

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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1ST SEPTEMBER 2024

CARFIN GROTTA

In the words of Bishop Devine: "Carfin Grotto is a holy place, made holy by the many thousands of good people who come to it each year". Thomas Nimmo Taylor first visited Lourdes in 1893 when he was a student for the priesthood at the seminary of St Sulpice in Paris, perhaps the first of many Scottish pilgrims who were still to come.

In 1920 Fr Taylor led a group of pilgrims from his parish of St Francis Xavier's, Carfin to the shrine at Lourdes and they returned with one firm purpose in mind: they would build a small replica of the Grotto of Lourdes at Carfin. An acre of waste ground belonging to the parish was chosen as the site for this project and parishioners joined enthusiastically in the task of preparing the land. Many of those who worked on the building of the Grotto were miners, who were idle owing to the 1921 strike. Many helpers also came from the surrounding parishes and finally on Sunday, 1st October 1922 the Grotto was opened and dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes.



In 1924 the Grotto was extended to cater for the crowds who came in increasing numbers to Carfin. Crowds as large as 50,000 were reported in the press when, for example, Cardinal Bourne of Westminster came to the shrine. In Carfin there had sprung up a strong devotion to St Therese of the Child Jesus when she was canonised in 1925 and a beautiful statue was erected in her honour. Over the years many other statues and shrines have been added to the Grotto.

In 1989 the glass chapel built for the Glasgow Garden Festival was purchased and re-sited in the Grotto as the Chapel of Our Lady, the Maid of the Seas. Inscribed in this chapel are the names of all those who lost their lives in the devastating Lockerbie disaster.

The Second World War resulted in the settlement in Scotland of many exiles from Central and Eastern Europe and many of these were from Poland. Their strong witness to their faith makes them a very valuable part of the life of the diocese. Each year they gather at Carfin around the beautiful shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa to celebrate their national day.

The first Lithuanians to come to Scotland in 1884 were prisoners from the Crimean War. They were followed by others, who left their farms in Lithuania, to work in the coalmines and steelworks of Mossend, Bellshill, Holytown and Carfin. In the Marian Year of 1988 the Lithuanian shrine to Our Lady was rebuilt in the Grotto, the shrine also displays a wooden cross with a statue of their patron, St Casimir.

Ukraine and Scotland have one important thing in common - our patron saint, Andrew. The Ukrainian shrine depicts Kyiv cathedral bound in chain and barbed wire. The Palestinian state is represented in the beautiful statue of Our Lady of Palestine, the Irish people, especially those who perished in the Great Famine, are represented in the statue of St Patrick and the Mass Rock, where Mass was celebrated during the times of persecution.



**Our Lady of Fatima Parish where we are inclusive
and all are welcome to live and grow in faith.**



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 1st September

10.00am Holy Mass for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
NO 5.00PM MASS THIS EVENING

Monday 2nd September

11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for Monday of the Twenty-Second Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Tuesday 3rd September

9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Gregory the Great (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 4th September

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-Second 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-Second Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

Thursday 5th September

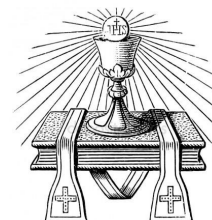
9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.00am Confessions until 9.20am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Teresa of Calcutta (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 6th September

9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for Friday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
6.30pm International Mass (Our Lady & St John's)

Saturday 7th September

4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

3rd September - Memoria of St Gregory the Great - St Gregory the Great was born in 540 of a noble Roman family, he had been Prefect of the city and then became a monk. He was sent as papal ambassador to Constantinople for three years. In 590 he was called to be Bishop of Rome. His work rightly earned him the sobriquet 'Great'. He was an excellent administrator and organised in areas of doctrine and liturgy, as well as in disciplinary matters. He is known in England as the pope who sent St Augustine to Canterbury. Pope Gregory was a preacher, an author, a homilist, an exegete, a theologian, a correspondent. He died in 604 and is honoured as the patron saint of musicians and teachers.

5th September - Memoria of St Teresa of Calcutta - St Teresa of Calcutta was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Skopje, Albania, her father died when she was nine years old. Moved to be a missionary Agnes entered the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland, and departed for Calcutta in 1929. She taught for a number of years, and, as a result of mystical experiences, Teresa felt called by Christ to establish a religious community, Missionaries of Charity, dedicated to the service of the poorest of the poor. Teresa and her sisters reached out to the poor with love on the streets of Calcutta wearing the distinctive, blue trimmed white sari. The Missionaries of Charity are active in every continent. Mother Teresa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She died in 1997.



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

6.30pm - International Mass. 7.30pm - International Meal

ALL FOOD SHOULD BE HANDED INTO THE HALL BY 6.00PM ON FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER



PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£4,645.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£210.00
Votive Candles:	£445.00
Stall:	£25.00
Total:	£5,325.00

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**
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**



NO SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Due to the National Pilgrimage being held at Carfin Grotto this afternoon, there will be no Sunday 5.00pm Mass in Our Lady & St John's this evening.

PROJECT WELLSRING PARISH DISCUSSION

The Parish Discussion, which is an opportunity for the parish to come together and speak about various aspects of parish life, will take place on Tuesday 24th September in the Parish Hall at 6.30pm with tea and coffee. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend and take part in this meeting on Tuesday 24th September.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The RCIA Programme concludes this Monday evening and the two young ladies who have completed the course will be received into the Catholic Church over the next few weeks. Charlie Williamson will be received into the Church at the International Mass this Friday where she will be baptised, confirmed and receive her First Holy Communion. Hilarie Maquilang, who will be on holiday, will be confirmed at a later date in the coming weeks. Please keep them in your prayers. We are very fortunate to have had 12 new converts over the past four years in our parish.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL FURNITURE UNIT

The St Vincent de Paul Furniture Unit is located at 14 Netherdale Road, Wishaw, ML2 0ER. They are holding a Bric-a-Brac sale on Tuesday 17th September from 12noon until 2.00pm. There are plenty of bargains to be had and all proceeds go to the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society in our area as they work to help those who are struggling in our communities. Please head along and give your support to this very good cause.

KIRKMUIRHILL PARISH CHURCH

The Guild President at Kirkmuirhill Parish Church would like to extend an invitation to their opening social on Tuesday 3rd September at 7.00pm. "Harmony Trio" will provide the musical entertainment with Tea and Coffee served afterwards. All parishioners are cordially invited.

PARISH FINANCE TEAM

The Parish Finance Team will meet on Tuesday 17th September at 2.50pm in the Parish House. The agenda will include a review of the accounts from January - August as well as future plans.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to the very kind parishioner who donated £2,600.00 to the parish. Also, many thanks to the very generous parishioners who donated to the Lectionaries. May God reward you all.

PARISH HALL TEAM MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Hall Team will take place after the 7.00pm Mass on Wednesday 4th September in the Parish Hall. All members are invited to come along.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Rita Blair, Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Gary Biggar, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Kathleen Brannigan, Aaron Mulligan, Noel Bennetts, Bill Sidzworth, Stephen Fleming

RIP - Margaret Brady, Paul Clark (Motherwell), Emma Ramsay, Ian McGale

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - John Corr, Mary Corr, Jennifer Cochran, William Tait, Harriet Kane, Jean Tierney, Agnes Morrison, Charles Morrison, Phyllis Nicholson, The Maguire, McStay & Morrison Families, Elizabeth Sherry, Patrick Lyons

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

MUSIC THROUGH THE DECADES

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER

7.00pm until Late

Music with Jane Henderson

Tickets - £5.00



FRIDAY DRINKS

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

2.00pm until 7.00pm



PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION

Our annual period of Forty Hours Adoration will take place this year in St Mary's from Sunday 8th September until Tuesday 10th September. More details will be given at the end of August but the main parts of the timetable (maybe subject to change) will be:

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

10.00am Holy Mass & beginning of the Forty Hours
10.40am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.30pm
12noon Recitation of the Holy Rosary
3.00pm Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
3.00pm Confessions until 3.45pm
6.30pm Solemn Vespers with Benediction

MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am Brief Mass followed by Adoration until 12noon
12noon Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick
12.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Afternoon visits from the school children
6.00pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary
6.30pm Confessions until 7.45pm
7.00pm Holy Hour concluding with Benediction

TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9.00am Confessions until 9.50am
10.00am Holy Mass followed by Adoration until 7.00pm
12noon Angelus & Recitation of the Holy Rosary/ Afternoon visits from the school children
7.00pm Closing Mass of the Forty Hours

**THERE ARE HALF HOUR SLOTS FOR PRIVATE ADORATION & PRAYER.
PLEASE PLACE YOUR NAME ON THE LISTS AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.**

