

ST ANTHONY & ST MARK'S

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Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell Scottish Charity No. SC011041

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) 26TH JANUARY 2025

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

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 (funeral)	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	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

Reading 1	Nehemiah 8:2-10	They read from the book of the Law, and gave the meaning.
Psalms	Ps 19	Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.
Reading 2	1 Cor 12:12-30	You are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
Acclamation	Luke 4:18	The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to the captives..
Gospel	Luke 1:1-4	Today this Scripture has been fulfilled.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those who died recently, especially: Carol Anne Rice (funeral Wed. 29th Jan. 9.30am St Mark's); Janet Gallagher; Joe McCann; Jim McGinn; Wilma Hobbin

Anniversaries: Catherine Anderson; Patsy Harkin; Joe & Rosann Swinburne; Charles & Mary Kirk; Bobby & Danny Thompson; Anna Moss; Richard Conway; May & Nell Conway; Mary Hughes; Mary Mahon.; Peter & Grata McCormick; Jess Flynn.

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

As announced verbally last 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. It will feature a meal, a team quiz, and entertainment from our very own Frannie Conway. Unfortunately we can't invite the whole parish, so it will be limited to those who have a particular role or ministry in the parish: you will receive an invitation over the next week or so: in the meantime you can save the date.

IGNITE CLUB FOR FIRST COMMUNICANTS TODAY AT ST MARK'S

The **Session 2** dates are: today, Sunday 26th January 10.50-11.45am at St Mark's; and Sunday 2nd February 12.20-1.15pm. at St Anthony's. Session One was very successful in both churches of our parish: thanks to the children who attended and to their parents for their support and encouragement, as well as the leadership and hospitality team.

CARITAS AWARD JUSTICE & PEACE SCOTLAND CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The team will meet this **Thursday 30th Jan 4.30—6pm** at St Anthony's, ahead of addressing the parish on Sunday 9th February.

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

Fr Stephen will be leading these sessions, which 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 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?

LIFETEEN RETURNS NEXT SUNDAY!

The leadership team are delighted to announce that the LifeTeen S2-4 group will begin to meet again next **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., and once again we'll follow the highly-successful games-based LifeTeen materials. Many thanks to the leaders for continuing this important initiative. We're also open to new leaders: please speak to Fr Stephen if you're interested.

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. Following his lead, the Jubilee can be a spring-board 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.

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.

NEW PARISH TODDLERS GROUP: COULD YOU BE INVOLVED? MEETING TODAY

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 today, **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.

FOODBANK NEWS

This week our team supported 110 families. We did this thanks to our Parishioners, The City Charitable Trust and local residents. This week we are running low on rice, nappies and baby wipes. Any donations can be left at the back of both Churches, or at Jingers or Le Sorelle Home & Gift Boutique.

We have had some new volunteers over the past few weeks and they have been outstanding additions to our team. If anyone is interested in helping out at either foodbank or behind the scenes, picking up food from local shops, please let us know.

Thank you.

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.

