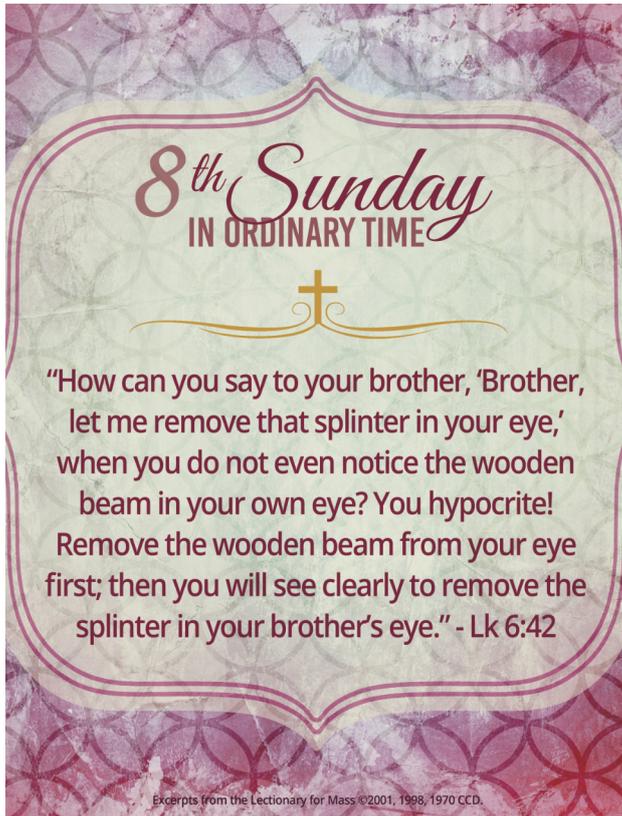




ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH OF
SACRED HEART & ST GERARD
BELLSHILL ~ EST. 2018

Sunday 27th February 2022



Clergy: Fr Stuart Parkes Deacon Jim Aitken
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Services this Week

Tuesday *No Confessions and Mass*

Ash Wednesday

9.30am Mass in St Gerard's
7.00pm Mass in Sacred Heart

Thursday 9.30am Mass in St Gerard's
Confessions after Mass

Friday 9.30am Mass in St Gerard's

Saturday 4.00pm Vigil Mass in St Gerard's
5.30pm Vigil Mass in Sacred Heart

Sunday 10.00am Mass in St Gerard's
11.30am Mass in Sacred Heart

Thank You

The collection last Sunday was £1515. The parish also receives an average of £430 weekly in electronic donations. Thank you for your generosity.

Parish Finance Meeting

Thank you to our 10 parishioners who met on Wednesday night to discuss Parish Finances and have formed a Parish Finance Council.

We decided to return to basket collections during Mass from Lent, although we will leave a collection box at the entrance for those who wish.



On Ash Wednesday there is a Mass at 9.30am in St Gerard's Church with the primary school present. There will be a 7.00pm Mass in Sacred Heart Church, Fr Stuart will lead services in Sacred Heart Primary in the afternoon.

World Day of Prayer

Ecumenical service in the Salvation Army hall Bellshill on 4th March at 2pm- open invitation to all ladies of the church.



SCIAF Wee Box

SCIAF Wee Boxes for their Lenten campaign are available as you come into the churches. For more information please visit sciaf.org.uk/weebox

Lourdes Pilgrimage

I wondered if there was enough interest for a parish Lourdes pilgrimage in September/October of this year? A 7 day pilgrimage with flights on Ryanair from Edinburgh to Toulouse and full board accommodation in Lourdes is around £800 per person.

If you are interested please add your name to the list in the porch so we can gauge interest.

Day of Prayer for those who have suffered abuse

This year's Day of Prayer for those who have suffered abuse will be marked on **Friday 4th March 2022**. Please pray for children, young people and vulnerable adults whose lives have been scarred by the abuse they have experienced at the hands of those whom they trusted.

Pray also for all are engaged in the pursuit of peace, healing and reconciliation for the abused, the needy, the weak and the vulnerable.

Please remember in your prayers

Sick:

Baby Felix Durnion, Jackie Chinskie, Lorraine McCarthy, Leanne McGovern, Billy Mosedale, Thomas O'Donnell, Marcella Taylor, Fr Raymond Jaconelli, Avril Finnon, Matt MacDonald, Jean Murphy, Megan Carlin, Jamie Devine, Elizabeth Lunny, Tom Downie, Annie Taggart, Betty McAuley, Angela Ferguson, Wilma Dempsey, Marion Desmond, Chris Tinto, Avril McClory,

Recently Dead: Ann Marie Weir, Thomas Weir,

Months Minds: Joe & Lizzie Costello, Joseph Costello jnr, Jeanie Costello, Tessa & Robert McDade, Betty Mays, Helen McAuley, John McAuley (snr & jnr), Cathie McAuley, James McAuley, George McAuley, Ann McAuley, Lilian Whittingam, James P Coyle,

Anniversaries: Nicola Brennan, Sarah Hanchard, Alexander Malone, Esther Malone, Muriel Malone, John & Lily Connor, John McGowan, George Steppie, Christine Burns, Victoria Miller, Michael McGuigan,

Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish
Parish Bank Account Details: Diocese of Motherwell Sacred Heart and St Gerard's
Bank of Scotland, Account No. 15939268, Sort Code 80-22-60 or
donate via www.rcdom.org.uk and click on the donate button and search for Sacred Heart or St Gerard's

Sporting Memories

Sporting Memories, a group set up to assist and encourage those suffering from Dementia through Sporting Reminisce, meets weekly in St Gerards Hall.

If any Parishioner wishes to attend, or has any relative, friend or colleague who might benefit from attending please in the first instance contact Jim Purvis on 077542436587, or by email at jim@thesmf.co.uk

11.30am Mass Choir Practice

On Wednesday evenings at 7pm in Sacred Heart church. As we prepare for Lent and Easter, we are looking for new members to come along and lead the singing. Please come along or see Nan and Paul after Sunday Mass.

Ignatian Lent Retreat

The online retreat is open to all and this year celebrates the 500 years since the conversion of St. Ignatius Loyola and is based on his life. You can find more information at www.onlineprayer.net

Patricia Campbell and family would like to offer sincere thanks to Sacred Heart SVP and parishioners for their prayers and Mass offerings for the repose of the soul of Michael Campbell. Holy Mass will be offered for everyone's intentions.



Rt Rev. Joseph Toal STB KC*HS

Bishop of Motherwell

25th February 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope this finds you well.

We are all saddened and perturbed by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and our thoughts and prayers are very much with the people of Ukraine, both at home and those here in Scotland. I have passed on the promise of our prayerful support to Fr Vasyl Kren, the priest of the Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Scotland. I am sure we will be generous in giving any material support requested for those displaced and deprived or damaged by the war. Pope Francis has asked us to keep Ash Wednesday, March 2nd, as a Day of Prayer and Penance for Peace. This call gives added impetus to us marking Ash Wednesday as always as our special Day of Fasting and Abstinence.

The attack of Russia on Ukraine is seen as a wake-up call for us to be aware of the threats that can arise in world order and the fragility of the peace we have had in Europe in recent decades. Lent is an appropriate time to be sensitive to our human weakness and fragility and to renew our willingness to turn again to God and place our lives and our world in his hands. On Ash Wednesday the words "Turn away from sin and believe the Gospel" ring in our ears and the forty days of Lent are our opportunity as individuals and communities to turn again to God with renewed faith and fervour and to allow the Lord to imprint his words and presence deep within us. It is indeed a time to wake-up and be ready spiritually for what lies ahead.

A strong part for us as Catholics in being alive and ready is our participation in the life and worship of the Church, and this is particularly important as we recover from the damaging effects of the pandemic which has disrupted so much of what we normally do. For this reason we are restoring in Scotland the Sunday Obligation to attend Holy Mass from the 1st Sunday of Lent, March 6th, and I encourage all those who are well and able to come to Mass. It is our way of living our faith and reaching out to God in our great need. We are never disappointed because the Lord is truly with us in the mysteries we celebrate and fills us with his love, mercy and peace, making us able to face whatever lies ahead for ourselves and our world. We need the Lord and we need to come to him and know his saving power in our lives, and "Now is the favourable time, this is the day of salvation" as St Paul instructs us on Ash Wednesday.

As I write this letter, I look forward to concelebrating the Holy Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow tomorrow, during which Bishop Bill Nolan will be installed as the new Archbishop of Glasgow. The prayers of all in Motherwell are with him, and we ask the Lord to bless and protect him as he continues his episcopal ministry in the great city of Glasgow.

With my prayers and best wishes.
Yours in Christ.

+ Joseph Toal