

Our Lady of Lourdes

A Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell Scottish Charity No. SC011041

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The Nativity of Our Lord

25th December 2016

Services This Week

Monday	10.00am	Mass
Tuesday	10.00am	Mass
Wednesday	No Morning Mass	
Thursday	10.00am	Mass
	7.00pm	Exposition
	7.50pm	Night Prayer
Friday	10.00am	Mass
Saturday	10.00am	Mass
	Hogmanay 6.00pm	Mass

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sunday	9.00am	Mass
<i>New Year's Day</i>	11.00am	Mass

Confessions

Thursday	7.00pm to 7.50pm
Saturday	After 10.00am Mass

The church is open for private prayer
Monday to Friday: 9.00 am. - 4.00pm;
Saturday: 9.00 am. - 6.00 pm

Bishop Toal's Christmas Message

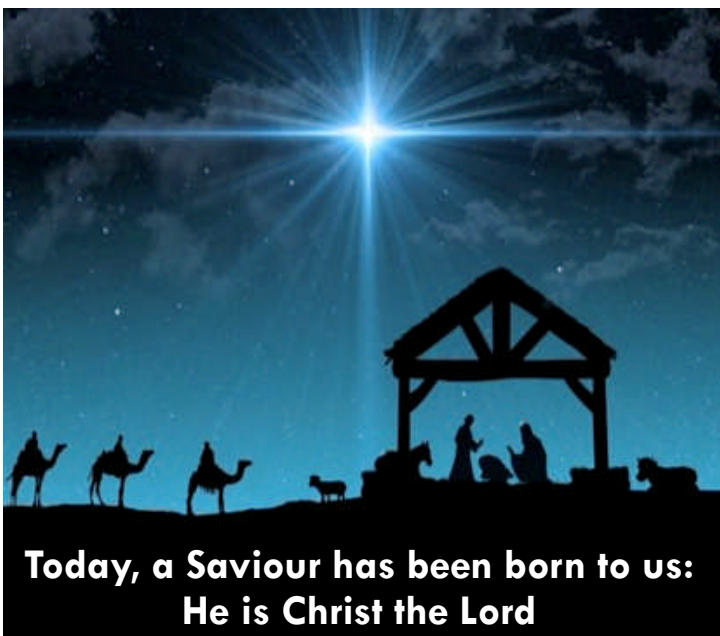
As we approach Christmas 2016 should we content ourselves with the attitude that it is just the same as every other Christmas we have celebrated? It is true that the story does not change nor do the characters vary, but our own experience of the story and our empathy with its characters should change. Each year the circumstances of life, our relationships with others, our lived experiences do move on, sometimes with major consequences for ourselves, sometimes in a quieter more peaceful way. Whatever has happened therefore probably does affect how we celebrate Christmas, especially if we are missing somebody from our family whom we loved and cherished. Our openness towards the mystery of God's love for the world and our personal awareness of the presence of Jesus, the Child in a manger, yet Our Lord and Saviour, hopefully do grow as we reach out to Him for consolation and enlightenment.

Let us thank God for the stability of the Christmas story, provided for us by the Holy Spirit in the words of the evangelists, and for the continuing knowledge and sense of his presence in our own lives. The mystery of the Incarnation has come alive in each of us and with shepherds and wise men we bow in deep gratitude as we adore and contemplate the Word made Flesh and thank him for the Gift of Himself. May what we share through giving and receiving gifts remind us of the GREAT GIFT and may he help us to show our love for him in our renewed love for one another.

During Advent, a sentence we read from St Paul's Letter to the Romans caught my attention. It said: *"Everything that was written long ago was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give were helped by God"*.

Each Christmas renews within us this virtue of hope and reading again the beautiful passages written by the prophets and evangelists we are once more inspired to keep going in the way of faith, hope and charity because God is truly with us and protects us and carries us along each moment of life's journey. I wish you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas and a hope-filled journey through 2017.

+ Joseph Toal
Bishop of Motherwell.



**Today, a Saviour has been born to us:
He is Christ the Lord**

Second Collection

Sunday 8th January Justice and Peace

Mass for the Holy Innocents

Please Join us for our annual Holy Innocents Mass at 10.00am on Wednesday 28th December 2016 in St. Patrick's Church, Coatbridge

Please pray for the sick

Brad Connelly Tennock; Eddie O'Hara; Mary McGuire; Moira Livingstone; Carole Gaffney (Australia) Tom McFadyen; Samuel Ruddy (age 20); Marianne Doherty; Douglas McDonald; Kerr Gildie; Charlotte Jordan; Eileen Mullan; Dick Cohen; Baby Maria Zahara; John Watson: Ann Gough; Catherine Watson; Susan Gough; Roseanne Dupree; Tony Slaven; Lena Connachie; May McCormack; Marie Docherty; Leslie Docherty; Linda Hogg; Joseph Berry; Anne Adams; Cathy Reynolds; Mary McDonnell; Gerry Kelly; Nancy McLellan; Terry McLellan; Paul Gallagher; Mary Johnstone; William Ellis; Elizabeth Hunter; Gian Adjuda; Betty McKenna

May They Rest in Peace

Recently Dead: Alexander Warren; Eddie Sutherland; Josephine Clarke; Seamus Simpson

Months Mind: Tommy Flaherty; Thomas Flaherty; Jane Fairie; Elizabeth McAvoy; Mary & Frank Clayton; John & Cathie Fairie; Philomena Fairie;

Anniversary: Campbell McAdam; Ian Porter; Robert McDermott; Michael Pakula; Bridget O'Hara; McKerracher Family; Hannah Family; Nan & Andrew Curran; Annie & Joe Kelly; Sandra Brown; Muldoon Family; James Blaney; Jimmy Dupree; Robert & Alice Woods; Donald & Agnes Kilpatrick; Douglas & Dorothy Sutherland; Kate & Owen McFadden; Patrick McFadden; Ownie McFadden; Mary & Vincie McAleenan; Frances Lappin; Phil McCaffery; Greta McCaffery; Jim Martin; Anne Durkin-Boyd

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School Registration January 2017

Children who attain the age of 5 years on or before 28th February 2018 should be registered for school during the week beginning Monday, 16th January 2017. **Registration times:** Monday 16th, 9.30am-12noon, Wednesday 18th, 9.30am-2.30pm and Friday 20th January, 9.30am-12noon. Please bring child's full birth certificate and, if appropriate, Baptismal certificate. Please also bring **2 items** of proof of home address. If the above times are unsuitable, please arrange to enrol your child during the week beginning 16th January 2017 by telephoning **01355 221983**.

Our Lady of Lourdes Nursery

Applications for nursery places for children who attain the age of 3 years between 1 March and 28 February should be completed before 30 April 2017. Please see poster in the porch for more details

St. Louise Primary School Registration January 2017

Children who attain the age of 5 years on or before 28th February 2018 should be registered for school during the week beginning Monday, 16th January 2017. **Registration times:**

Monday, 16th January, 1.30pm-2.30pm
Tuesday, 17th January, 9.30am-11.00am
Wednesday, 18th January, 9.30am-11.00am

Please bring child's full birth certificate and, if appropriate, Baptismal certificate. Please also bring **2 items** of proof of home address.

Rosary Times

The Rosary will be said after 10.00am Mass each day.

Mother and Toddler Group

Thursday at 10.30am
Resumes 12th Jan

Friendship Club

Thursday, 1.30pm- 3.30pm.
Church Hall. All welcome

Mother's Prayer Group

Will stop for the school holidays Tues. 20th Dec. and resume Tuesday 10th Jan. In Oratory after the Rosary. New members most welcome.

Readings for next Sunday 1 January 2017

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Numbers 6: 22-27

Psalm: 66

Galatians 4: 4-7

Luke 2: 16-21

Bingo

Bingo in the Hall every
Tuesday at 7.30pm.
New members welcome.

Wednesday Tea Room Sunday Tearoom

will reopen on Wed. 4th January
will reopen 8th January