

Parish Ministers' Rota
28th January 2018 (Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B)

Mass	Eucharistic Ministers	Readers
5 pm Vigil St Aidan's	S.Corr, M.McKenna, D.Chalmers	P.Devine
9.30am St Mary's	R.Heaney (A), R.Smith (B)	C. Cairns
11 am St Aidan's	J.Fox, E.Grattan, J.Burton	A.McCrossan*, M.Clark
4.30 pm St Mary's		A.Welsh

TODAY'S READINGS

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfilment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfilment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

LITURGY OF THE WORD

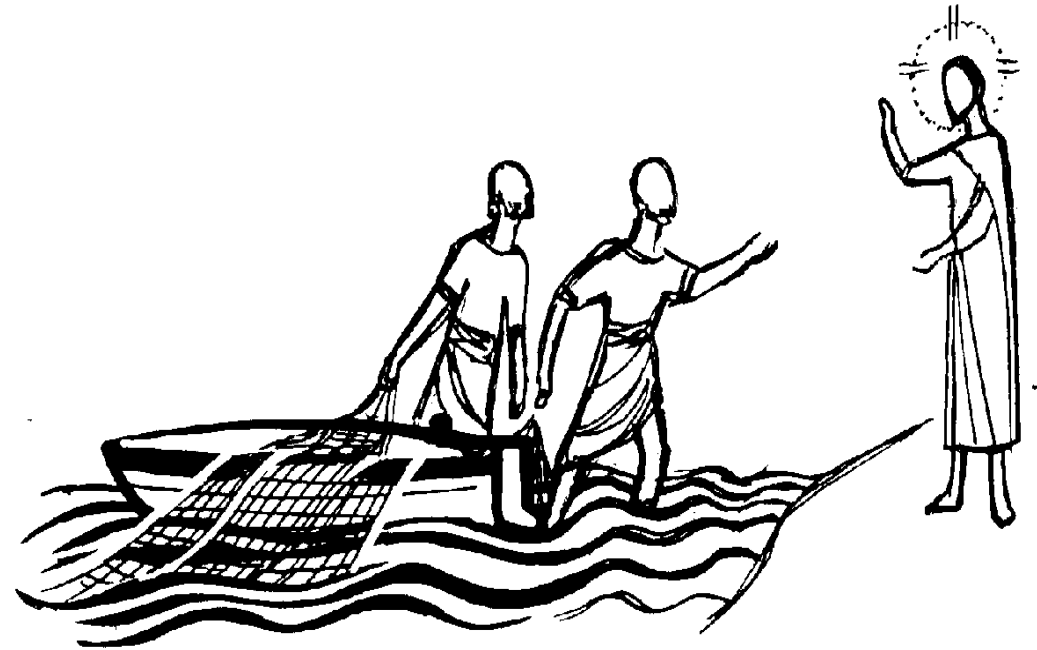
First Reading:	Jonah 3:1-5.10
Response to the Psalm:	Lord, make me know your ways.
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, Alleluia! The Kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia!
Gospel:	Mark 1:14-20

St Mary's and St Aidan's

Year B

Third Sunday of the Year

21st January 2018



“Repent and believe the Good News.”

Parish Priest: Rev. Liam O'Connor
 St Mary's Presbytery
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'St Mary's Cleland and St Aidan's Wishaw'

Scottish Registered Charity Number 11041

THIRD WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR 2.

Wed 24th Jan, Memorial of St Francis de Sales. St. Francis developed a sign language in order to teach a deaf man about God. Because of this, he is the patron saint of the deaf.

Thurs 25th Jan, Feast of the Conversion of St Paul the Apostle. As a young man he was called Saul. He took part in the stoning of the first martyr, St Stephen and in the fierce persecution of the Christians that followed. On his way to arrest the Christians in Damascus, he had a dramatic conversion to the Christian Faith and became an Apostle.

Fri 26th Jan, Memorial of St Timothy and St Titus, two of the most beloved and trusted disciples of St. Paul, who accompanied him in many of his journeys.

PASTORAL VISITATION

We welcome His Lordship, Bishop Toal to the parish this weekend. He will celebrate all of the Masses. We thank him for his pastoral care of our parish, and recognise that we are members of the faithful of a wider diocesan community, members of the Church, the Body of Christ, in this part of the world. We ask God to bless us and Bishop Toal, as he shepherds us.

As mentioned last Sunday, we received a letter from Bishop Toal about the amalgamation:

Dear Fr O'Connor and Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Aidan's.

I thank those of you, parishioners of St. Mary's and St. Aidan's, who attended the consultation meeting I held in November 2017 in regard to the proposed amalgamation of the two parishes. It was good to hear the opinions expressed and concerns raised, while being confirmed also in thinking that the amalgamation should happen.

I have now to consult the Council of Priests of the Diocese about the proposed amalgamation and this will happen when the Council meets on February 8th. The proposal is therefore that the two parishes now become one parish with two churches, which means that everything of the two becomes part of the one.

One matter discussed is what the new parish should be called. I propose that it be St Mary's and St Aidan's. After the consultation with the Council of Priests, and allowing for some time for any further reflections from yourselves, I will issue the decree of amalgamation indicating when the new parish will begin.

As we look to the future we ask the Lord's blessing on your parish and on all who will form part of it.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Toal.

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Last year we welcomed five new priests to Motherwell Diocese and we look forward to four diaconate ordinations from those in seminary in 2018. This week, two young men set out for Salamanca for their propaedeutic period and will hopefully proceed to seminary in October.

With a view to starting the propaedeutic period in January 2019, you are asked to contact Fr Brian Lamb (01698 823896) to join an informal group which will meet on a monthly basis, starting on Thursday 25th January.

FURNITURE COLLECTION DIOCESAN SVDP

07864502874 or 07749467335

Please note that one of the numbers has changed.

INVITATION FROM REV GRAHAM AUSTIN

I would like to extend an invitation to the congregation of St Aidan's to a special service on the **2nd March 2018** at **7pm** to mark the dedication of St Mark's church by the Presbytery of Hamilton in 1963.

Rev Graham Austin

ST AIDAN'S HALL KEY

Someone has locked up the Church Hall and inadvertently put the key in their pocket or bag.

Could everyone who was in the hall between 2.30pm and 7pm on Friday 12th January, please check.

PARISH OF ST MARY'S AND ST AIDAN'S MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday	Weekday
St Aidan's: 5pm Vigil Mass	Monday: St Mary's 10am
St Mary's: 9.30am Mass	Tuesday: St Aidan's 10am
St Aidan's: 11am Mass	Wednesday: St Mary's 10am
St Mary's: 4.30pm Mass	Thursday: St Aidan's 10am St Mary's 7pm (<i>Latin Mass</i>)
	Friday: St Mary's 10am
	Saturday: St Aidan's 10am
	St Mary's 10am St Aidan's 11am

First Friday of the Month (during term time)

Confessions:	After weekday Masses in relevant church.
Saturday:	4.30pm – 4.50pm and after Vigil Mass in St Aidan's.
Thursday Evening:	6.30pm – 7pm in St Mary's before Latin Mass

Baptisms

St Aidan's Church	2 nd and 4 th Sunday of the month at 12 noon
St Mary's Church	1 st and 3 rd Sunday of the month at 12.30pm
To arrange please contact:	Fr O'Connor Tel: (01698) 860254.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Gerard O'Neill, Jim Nolan, David Beck, Mary Theresa McCormick, Cathie Bryce, Cathie McConnachie, Cecilia Moore, Lynne Watters, Mary Kelly, Ellen Dunn, John Lochrie, Anne Roarty, Bernard Gallacher, John Friary, Catherine Grant, George McKinney, Bridget McNally, Mary Lambert, Peter McGhee, Rose O'Donnell, Elaine Farrell Cleary and Margaret Whelan who are sick.

John Carlin, Tom Kerr and Kathleen McConnachie who have died

The Month's Mind and Anniversaries of:

Sarah Creechan, Barbara Molloy, John O'Dowd, Veronica O'Dowd, James Mallon, Mary Mallon, Patrick Mallon, Moira Oates, Jean Callander, Mary & Peggy Quinn, Tommy & Cissie Daly, Catherine & Harry Corr, Mary Cassidy, Angela Cassidy, Mary Crilley, Milly Pearson, Elizabeth Mooty and Michael Kennah.

WISHAW GENERAL CHAPLAINCY

Contact Fr Ricklan Mallya, RC Chaplain, either by phoning the hospital (361100) or St Bernadette's (263945).

NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN

All notices for the Bulletin, including intimations, should be received by Wednesday evening.

CAFÉ LINDISFARNE

The Café will be serving Rolls n Sausage and bacon, toast, tea/coffee and homebaking in the hall after Mass this morning.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children from age 3 until they make their **First Holy Communion** are invited at the beginning of Mass to go to the hall where they celebrate the Liturgy of the Word appropriate to their age. They hear the Gospel story in a text they can understand and do some activities related to the Gospel passage. They return to the Church and join their parents/carers at the Offertory. If you would like your child to participate, but are unsure if he/she will settle, you could accompany him/her for their first time.

CONCERT MARTIN AELRED

Saint Mary's Sunday 28th January 7pm

An evening of music and family entertainment in aid of renovation work at Saint Mary's. Martin sings both classical and sacred music. There is no charge for the concert but there will be collection baskets on leaving the Church for those who wish to support the renovation work.

**ANNUAL EDUCATION MASS
Wed 31st January 7pm Motherwell Cathedral**

SVDP HELPLINE

If you require the services of the SVDP you can contact a member by phoning **07561843580**