

ST ANTHONY & ST MARK'S

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Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell Scottish Charity No. SC011041

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (C) 2ND FEBRUARY 2025

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

HOLY MASS	Tues 7.00 pm at St Mark's (Confirmation)	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	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
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

Reading 1	Malachi 3:1-4	The Lord whom you seek will come to his Temple.
Psalms	Ps 24(23):7-10	The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!
Reading 2	Hebrews 2:14-18	He had to be made like his brothers, so that he might become merciful.
Acclamation	Luke 2:32	A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel..
Gospel	Luke 2:22-40	The child grew, filled with wisdom.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who died recently, especially: Mary Walsh; Peter McBride; Kathleen Barrett.

Anniversaries: Ellen Collins.

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; Sandra Burke.

CHURCH WORKERS SOCIAL FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY: INVITATIONS OUT THIS WEEKEND

One of the parish Holy Year initiatives will be a Church Workers' Social, which will be held in the Burnside Hotel on the evening of Friday 21st February. **Please collect your personal invitation** from the tables in prominent locations in the church or porch. We've really tried to remember and include everyone (130 invitations and counting!) but if you've been missed out due to an oversight please let Fr Stephen know.

LIFETEEN RETURNS TODAY!

The leadership team are delighted to announce that the LifeTeen S2-4 group will begin to meet again today, **Sunday 2nd February** from after 5pm Mass til 7.15pm in the side chapel at St Anthony's. The group will be meeting every two weeks..

IGNITE CLUB FOR FIRST COMMUNICANTS TODAY AT ST ANTHONY'S

Session 2 takes place today, Sunday 2nd February from 12.20-1.15pm. at St Anthony's. Thanks to the children who have attended so far, and to their parents for their support and encouragement, as well as the leadership and hospitality team.

CARITAS AWARD JUSTICE & PEACE SCOTLAND CAMPAIGN UPDATE

In a change of plan, the team will be addressing the parish and asking for your help on the weekend of 15th/16th February.

MARY'S MEALS VISITING NEXT WEEKEND

You'll no doubt be aware of the work of this famous Scottish charity which began in a shed in Argyll and grew to feed over a million children daily. Next weekend, Fr Stephen's old friend Tony Begley will be visiting the parish to represent Mary's Meals, , giving an update on their work providing school meals to children living in poverty around the world. A bucket collection will be taken up as you leave Mass if you would like to support this important cause. Mary's Meals would also appreciate your prayers for their work.

ST MARK'S CONFIRMATION THIS TUESDAY: PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED

14 young parishioners who are pupils in Primary 7 at St Mark's Primary will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Mass in St Mark's Church this Tuesday evening at 7pm. They have been working hard and preparing well for the Sacrament, and received an enjoyable visit from Bishop Toal to their classroom on Wednesday. With the numbers being small, we would invite and encourage parishioners to attend the Mass, to support and pray for the children: it's a simple and beautiful Mass lasting no more than an hour. Through the Ignite club etc this year we've been trying to underline that sacramental preparation is the joint work of the school, home and parish, so by attending you can play your part as a parish.

Another way to support the children is by becoming a prayer partner, undertaking to pray for one child in the days and months ahead: please sign your name underneath the photo and bio of one child on the boards.

St Anthony's Confirmation will take place next Wednesday 12th February at 7pm.

RCIA TEACHING SESSIONS OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS: CONTINUES THIS WEEK

The first session on "Heaven, Hell and Purgatory: what awaits us beyond the grave?" was very well received, with the side chapel full and with lots of discussion and questions. All sessions are open to the whole parish and to non-parishioners 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 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?

HOLY YEAR 2025: PILGRIMS OF HOPE PARISH CALENDAR

A Holy Year (also called a Jubilee Year) is time of grace which is celebrated every 25 years within the Catholic Church, marked by the opening of holy doors, pilgrimage, a focus on penance and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the granting of indulgences. Pope Francis has chosen 'pilgrims of hope' as the theme for the Jubilee Year 2025. We can begin to put some of the planned initiatives into an outline calendar as follows:

January: Annual parish Hogmanay party; SALT RE Approach staff development inputs to teachers in both primary schools; Ignite Club for First Holy Communicants begins

February: LifeTeen begins again after a successful pilot; Caritas Award J&P Group concludes its work; Church Workers' Social 21st Feb; parish Toddlers' Group begins.

March (Lent): Taizé Ecumenical Prayer Service 12th March at St Mark's; renewed focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

April: afternoon tea to build community and combat isolation

May: annual Mass for the sick

June: 40-hours devotion with guest speaker; jubilee concert of hope

September: parish pilgrimage to Salamanca 20th—27th September.

Ongoing: inviting an addiction recovery group to use one of our parish halls; considering opening part or all of our churches through the day.

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.

FOODBANK NEWS

We had 84 visitors at our Foodbanks today and everyone was supported thanks to the continued generosity of our Parishioners, The City Charitable Trust and many local residents.

This weekend are looking for baby wipes, nappies- sizes 3-5, jam, stock cubes, rice and lentils.

Any donations can be left at the back of both Churches or at Jingers or at Le Sorelle Home & Gift Boutique.

Many thanks for your continued kindness.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE TODAY

The Diocese will mark this with a special service in Motherwell Cathedral today, at 3pm, led by our very own Deacon Christopher Igwe. The service will include a time of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Vespers, and Benediction. All are welcome.

DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS FOR FEBRUARY

These are now available in the porch of both churches priced £1.50 : they are especially useful for readers getting used to the new translation of the readings!

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.

