

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH



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

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

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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
16TH NOVEMBER 2025**

LIFE EVERLASTING

Eternal life begins with Baptism. It continues through death and will have no end. The so-called particular or personal judgement occurs at the moment of death of an individual. The general judgement, which is also called the Last Judgement, occurs on the Last Day, at the end of the world, when the Lord comes again.

Heaven is the endless moment of love. Nothing more separates us from God, whom our soul loves and has sought our whole life. Together with all the angels and saints we will be able to rejoice forever in and with God.

Purgatory, often imagined as a place, is actually a condition. Someone who dies in God's grace (and therefore at peace with God and others) but who still needs purification before they can see God face to face is in purgatory. Since all those who are baptised into Christ form one communion and are united with one another, the living can also help the souls of the faithful departed in purgatory. Our love extends into the next life, through our prayer, fasting and good works we can obtain graces for the departed.

Hell is the condition of everlasting separation from God, the absolute absence of love. Someone who consciously and with full consent dies in serious sin, without repenting, and refuses God's merciful, forgiving love forever, excludes themselves from communion with God and the saints. God does not damn human beings. Humans themselves are the ones who refuse God's merciful love and voluntarily deprives themselves of eternal life by excluding themselves from communion with God. God yearns for communion even with the worst sinner; he wants everyone to convert and be saved. Yet God created man to be free and respects our decisions. Even God cannot compel love.

The Last Judgement will take place at the end of the world, at the second coming of Christ. "All who are in their tombs will hear his voice and come forth, those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to judgement" (John 5:29).

We read in St Matthew's Gospel:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations of the earth, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left... And they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life".

At the end of time, God will create a new heaven and a new earth. Evil will no longer have any power or attractiveness. The redeemed will stand face to face with God - as his friends. Their yearning for peace and justice will be fulfilled. To behold God will be their blessedness. The Trinity will dwell among them and wipe away every tear from their eyes; there will be no more sorrow, death, lamentation, or trouble. God will be all in all, and we pray and hope that we will be worthy of such a great gift, life eternal with God and all the angels and saints.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 16th November (St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)

10.00am Holy Mass for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

2.00pm Baptism (St Mary's)

3.00pm Larkhall Cemetery Service (Larkhall Cemetery)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)



Monday 17th November (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Elizabeth of Hungary (St Mary's)

Tuesday 18th November (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)

9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of the Dedication of St Peter & St Paul Basilicas (OLSJ)

9.55am Novena in honour of St Anthony (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 19th November (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 7.45pm)

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 Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

10.30am Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (St Mary's)

7.00pm Annual Requiem Mass (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 20th November (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

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)

9.30pm Holy Mass for Thursday of the Thirty-Third Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 21st November (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)

Saturday 22nd November (St Mary's 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ closed)

4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)

5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

17th November - Memoria of St Elizabeth of Hungary - St Elizabeth was born in 1007, the daughter of Andreas II of Hungary, was betrothed aged four, married Louis IV of Thuringia when aged fourteen, bore three children, widowed when twenty (her husband dying while on a crusade). Accused of wasting the state's wealth by her charity to the poor, she was deprived of the regency and exiled. She lived in a convent for a time, then retired to a cottage. Throughout her life, she was noted for her constant prayer and generous almsgiving. She died in 1031. She is the patron saint of hospitals, nurses and bakers.

18th November - Memoria of the Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul - The Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul are two of the four major basilicas of Rome (the others being St John Lateran and St Mary Major). The original church of St Peter was built in 323 by the Emperor Constantine over the apostle's tomb (the tomb was rediscovered by excavations in the crypt from 1942); the present basilica was dedicated by Pope Urban VIII in 1626. The first church of St Paul was built over his grave in 324, enlarged in 395, burnt down in 1823 and replaced by the present building, dedicated in 1854.

21st November - Memoria of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - This feast has been celebrated in the Eastern Church since the sixth century and in the West since the fifteenth.

22nd November - Memoria of St Cecilia - St Cecilia is venerated as a virgin and martyr of Rome. In the second/third century she refused to worship the pagan gods and was beheaded. In the Trastevere church of St Cecilia in Rome, there is a recumbent sculpture of the martyr with three fingers extended, still proclaiming the Christian doctrine of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Spirit); this image reproduces how her body was found when her tomb was opened in 1599. She is the patron saint of music and musicians.

TO CONSERVE ENERGY PLEASE KEEP THE CHURCH DOORS CLOSED

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations: £1,266.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers £165.00
Total: £1,431.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

To set up a standing order for the parish:

Account Name - **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**
Account No - **00499758** Sort Code - **800877**

Giftaid forms available at back of the church.

HIRE OF THE PARISH HALL

The Parish Hall is available for private functions, community events, regular lets and fundraising events. Please consider having your parties and functions in the Parish Hall to support the parish. If you would like to find out more information regarding the Hall and bookings, then please contact the Hall through email: **BlackwoodHallBookings@outlook.com**



ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS

The annual Mass to pray for those from our parish who have died over the past twelve months, as well as clergy and lay faithful who have made up our parish over the decades, will take place this Wednesday in Our Lady & St John's at 7.00pm. All parishioners are invited. An invitation to the families of those who have died in the past twelve months has been sent through the post.



BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

The next Building Fund collection will take place at all Masses this weekend. This collection provides for the various essential repairs and maintenance of our parish buildings and grounds. Please give as generously as you always do.

PARISH CEMETERY SERVICES

Fr Wyllie will lead cemetery services in Larkhall and Lesmahagow cemeteries during the month of the Holy Souls. The **Larkhall service will take place today at 3.00pm** and the **Lesmahagow service will take place on Sunday 23rd November at 3.00pm**. An additional service will take place at the **Co-Op Funeral Home, Larkhall, on Thursday 27th November at 7.00pm** for those whose funerals have been carried out by the Co-Op over the past year. This service will be an ecumenical service led by Fr Wyllie and the Reverend Fiona Anderson of Dalserf Parish Church.

ENROLMENT MASS FOR THE SACRAMENTS

The Enrolment Masses for the young people being enrolled for the sacraments of First Confession, Holy Communion and Confirmation will take place on Sunday 23rd November, the Solemnity of Christ the King, St Mary's at 10.00am Mass, St John's at the 12noon Mass. All enrolment forms should be returned to the Parish House by Thursday 20th November. If any child requires to be baptised before receiving their First Confession please speak with Fr Wyllie asap.

ST JOHN'S CHRISTMAS FAYRE

St John's Primary Partnership Group invite you to the Christmas Fayre after the 12noon Mass in the Parish Hall on Sunday 30th November. Entry is free. This will be an opportunity to soak up the festive cheer as you get some Christmas shopping by purchasing some locally made arts and crafts, support charities (such as the Mini Vinnies & Glainne Mara), have a shot at our raffle, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee with home baking and (for the young/young at heart) a chance to meet Santa. All proceeds will go to St John's Primary, so please dig deep and support this venture. Any donations of raffle prizes would be gratefully received (raffle prizes can be handed into the school reception or at the back of the church).

FOODBANK COLLECTION

The next collection of foodstuffs and donations for the local foodbank will take place on the First Sunday of Advent, 29th/30th November. Bags of groceries and monetary gifts can be left at the back of the church that weekend before being taken to the foodbank on the Monday.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Jane Hamilton, Faith Lindsay, Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Paul McMurray, Margaret Craig, Aaron Mulligan, Stephen Fleming, Marion Bryson, William Young, James Thomson, Andy McGarvey, Julia Brassington, Maureen Crank, Robbie Frew, George Murphy, Phyllis Fleming, Joe Murphy (Dubai)

RIP - George Collins (Canada)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - May McMahon, All souls with no one to pray for them

Please remember to have your dead loved ones prayed for on their anniversary

SECOND COLLECTIONS

On Sunday 23rd November, the Solemnity of Christ the King, a box will be available at the back of the church for the **Scottish Catholic Education Service** to coincide with Catholic Education Sunday and the Enrolment Mass for the young people being enrolled for the sacraments.

A second collection will take place on 7th December at all Masses for **St Andrew's Hospice** which does such marvellous work in caring for the terminally ill and dying.

CONFESSIONS FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

The P4-P7 pupils from our parish will receive the Sacrament of Confession in preparation for Christmas. The pupils of St John's will receive the sacrament during the school day on Tuesday 25th November, and the pupils of St Mary's will receive the sacrament during the school day on Wednesday 26th November. All confessions will be heard in the church in the confessional box.

ST ANDREW'S NIGHT IS FOR 18+ ONLY. NAMES ON THE LIST AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.



PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 2.00PM-9.00PM



LIGHT BITE AFTER MASS

The Parish Hall

SUNDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

After the 12noon Mass. All welcome.



PARISH GROWN-UPS SCOTTISH NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

7.00pm

Tickets £10.00 (includes pie)



THEOLOGY ON TAP

The Parish Hall

TUESDAY 16TH DECEMBER

6.30pm

Fr Andrew Robinson on the Christmas Narrative



PARISH HOGMANAY PARTY

The Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY 31ST DECEMBER

8.30pm - 1.30am

Ticket - £10.00 (includes a glass of prosecco & a pie)

