday 26th January**, at **12.45pm—1.45pm** at St Mark's parish house, to explore the way forward: please come along with no obligation for a cup of tea and a chat if you might be free on a Thursday and have some experience of young children in a personal or professional capacity.

LIFETEEN LEADERS' MEETING TODAY

Just to let you know that after our successful pilot of the LifeTeen S2-4 group before Christmas and the enjoyable Carnival trip, the LifeTeen leadership team will be meeting today after the 5pm Mass at St Anthony's to plan the way forward. This is FYI, but of course the young people and their parents are welcome to come along and give us some feedback and encouragement.

FOODBANK NEWS

Firstly, on behalf of all the volunteers, we want to wish all parishioners good health and happiness in 2025!

We have welcomed 159 visitors to our Foodbank's over the past two weeks. Thankfully, everyone has left with supplies to help them. We are indebted to our supporters, The City Charitable Trust, our Parishioners, our local schools and members of the local community who give so generously via our volunteers and Le Sorelle Home & Gift Boutique and Jingers.

Pre Christmas we were well delighted to receive donations from the pupils at Trinity High. This week our team have picked up donations from the pupils at Burnside Primary School. Our thanks go to both Head teachers, Mrs Mc Ardle and Ms Mc Donald, staff, pupils and parent volunteers for their kindness. We are running low on nappies, sizes 4-6 and baby wipes - if anyone can help that would be great. Thank you for all you do for the Foodbanks, it is greatly appreciated.

CARITAS AWARD JUSTICE & PEACE SCOTLAND CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The final part of the group's project is a media campaign across several formats about Catholic Social Teaching and modern slavery. Their next planning meeting is Thursday 30th Jan 4.30—6pm at St Anthony's, and they will be addressing the parish for a final time on Sunday 9th February.

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.

