

## Parish Finance

**First Collection Christmas weekend** - £906

**Christmas Quarterly Collection** - £184

**Crib Donations** (in aid of St. Margaret's Society) - £156

(Christmas Quarterly Collection is now due.)

## Parish News

**Canon Dunnachie, Canon O'Sullivan, Fr. Bernard and Deacon Alex wish you every Blessing and Happiness in the New Year - 2017.**

**Readers and Eucharistic Ministers:** Please uplift new rotas from the Sacristy.

**Christmas Hamper:** Congratulations to T. Gault (winner of St. Mary's Prize Hamper) and Coleen McCabe (winner of St. Bernard's Hamper). The sums raised - £250 and £120 respectively.

### Mass Times over the New Year Period

**Sun 1 Jan** - Mary, Mother of God (Solemnity) New Year's Day - **Mass at 11.30 a.m.**

**Mon 2 Jan** - Mass at **11.00 a.m.** Thereafter back to normal times.

**Senior Citizens' Festive Dinner** on Fri. 27th Jan. More info later



**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS**



**Prayer Cards/Passports:** Children preparing for Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion next year are reminded to have their Prayer Cards and First Holy Communion Passports at Sunday Mass. These should be presented at Children's Liturgy. If you are at Mass in another parish, please ask priest to sign it.

### St. Mary's Primary - Registration for School:

Children who will be 5 years old between 1st Mar 2017 and 28 Feb. 2018, should be registered for school during week commencing Monday 16 January 2017 at the following times:  
Monday 16th - 1.30 - 4.00 pm  
Tuesday 17th - 9 am - 12 noon  
Wed 18th - 1.30 - 4.00 pm  
Thu 19th - 9 am - 12 noon  
Fri 20th - 1.30 - 4.00 pm.

Please bring Birth Certificate, Council Tax Bill as proof of address and Baptismal Certificate if applicable.

### Marriage Preparation Guidance Courses 2017

commence on  
21 and 28 January in St. Mary's Hamilton  
18 and 25 Feb in St. Mary's Coatbridge  
18 & 25 March in St. Mary's Coatbridge and  
2 and 9 September in St. Mary's Hamilton.

Any couples planning marriage next year should first of all see Canon Dunnachie.

## Six Tiny Stories With Great Meanings ....

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered. Only one boy came with an umbrella.

That's **FAITH**

2. When you throw a baby in the air, she laughs because she knows you will catch her.

That's **TRUST**

3. Every night we go to bed, without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up.

That's **HOPE**

4. We plan big things for tomorrow, in spite of zero knowledge of the future.

That's **CONFIDENCE**

5. We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children.

That's **LOVE**

6. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence - "I am not 90 yrs old - I am sweet 16 with 74 years experience!"

That's **ATTITUDE**

"Borrowed" from Franciscan Troubadour!

**Day of Prayer for Justice & Peace** takes place on Sunday 8th January 2017 - Feast of Epiphany. If you want to know more about Justice & Peace please visit [www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk](http://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk) Second Collection will be taken up on 8th January (next Sunday) for Justice & Peace.

## Parish Activities

**Baptism Course** is held on the first Tue of month - in parish house

**Parish Bingo** in the hall every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. Pass the word to your friends!

**Wednesday Cafe** will be closed until January 2017. We will notify you when it will open again.

**Novena to St. Peregrine** (Patron Saint of Cancer Sufferers) here in St. Mary's every last Thursday of the month (26th Jan. 2017) at 7.30 p.m.

**Calling Times** - No Thu night calls until 19th Jan. 2017.

**Saturday Breakfast Club** in the hall after 10 a.m. Mass. Call round for bacon/sausage roll, tea or coffee.

**Hall Bookings:** Tel: 01236 600560 or 01236 435252 (for all your family group celebrations/functions)

**Foodbank: Big Thank-you** for your very generous donations of food throughout the past year.

**Recycling:** If you have any old spectacles we will be happy to pass these on for use in third world countries.

**Sponsored Lamp/Remembrance Book Application Forms** are available at the back of the church.

To help with our collections, I would like to ask all those who pay Income Tax to join our Gift Aid Scheme, as this will give the parish an extra 25p for every £ donated. This is much needed funds we are missing out on. Thank you for your continued support.