

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Saint Mary Immaculate Larkhall &
Our Lady & Saint John's Blackwood

Scottish Charity Number - SC011041

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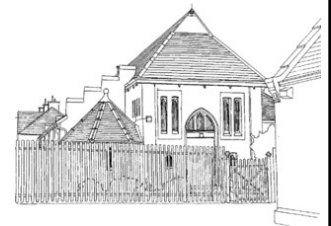
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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



Our Lady & St John's
Carlisle Road
Blackwood, ML11 9RZ



St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE
15TH MAY 2022

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!

This time last year, Fr Wyllie proposed establishing several groups in the parish, and would like to begin to take this forward before the summer holidays. Below is a list of various groups which he would like to be established in the parish. If you would be interested in helping to form one of these groups or being a part of one or more of these groups then please speak with him soon. One of the signs of a vibrant and healthy parish is the number of initiatives and groups which take place, so please help build up the parish by joining one or more of these groups:



Gardening/Grounds Team - If you can sweep, weed, mow the lawn or generally keep the grounds tidy then please consider joining these groups which look after our parish grounds.

Men's Group - Fr Wyllie is keen to set up a Men's Group in the parish for men of all ages to come together for some socialising, prayer and to take part in various other activities.

Young Adults Group - This group will be a mixture of socialising, praying and getting to know more about the Faith. This group will be for those aged 17-35 (or a wee bit older).

St Mary's Children's Liturgy - A feature of most parish Sunday Masses over the years is the Children's Liturgy of the Word, where the young people are given a simple and succinct teaching on the scripture readings for that specific week.

Pro-Life Group - The greatest scandal of our society today is the discarding and murder of the innocent baby in the womb. It would be good to have a group in our parish to meet frequently to pray for this issue and to organise events to raise funds for the promotion of life.

Justice & Peace Group - Many issues which we face today are already being prayed for and action being taken by Justice & Peace Scotland. It would be good to have a group in our parish which advocates for the justice & peace of all people in our world.

Women's Group - To bring women of all ages together from our parish for prayer, socialising, outings and other activities.

Church Cleaners - We currently have a great group of volunteers who clean our churches on a regular basis. If you have some spare time then please contact Mary McDermott (Our Lady & St John's) or Kitty Steele (St Mary's) if you could lend a hand to clean our churches.

Bar Staff for Parish Hall - We currently have a pool of volunteers who serve and run the bar in the Parish Hall for various functions. If you'd be willing to help please speak to Fr Wyllie or Angela.

Musicians and Cantors - It would be great to have a pool of cantors and musicians who could help to lead the music liturgy at our 4 Sunday Masses. If you can play an instrument or would be comfortable helping with the singing please speak with Fr Wyllie.

Youth Choir - It would be wonderful to have a Parish Youth Choir to help lead the singing at our Sunday Masses, maybe not every week but maybe twice a month. We are appealing for young parishioners to step forward and give their talent of singing for the service of God and the good of the parish community.

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A PART OF ONE OR MORE OF THESE GROUPS.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 15th May

- 10.00am Holy Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)
6.00pm May Devotions concluding with Benediction (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 16th May

- 12noon Requiem Mass for John Leonard (St Mary's)

Tuesday 17th May

- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 18th May

- 9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
9.30am Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Eastertide (St Mary's)
6.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 19th May

- 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.00am Confessions until 9.20am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Thursday of the Fifth Week of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 20th May

- NO 10.00AM MASS
11.00am Requiem Mass for Mary Gallagher (St Mary's)

Saturday 21st May

- 12noon First Holy Communion Mass (Our Lady & St John's)
4.45pm Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm Vigil Mass for the Sixth Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)

IF YOU ARE RETIRED, OFF WORK OR ON HOLIDAY PLEASE CONSIDER COMING TO WEEKDAY MASS

MANY THANKS

Last weekend we took up a collection at all our Masses for the sick and retired priests of the Diocese of Motherwell to help provide for their care. Through your generosity to this cause we collected £1,040.00 which will now be forwarded to the Diocese to help cover the cost of care for the retired priests who served the parishes of this Diocese over the years. Many thanks to you.

THE SCOTTISH CATHOLIC

The new edition of the Scottish Catholic is available at the back of the church at the price of £2.00. Please consider purchasing a copy to support this new Catholic publication.

BBC SCOTLAND - MY KIND OF TOWN - LARKHALL

'My Kind of Town' is a BBC Scotland programme which follows the presenter, Ian Hamilton and his guide dog Major, as they visit Scottish towns to explore their past, present and future. It's a very positive travel documentary programme and they will be visiting Larkhall on the week commencing 23rd May. Given that Larkhall still carries a bit of a reputation for sectarianism - fairly or not - the producers are very keen to include Catholic voices on what it's like to live in the town, and to find out whether or not things are as bad as they are made out to be. The BBC are very keen to visit St Mary's on 23rd May to have a conversation with parishioners after the 12noon Mass. Please be generous and come along if you can to put a Catholic perspective on the show.

DAY FOR LIFE - PRAYING FOR THE UNBORN

The Day for Life takes place in Scotland each year on 31st May, the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That evening at 7.00pm in St Mary's there will be special prayers for the unborn and the prolife cause. Please make a special effort to pray for this very important cause.

PARISH PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

The Parish Pastoral Planning Team met on Monday of last week. Present at the meeting were: Fr Wyllie, Suzanne Sherry, Russell McAllister, Laura Steele, Ciaran Reilly and Scott Smith. The minutes of the meeting include an action plan for the suggestions which were made by parishioners in the Synodal Questionnaire. The minutes are available at the back of the church for parishioners to see what is being implemented and what was discussed at the meeting. Please feel free to take a copy of the minutes home with you. Any comments, please speak to one of the group.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£840.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£295.00
TOTAL:	£1,135.00
Sick & Retired Priests Collection:	£1,040.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

GIFTAID ENVELOPES

For those parishioners who contribute to the offertory collection through the Giftaid envelopes the new batch for the coming year are available at the back of the church.

New members always welcome.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

Saturday 21st May - First Holy Communions at 12noon for the pupils of St John's Primary in Our Lady & St John's Church. We keep the 13 boys and girls in our prayers in these days before receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

SPONSOR A TILE

The carpet in the body of the church in Our Lady & St John's is in need of replacing. It has been mentioned before about possibly tiling the church floor rather than laying another carpet. To help offset the cost of tiling the floor and the work which would be involved, we are hoping that parishioners will sponsor a tile. The cost of each floor tile would be £25.00 and a family or individual could sponsor one or more of the tiles. The tiles would be placed in the central aisle as well as the back and front of the church. The carpet under the pews would be replaced with a vinyl. There will be a sheet at the back of the church from the beginning of June to gauge support for this venture and then a decision will be taken.

2022 WEDDINGS

If you are due to be married in our parish over the course of this year you need to make contact with Fr Wyllie to begin the necessary preparations. Any couple who hasn't been in contact with him must do so by the end of this month. This is to ensure that the necessary paperwork is completed in good time and to firm up arrangements for the Mass/service.

CONGRATULATIONS

Last weekend baby Grayson Gerard William Canning was baptised in St Mary's, we wish him and his mum and dad, Donna and Craig, our prayerful congratulations. Next weekend we will celebrate the baptism of baby Cameron Stefan Perry. We keep Cameron and his mum and dad, Monika & John, in our prayers as they prepare for the baptism next weekend. Parents are asked to speak with Fr Wyllie to arrange a baptism for their child.

HCPT 50TH ANNIVERSARY MASS

Fr Stephen Reilly extends a warm welcome to all to a special Mass which will begin the celebrations of 50 years of the Scottish region of HCPT. It will take place today, Sunday 15th May, at 3.00pm at St Francis Xavier's Church in Carfin, followed by hospitality and a celebratory photographic exhibition in the Little Flower Hall. A special invitation is extended to current and former helpers and beneficiaries, their families, chaplains and all friends of HCPT.

RCIA

The RCIA programme will begin again after the summer holidays, so if you know of anyone who is interested in joining the Catholic Church then please ask them to speak with Fr Wyllie as soon as possible. An information evening will take place soon, when we know if there is anyone interested in going forward to being received into the Catholic Church next Easter.

POST OF CHORAL DIRECTOR

The Diocese of Motherwell was successful in securing funding from the National Schools Singing Project. The post of Choral Advisor in the Diocese is now being advertised. The salary is £18,000 for an ambitious and creative musician with exceptional gifts in working with young voices. Closing date is 20th May.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - Annette Thomson, Adrienne McEnhill, Kathy Newbound, Ernie Girvan, Pat Whalin, Charles Kennedy (Florida), James Ferguson, Alice Cumming, Janet McIntosh, Annette Thomson, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Kevin Feeney

RIP - John Leonard (*Requiem Mass on Monday 16th May at 12noon*), Mary Gallacher (*Requiem Mass on Friday 20th at 11.00am*), Canon William Dunnachie

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - John McMurray, Jane McMurray, Mary Goodwin, Danny Cunningham, Desmond Houston, Ignatius Keane

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

In 1994 Pope John Paul II celebrated the inaugural World Meeting of Families in Rome. Since then, such gatherings have become a regular feature in the life of the Church held in different cities. The purpose of the World Meeting of Families is to celebrate God's plan for marriage and family life and to allow participants to join in prayer, catechesis and testimony. The climax of these celebrations has been a Mass with the Pope, the last one taking place in Dublin in 2018.



Pope Francis has called the next World Meeting of Families to take place in Rome from 26th - 29th June with the theme 'Family Love: a Vocation and Pathway to Holiness'. This year a smaller scale gathering will be held in Rome with its own program, while at the same time local Churches are being encouraged to make the family the centre of pastoral attention that week culminating in the Sunday Mass on 26th June.

Here are a few ways that we, as a parish and individual families can celebrate the World Meeting of Families: Family Rosary both at home and in the parish church; Blessing of engaged couples and those celebrating anniversaries; Spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament together as a family; Praying for families during Mass; Come along to Mass with the family on Sunday 26th June

On Wednesday 29th June, at the 7.00pm Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul, there will be a special **Mass for Married Couples** where those present will renew their marriage vows and receive a special blessing. All married couples are invited to participate in this special Mass to thank God for being there with them in the good times and bad times of life and also to ask God's blessing upon them for the future. If any engaged or married couples would like their rings to be blessed then there will be the opportunity for that at the conclusion of Mass. Please make a special effort to come along to this Mass to pray with and for all those who are married.

CORPUS CHRISTI BLESSED SACRAMENT PROCESSION

On Sunday 19th June, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, Carfin Grotto is organising a Blessed Sacrament Procession from St Teresa's Newarthill, through the streets to Carfin Grotto, concluding with Benediction with Bishop Toal. This begins at 3.00pm and everyone is invited. All First Communicants and Altar Servers are invited to take a special part in the procession.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN GROTTA

A pilgrimage for our parish will take place to Carfin Lourdes Grotto on **Thursday 2nd June**. All parishioners are invited to come along and to share in this day of pilgrimage to the very special and beautiful Grotto at Carfin dedicated to Our Lady & Lourdes & St Therese of Lisieux. **All names must be on the list at the back of the church no later than next weekend.**

10.00am	Bus leaves Blackwood	10.20am	Bus leaves Larkhall
10.45am	Bus arrives at Carfin		
10.50am	Tea & Coffee with biscuits or cakes at the Xavier Centre?		
11.20am	Rosary Procession from the Lourdes Shrine		
12noon	Visit to the Reliquary		
12.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel		
1.00pm	Holy Mass in the Glass Chapel		
1.45pm	Lunch at the Xavier Centre		
3.45pm	Leave for Larkhall & Blackwood		

