

# 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**

Scottish Charity Number - SC011041

Telephone - 01698 884017

Email - [ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk](mailto:ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk)

Facebook - [catholicparishourladyoffatima](https://www.facebook.com/catholicparishourladyoffatima)

Twitter - [OLOFParish](https://twitter.com/OLOFParish) Instagram - [olofparish](https://www.instagram.com/olofparish)

Website - [parishofourladyoffatima.com](http://parishofourladyoffatima.com)

Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



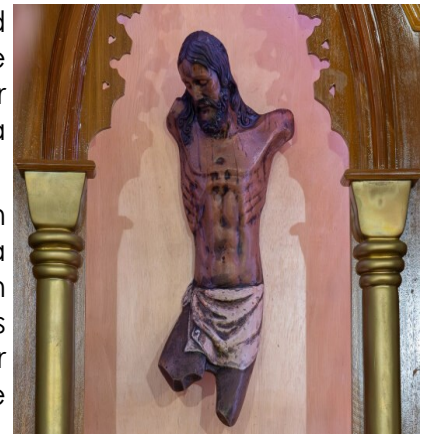
St Mary's  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE SEASON OF LENT  
30TH MARCH 2025**

## SCIAF SUNDAY

For more than 35 years, SCIAF (Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund) has stood with the people of Colombia as they endure the horrors of war. This Lent, our WEE BOX Appeal shows how, together with our partners, we are ensuring no one is left behind, in Colombia and around the world.

Fr González is one of our partners, a social worker living in the north of Chocó. He helps the children in his community overcome trauma through art and play. He said: "Some of the children we work with have seen their parents killed. One girl was given over to the gangs for sexual exploitation, to meet her family's financial needs; another was sexually abused by the armed groups. These atrocities are quite common - normal for people in this area."



Fr González delivers life-changing care, so children have safe places to play and recover.

Fr González continues: "Through the arts, poetry and music the children can express their feelings, and disconnect – they can be themselves a bit! This project focuses on playful, recreational and cultural activities, helping children better understand their situation, and protecting them from dangers arising from the conflict. We help the children overcome their traumas and teach human and Church values. And, most importantly, we have fun together. We've seen some big emotional changes in the young people."

For this vital work to continue, however, we need your support. Some of the most vulnerable people in South America depend on your love. "We don't have unlimited finances for the projects, but we must continue working with the most vulnerable as our children are the future. "We are very grateful to SCIAF and hold them close in our hearts for all that they are doing..."

On the morning of May 2nd, 2002, Luis was sheltering in the church of San Pablo Apóstol in Colombia with his family and hundreds of local people. On all sides, armed men were closing in. The church in Bojayá was surrounded.

"Just before the attack, a priest came in and said, 'We'll either all survive here, or all die!' "A bomb came in through the roof. When it exploded, I was standing just 10 metres away. I was 17.

"When the bomb hit the room, everything went dark and smoky," Luis tells SCIAF. "When the darkness lifted, a little two-year-old begged me not to leave him. I picked him up and took him out of the church. He died in my arms. When I got home, I just cried and cried."

The attack left the church in ruins. But despite the carnage, the 'mutilated Christ of Bojayá' – a crucifix of our Lord Jesus – survived, albeit with His arms and legs missing. Today, this striking relic is a powerful symbol of the conflict in Colombia – a reflection of the suffering inflicted on communities, but also a sign of hope, of better things to come. (Picture above).

This Lent, your donations can support families caught up in conflict by providing essential food and water, facilitating safe spaces for children to play, and rebuilding lives together with displaced people.

# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

**Sunday 30th March** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)

**10.00am** Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Lent (St Mary's)

**12noon** Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Our Lady & St John's)

**5.00pm** Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Our Lady & St John's)

**Monday 31st March** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 7.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

**11.30am** Stations of the Cross led by pupils of St Mary's (St Mary's)

**12noon** Holy Mass for Monday of the Fourth Week of Lent (St Mary's)

**12.30pm** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 2.45pm (St Mary's)

**6.30pm** Lectio Divina (St Mary's)

**Tuesday 1st April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

**9.00am** Stations of the Cross (Our Lady & St John's)

**9.30am** Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Our Lady & St John's)

**9.55am** Novena to St Anthony (Our Lady & St John's)

**Wednesday 2nd April** (St Mary's open 8.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 7.45pm)

**8.30am** Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent (St Mary's)

**8.45am** 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 Fourth Week of Lent (St Mary's)

**6.00pm** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm (Our Lady & St John's)

**6.00pm** Confessions until 6.50pm (Our Lady & St John's)

**7.00pm** Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Our Lady & St John's)

**Thursday 3rd April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

**8.30am** Holy Mass for Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Our Lady & St John's)

**9.00am** Morning Prayer of the Church (Our Lady & St John's)

**9.30am** Holy Mass for Thursday of the Fourth Week of Lent (Our Lady & St John's)

**Friday 4th April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

**9.30am** Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)

**10.00am** Holy Mass for Friday of the Fourth Week of Lent (St Mary's)

**Saturday 5th April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ closed)

**4.00pm** Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)

**5.00pm** Vigil Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Lent (St Mary's)



## CONFESSIONS NEXT WEEKEND & FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

**Saturday 5th April**

4.00pm until 4.45pm; After Vigil Mass (St Mary's)

**Sunday 6th April**

9.15am until 9.45am; After 10.00am Mass (St Mary's)

After 12noon Mass; 4.15pm until 4.45pm; After 5.00pm Mass (Our Lady & St John's)

**Monday 7th April**

After 12noon Mass (St Mary's)

**Tuesday 8th April**

After 9.30am Mass (Our Lady & St John's)

**Wednesday 9th April**

9.30am until 9.50am (St Mary's)

6.00pm until 6.50pm (Our Lady & St John's)

**Thursday 10th April**

After 9.30am Mass (Our Lady & St John's)

**Friday 11th April**

After 10.00am Mass (St Mary's)

**Saturday 12th April**

4.00pm until 4.45pm (St Mary's)



**SECOND COLLECTION FOR SCIAF AFTER COMMUNION THIS WEEKEND**

## PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£1,025.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers	£125.00
Votive Candles:	£570.00
Stall:	£35.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,755.00</b>

**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**

## 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**



## EASTER EGG APPEAL

Henry Dorricott Funeral Directors are seeking the help of our parishioners to help them make donations of Easter eggs to underprivileged children in the area. The help and support of all parishioners would be much appreciated. Please leave donations at the back of the church.

## FOODBANK

Many thanks to all those parishioners who donated money and foodstuffs for the local Foodbank. Your generosity for those in need in our community is very gratefully received. May God reward your kindness.

## ST MARY'S GROUNDS

Fr Wyllie is in the process of reaching out to the community pay back to help with the maintenance and tidying up of the grounds at St Mary's. This would be an enormous help in getting the grounds ready for the summer. He is hoping to hear back soon and then plans will hopefully fall into place.

## FUNERAL TEAS IN THE PARISH HALL

We are currently working with a caterer who, subject to availability, could provide for funeral teas in the Parish Hall. The funeral tea would include tea, coffee, sausage rolls, sandwiches and cakes, as well as the possibility of the bar being opened (subject to availability depending on getting bar staff). This would provide a venue for parishioners to hold funeral teas and also help support the parish. Please email: [BlackwoodHallBookings@outlook.com](mailto:BlackwoodHallBookings@outlook.com)



## THEOLOGY ON TAP

The Parish Hall

**THURSDAY 10TH APRIL**

Fr Andrew Robinson on the Passion Gospel of St Luke



## PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS

The Parish Hall

**FRIDAY 25TH APRIL**

2.00pm - 7.00pm



## PARISH LIGHT BITE AFTER MASS

The Parish Hall

**SUNDAY 4TH MAY**

After the 12noon Mass



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Gary Biggar, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Aaron Mulligan, Stephen Fleming, Marion Bryson, William Young, James Thomson, Marilyn McLearn, Andy McGarvey, Julia Brassington, Moira Corr, Maureen Crank, Robbie Frew

**RIP** - Patricia Sweeney (Glasgow), Tommy Ferrie (Wishawhill), Joan Donaghue (Sunderland), Moya Fallan (Wishawhill)

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Jean Travers, Vida Wilson, James Lyons

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

## PREPARING FOR HOLY WEEK

As part of preparing spiritually for Holy Week, Fr Andrew Robinson, Scripture Scholar and Professor of New Testament at St Mary's College Oscott, Birmingham, will be giving a talk on the Passion Gospel of St Luke, which is the Gospel for Palm Sunday this year. Fr Andrew preached here in the parish a number of years ago during the Triduum and has a very dynamic way of presenting and conveying the message of the scriptures. **This talk will take place in the Parish Hall on Thursday 10th April beginning at 7.00pm.** This is a great way for us to come together and learn more about the events surrounding the Passion and Death of the Lord. A warm invitation is extended to all parishioners, especially those who read in our parish. Please save the date and make a special effort to come along to this event especially as Fr Andrew will be travelling up from Birmingham.

## THE EASTER TRIDUUM 2025

### HOLY THURSDAY - 17th April

No morning Mass in the parish

Mass of the Chrism in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral at 11.00am

**7.00pm**                **MASS OF THE LORD'S LAST SUPPER** (St Mary's)

Watching at the Altar of Repose until Midnight

10.00pm              Night Prayer of the Church (St Mary's)

### GOOD FRIDAY - 18th April

12noon                Stations of the Cross (Our Lady & St John's)

**3.00pm**                **LITURGY OF THE PASSION & DEATH OF THE LORD** (St Mary's)

6.30pm                Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)

### HOLY SATURDAY - 19th April

No 5.00pm Vigil Mass

**8.30pm**                **EASTER VIGIL & FIRST MASS OF THE RESURRECTION** (St Mary's)



## LECTIO DIVINA

Around 10-12 people have come along to the Lectio Divina prayer sessions we have had in St Mary's on the Mondays of Lent. The next session will take place this Monday, 31st March at 6.30pm. All parishioners are invited to come and meditate and contemplate on a passage of scripture from the following weeks readings at Sunday Mass.

## 8.30AM MASS

Thank you to the pupils, teachers and parents/carers as well as adult parishioners who have come along to the 8.30am Mass over the past three weeks of Lent. The 8.30am Mass will conclude after this week due to the boys and girls being on holiday from school.

## GROUNDS AT OUR LADY & ST JOHN'S

A group will come together on Saturday 5th April to tidy the parish grounds. All welcome to help.