

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
7TH NOVEMBER 2021

St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

BLESSED JOHN DUNS SCOTUS

November 8th is the feast day of Blessed John Duns Scotus, a Franciscan friar from Scotland noted for his theological and philosophical work in the high-middle ages (late 13th and early 14th centuries). Scotus' work was in the generation that followed Thomas of Aquinas and Bonaventure. His work was complex and nuanced, and he is generally considered to be one of the three most important philosopher-theologians of his time. He was given the medieval accolade Doctor Subtilis (Subtle Doctor) for his sharp and subtle manner of thought.



Scotus has had considerable influence on both Catholic and secular thought due to his philosophy. Interestingly, it is his theological insights that are most profound and for which he is little known, even if those insights have far reaching implications. Perhaps one of the most well known of his theological works was a complex argument for the existence of God. Many of his contemporaries were unable to follow his reasoning. Remember, he wasn't called the Doctor Subtilis (Subtle Doctor) for no reason.

The later followers of Scotus, Scotists, were noted for their argumentation that was so subtle it carried little power to convince. These followers were called Duns or Dunsmen. When, in the 16th century, the Scotists obstinately opposed "new learning," that is, they challenged the basis and validity of the translation of the King James Bible, the term duns or dunce became, in the mouths of the Protestants, a term of abuse, a synonym for one incapable of scholarship. Clearly the word "dunce" carries into modern English use. Fortunately, the connection to Blessed John Duns Scotus has been lost – at least until now.

Perhaps the most influential point of John Duns Scotus' theology was his defense of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. At the time, there was a great deal of argument about the subject. While the Church had celebrated the feast as early as the 5th century, the idea met opposition on the part of medieval philosophers and theologians. John Duns Scotus proposed a solution to the theological problem of reconciling the doctrine with that of universal redemption in Christ, when he argued that Mary's immaculate conception did not remove her from redemption by Christ; rather it was the result of a more perfect redemption granted her because of her special role in salvation history. Scotus' argument appears in Pope Pius IX's 1854 declaration of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, "at the first moment of Her conception, Mary was preserved free from the stain of original sin, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ." Scotus' position was hailed as "a correct expression of the faith of the Apostles."

Another of Scotus' positions also gained official approval of the Roman Catholic Church. His doctrine on the universal primacy of Christ became the underlying rationale for the feast of Christ the King instituted in 1925.

He was born in Scotland, studied and taught in Paris, and was buried in Cologne. On his tomb are the words: *Scotia me genuit, Anglia me suscepit, Gallia me docuit, Colonia me tenet.* (Scotland bore me, England received me, France taught me, Cologne holds me). Pope John Paul II declared him Blessed for all the Church to honour in 1993.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Sunday 7th November

- 10.00am** Holy Mass for the Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 8th November

- 11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Memoria of Blessed John Duns Scotus (St Mary's)

Tuesday 9th November

- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Requiem Mass for John Fox (St Mary's)
7.00pm Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help concluding with Benediction (St Mary's)

Wednesday 10th November

- 9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
9.30am Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Leo the Great (St Mary's)
6.30pm Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Leo the Great (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 11th November

- 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 the Memoria of St Martin of Tours (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 12th November

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Josaphat (St Mary's)

Saturday 13th November

- 10.00am Holy Mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)
4.45pm Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm Vigil Mass for the Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

9th November - Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - Following Emperor Constantine granting freedom of worship to the Catholic Church in 313, the church was built and consecrated in 324. This church is the cathedral of the diocese of Rome. Its original dedication is to the Most Holy Saviour; in the Middle Ages, the names of St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist were added, thus the common name is St John Lateran. The basilica is described as the Mother and Head of all the churches in the city and in the world.

10th November - Memoria of St Leo the Great - St Leo the Great, a son of Tuscany, became Pope in 440. Though unable to attend the Council of Chalcedon in 451, his letter defining Christ's twofold nature was acclaimed as the Church's teaching: 'Peter has spoken through Leo'. His famous meeting with Attila the Hun outside Rome the following year saved the city from destruction then, although, despite his efforts it was pillaged by Vandals in 455. Leo's theological writings earned him the title of Doctor of the Church.

11th November - Memoria of St Martin of Tours - St Martin was born in 316 to pagan parents and later served as a soldier. At the age of eighteen he was baptised and, around that time, met a naked beggar to whom he gave half his cloak. That night he had a dream in which the Lord himself was wearing his cloak. He died in 397. He is the patron of France.

12th November - Memoria of St Josaphat - St Josaphat was born around 1580 of Orthodox parents, though he later became a Catholic and entered the Basilian Order at Vilnius. As Archbishop of Polotsk, he worked faithfully for the reform of the Church and unity between Eastern Christianity and Western Christianity. He faced much opposition and suffered martyrdom at the hands of an angry mob at Vitebsk in 1623. He is considered the patron of ecumenism between the Eastern and Western Church (the Orthodox Church and the Catholic Church). On his Memoria we pray for that intention.

ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS

We will gather as a parish community to remember all those clergy and parishioners who have died from our parish, especially those whose funerals have taken place over the past twelve months, on Tuesday 23rd November at 7.00pm in St Mary's. The families of those who have died over the past year are warmly invited to attend to remember their deceased loved ones, but all parishioners are invited to remember all our dead at this special Mass.

RCIA 2021-2022

An information evening will take place this Monday evening at 7.00pm in St Mary's Chapel House for those who wish to learn more about the RCIA process and what is involved in becoming a Catholic. Anyone who has considered becoming a Catholic is invited to come along to this short meeting which will explain how the course will work over the next few months between now and Easter.

FIRST CONFESSIONS

A letter has been sent out to the parents/carers of the pupils in Primary Three who are due to receive the Sacrament of First Confession early next year. This will begin the enrolment process for the children and their parents and hopefully encourage more of our young families to return to Mass and the Sacraments.

100 CLUB

Next weekend in St Mary's we will be trying to encourage more parishioners to join the 100 Club. As things stand at the moment there are many spaces available, we hope to recruit more members next week. At present we have around 200 people attending Mass in St Mary's so if we all took one number each...

SSVP REQUIEM MASS

On Wednesday 17th November at 7.00pm we will celebrate a special Requiem Mass for members of both our parish conferences of the SSVP who have died. This Mass will take place in Our Lady & St John's and all parishioners are warmly invited to join with the SSVP to pray for the deceased members of the society.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£874.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£1,397.00
Stall:	£130.00
Votive Candles:	£171.00
TOTAL:	£2,572.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

SECOND COLLECTION

We are asked to take up a collection during the month of November for the Scottish Catholic Education Service. For those who wish to contribute to the work carried out by SCES a second collection will be taken up on the weekend of 21st November at all our Masses. We keep in our prayers all our teachers, parents, pupils and staff involved with our two local primaries and our secondary schools.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

This weekend you will find Christmas cards available for sale in both our parish stalls. In today's society we should try our best to keep Christ in Christmas by purchasing religious themed cards and gifts. Please have a look at the selection of cards we have this weekend, if you need anything please let us know.

ST MARY'S SSVP

The conference are having a lunch for those who are 60 years of age and over in the Maltings on Sunday 28th November at 1.00pm. We were unable to have one last year so do come along and enjoy the get-together. Please put your name on the list in the porch of the church for catering purposes.

ST ANDREW'S HOSPICE LIGHT UP A LIFE CAMPAIGN

You can celebrate the life of someone special and make a difference to the lives of our patients and their loved ones this Christmas. The Hospice is extremely fortunate that we have been able to adopt some local authority and community Christmas trees in towns throughout Lanarkshire and people can choose to dedicate a light in memory or in honour of a loved one. You can sponsor a light in a number of ways:-

Online at www.st-andrews-hospice.com Visiting one of our Hospice shops By telephoning our Fundraising Department and making a payment over the phone. Please ask for Lorna McCafferty on 01236 772087.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - Pat Tierney, James Ferguson, Murray Brown, Alice Cumming, Alice Goodwin, Rory Quigley, Janet McIntosh, David Hillhouse, Annette Thomson, Liz Rees OCV, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Gerard Lyons, John Gowans, Kevin Feeney

RIP - John Fox (Requiem Mass on Tuesday 9th November at 9.30am in St Mary's), Christopher Crumley, Paul Fleming, Anna Carroll (Hamilton), Ann Connolly, Paul Cumming, Jim Coyle, Terry Pein, Ann Craig (Coatbridge)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Mary Corr, John Corr, Jennifer Cochran, William Tait, Michael Weir

Please remember to have your deceased loved ones prayed for on their anniversaries & months mind

CENSUS OF MASS ATTENDANCE

This weekend the annual official census will be taken at all our Masses and sent to the diocese. This census helps the Bishop and the College of Consultors to review the Mass attendance in each of the parishes of the diocese and to use these figures to help plan and structure the diocese for the future and to review the provision of Masses by priests throughout the diocese.

ST MARY'S SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

For uplift & delivery enquiries please call the Furniture Unit on 07483904658 or 07483363888 on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11.00am until 3.00pm.

If you know of anyone in the community who would like a visit from members of the SSVP or anyone struggling with daily needs or household effects please let Fr Wyllie or any conference member know.

OLSJ SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The SSVP are conscious that many families will be struggling at this time of year especially as a result of high gas prices and the loss of £20 a week from their benefits. If anyone needs assistance then please contact Our Lady & St John's SSVP on the telephone number below: 07522925723.

SPENDING TIME WITH THE LORD

St Mary's Church:

Monday - Friday 8.00am until 5.00pm*
Saturday & Sunday 9.00am until 4.00pm*
*or after Evening Liturgy.

Our Lady & St John's Church:

Monday - Friday 8.30am until 5.00pm*
Sunday 11.00am until 5.45pm*
*or after Evening Liturgy.

Please make some time if you are passing either church.

FOOBANK

Many thanks to those who contributed to our parish efforts to help the work of our local foodbank. Special mention must be given to the pupils of St Mary's Primary School who collected items to be included in our parish efforts. We collected 156.4kg of foodstuffs and £210.00 in donations. May God reward you all.

WEEKDAY MASS

Over the past few years the numbers at our weekday Masses have decreased, with some days being busier than others. Many of the older parishioners who came along to Mass each morning have sadly died with no one to replace them. All those who are retired, on holiday from work, have a day off or are unemployed are warmly invited to come along and assist at Mass during the week to spend some time listening to the Word of God and receiving Holy Communion.

The Wednesday evening Mass has been put on to help those who work and our young people at school to be afforded the opportunity to come along to Mass, so please consider coming along to this Mass. The Monday 12noon Mass is an ideal Mass if you aren't an early bird and find it difficult to attend Mass first thing in the morning.

HOLY GHOST FATHERS CARFIN

The Holy Ghost Fathers' Charity Shop in Carfin will now be open Monday to Saturday from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

On Sunday 14th November, Remembrance Sunday, we will offer Requiem Masses for those from our parish community who gave their lives in the First & Second World Wars, at the 10.00am Mass in St Mary's and the 12noon Mass in Our Lady & St John's.