

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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St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
27TH AUGUST 2023

PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT



We are very blessed in our parish to have so many parishioners who have come from, or have family origins in, many countries throughout the world. We give thanks for the great gift of the universality of our Catholic Faith, but also the diverse cultures which make up our parish.

To celebrate the great diversity of cultures we have in our parish we will hold a **Parish International Night on Friday 8th September beginning with Mass at 6.30pm** followed by an evening in the Parish Hall which will include food from various countries. This event proved to be such a success last year and we hope it will be a huge success this year too. It would be great to have a good number of parishioners coming along, and also to have food dishes from as many countries as possible which are represented here in the parish.

Fr Wylie asks that parishioners who originate from other countries, especially those who made meals last year, get in touch with him (either by email or speaking to him after Mass) and let him know if you would be able to cook a dish to be enjoyed at the International Night. It can be a simple starter, main course or dessert. Last year we had food from Fiji, Czech Republic, Germany, Australia, South Africa, Ireland, England, Poland, Scotland, Italy and a number of other countries. If you come from another country or know a dish from your country of family origin then please prepare something for this event. There of course can be more than one dish for each country. **Let Fr Wylie know if you are bringing a dish with you, by Thursday 31st August.**

On the night after the meal, there will be a simple quiz as well as a raffle. The Bar will also be open to purchase refreshments. **Donations of raffle prizes would be very gratefully received. Please place them at the back of the church by Thursday 7th September.**

The Parish Hall will be set up for the event on the Thursday evening (7th September) at 6.30pm, so if you could lend a hand to decorate and move furniture it would be really appreciated. If anyone has a flag of their home country or the country of their family origin, then please bring it along on 7th September so that the Hall can be set up that evening.

These social events are a perfect opportunity for us to invite friends, family and neighbours who have maybe lapsed from their practice of their faith, or to those who live in our communities who are of another faith or no faith at all. So please, consider inviting them, but please include them on the sign up sheet, so we know numbers in order for us to prepare and set up accordingly. Friday 8th September is also the Feast of the Birthday of Our Lady, so it's a very fitting day for us to come together as one parish family, made up of people from various cultures and countries.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 27th August *St Mary's open 9.00am until 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am until 5.45pm*
10.00am Holy Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 28th August *Both churches open 9.00am until 4.00pm*
11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Augustine (St Mary's)

Tuesday 29th August *Both churches open 9.00am until 4.00pm*
9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of the Passion of St John the Baptist (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 30th August *St Mary's open 9.00am until 4.00pm; OLSJ 9.00am until 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 Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
6.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm (Our Lady & St John's)
6.30pm Confessions until 6.50pm (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

Thursday 31st August *Both churches open 9.00am until 4.00pm*
9.30am School Mass with P1 Blessing (Our Lady & St John's)
5.30pm Receiving of Body (St Mary's)

Friday 1st September *Both churches open 9.00am until 4.00pm*
10.00am Requiem Mass for Phyllis Nicholson (St Mary's)

Saturday 2nd September *St Mary's open 9.00am until 6.00pm; OLSJ closed*
10.00am Funeral Service for Elaine Begley (St Mary's)
4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

28th August - Memoria of St Augustine - St Augustine was born in 354 to Patricius and Monica in North Africa (present day Algeria). Extremely intelligent, he crossed to Europe as a young man and, after a short time in Rome, went to Milan. He had a brilliant career there but, still unbaptised, also lived a rather dissolute life. Encouraged by his mother, he received baptism and returned, a committed Catholic, to North Africa. He was made the bishop of Hippo, an outstanding preacher, writer and churchman. He is a doctor of the Church and died in 430. He is the patron saint of brewers, printers and theologians.

29th August - Memoria of the Passion of St John the Baptist - St John the Baptist, cousin of the Lord, was imprisoned and decapitated by Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, for his heroic witness to the truth, thereby becoming the precursor of the Lord's own violent death, as he had been in his remarkable birth and prophetic teaching. He is patron saint of builders, tailors, conversion to faith and people who need healing from spasms or seizures.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR ECCLESIASTICAL STUDENTS

Throughout the diocese a second collection will be taken up on Saturday/Sunday 9th/10th September to help cover the costs of training our future priests. At present it costs £25,000.00 a year to train one seminarian each year, so please give whatever you can to this cause.

NEW ORGAN FOR ST MARY'S

The old organ in St Mary's has been traded in for a better model and has been re-sited to the main body of the church rather than in front of the Sacred Heart altar. A good bit of work has been carried out over the past week to re-site the organ and speakers, wires, power-points and microphone sockets. Fr Wyllie would like to thank John Pitcathley, Brian Timmons, David Quinn, Martyn Douglas, Darren from Allen Organs and Tom & Richard from the Music Room in Hamilton for all their work. Logistically, for those in the second row, it would be best to come forward for Holy Communion and return to your seat via the main aisle, or go in through the row behind.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£1,070.00
Building Fund Collection:	£890.00
Standing Orders:	£110.00
Stall:	£40.00
TOTAL:	£2,110.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

To set up a Standing Order for your collection:

Account Name - **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**

Account No - **00499758** Sort Code - **800877**

CHURCH BUILDING FUND

Many thanks for your generous response to the Building Fund Collection which was taken up at all Masses last weekend. Your generosity helps us to maintain and carry out essential work to the fabric of our parish buildings as well as the grounds of both churches. As our buildings age and the cost of materials and labour increase, this is a great source of help in offsetting the cost of these works. God bless you all.

PARISH BBQ

Last Saturday our Parish BBQ was a huge success with a great number of parishioners coming along to enjoy the food and socialising (and also the good weather God blessed us with). As well as thanking everyone who came along, Fr Wyllie would like to thank all those who planned, prepared, cooked, handed in raffle prizes and who cleared up afterwards. Thank you! The total raised on the evening was £1,454.55. May God reward you all for your support and generosity.

PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION

Each year as a parish we set aside three days for extended periods of adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, and this year this period of prayer and adoration will take place from **Sunday 10th September until Tuesday 12th September in Our Lady & St John's**. This is an opportunity for each of us to spend some time with the Lord, present before us in the Most Holy Eucharist. There will be half hour slots each of the days for people to sign up and watch before the Blessed Sacrament for that allotted time, to ensure the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone. You will find the sign up sheets at the back of Our Lady & St John's from 26th/27th August.

SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

12noon	Solemn High Mass
12.45pm	Blessed Sacrament Procession
1.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 5.00pm
4.00pm	Confessions until 4.45pm
5.00pm	Holy Mass
5.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.30pm
6.30pm	Solemn Sung Vespers followed by Benediction

MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.30am
8.30am	Holy Mass
8.45am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 12noon
8.45am	Confessions until 9.30am
10.30am	Confessions until 11.30am
12noon	Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick
1.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.00pm
6.00pm	Recitation of the Holy Rosary
6.00pm	Confessions until 6.50pm
7.00pm	Holy Hour concluding with Benediction

TUESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.30am
9.30am	Holy Mass with Commissioning for the Pope Francis Faith Award
10.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 7.00pm
12noon	Recitation of the Holy Rosary
3.00pm	Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
6.00pm	Recitation of the Holy Rosary
6.00pm	Confessions until 6.30pm
7.00pm	Closing Mass with Blessing of the new statue of Our Lady & Community Garden
8.00pm	Teas, coffees, sandwiches & sausage rolls in the Parish Hall



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - Paul McMurray, Robert Deveny, Paul Totman, Chris Dawes, Heather McMillan, Elizabeth McCann, Sharon Campbell, Douglas Russell, Robert Ferguson, Margo Higgins, Anne O'Neill (Belfast), Jimmy Crawford (Belfast), Joanne Kennedy, Anne Dempster, Joyce Heeley, Selina Gold, Pat Whalin, Charles Kennedy (Florida), Janet McIntosh, Annette Thomson, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Kevin Feeney

RIP - Phyllis Nicholson (*Requiem Mass - Friday at 10.00am*), Elaine Begley (née Fox) (*Funeral Service - Saturday at 10.00am*)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - James & Catherine McLaren, Thomas McDonagh, Patrick & Ann Grant, Jim & Helen Grant, Jack Hastie, Elizabeth Sherry

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

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

The Annual Vocations Mass will take place in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell this coming Thursday at 7.00pm. The Bishop extends a warm invitation to all those in the diocese to come along, praying for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Could all Extraordinary Ministers please drop a note into the sacristy or send an email to the parish email address with the name, address and telephone number of the sick they visit.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

The National Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto will take place on Sunday 3rd September with the Bishops of Scotland celebrating Mass at 3.00pm. The bus will leave from Our Lady & St John's at 1.30pm that day and then leave St Mary's at 1.50pm. **There will be no 5.00pm Mass that day.**

PAINTING OF ST MARY'S

The painters have visited the church in order to provide us with a quote to get St Mary's painted. We will await them getting back to us and then fix a date for the work to commence.

PROPOSED PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2024

Fr Wyllie would like to invite all those who intend to travel on the Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima & Salamanca next year to a meeting on **Wednesday 30th August after the 7.00pm Mass**. The meeting will take place in the Parish Hall and will allow us time to discuss dates, itinerary and for more information to be given about costs, logistics etc.

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** or speak to Suzanne Sherry.

TUESDAY 5TH - THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER - NO MASS

Fr Wyllie will be away from the parish Monday 4th September until Friday 8th September. The 12noon Mass on Monday 4th September will go ahead, but no Mass in the parish until the International Mass on Friday 8th September at 6.30pm. Fr Wyllie encourages all parishioners to make a special effort to come along to the Mass on Friday 8th September & the hall afterwards.

FR HUGH KELLY

This weekend we extend a very warm welcome to Fr Hugh Kelly who will celebrate our weekend Masses in Fr Wyllie's absence. He's a familiar face, as a son of the parish, so it's wonderful to welcome him home for the weekend to Larkhall and Blackwood.