

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-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
18TH OCTOBER 2026

MISSION SUNDAY

Today the Church celebrates World Mission Sunday: an invitation to look beyond our own parish and remember the worldwide family to which we belong. This year marks the hundredth celebration of Mission Sunday, and Pope Leo XIV has chosen the *theme* "One in Christ, united in Mission". It reminds us that, wherever we live, we share one faith, one baptism and one responsibility to make Christ known and loved.



missio Scotland
The Pontifical Mission Societies

The Church exists to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. The faith we have received is a gift to be shared: through our words, our example, our prayer and our care for others. Every baptised person has a part in this mission. Some are called to serve far from home; others bear witness in their families, workplaces, schools and local communities. All of us are called to let the love of Christ become visible in our lives.

Missio helps us put this shared responsibility into practice. Missio Scotland is the Holy Father's official charity for overseas mission, supporting the Church especially where it is young or poor. Through prayer, action and fundraising, it strengthens the bonds between Catholic communities here in Scotland and our brothers and sisters across the world.

Our support helps communities with limited resources develop and sustain their life of faith. Through Missio, the generosity of one parish becomes a source of encouragement and practical help for another. Giving to the missions is therefore an expression of belonging: these are our brothers and sisters, members of the same Body of Christ.

Prayer lies at the heart of this relationship. We pray for missionaries who bring the Gospel to others, for communities facing hardship, and for those who have yet to encounter Christ. We can also learn from the courage, joy and perseverance of Catholics whose circumstances are very different from our own. The worldwide Church has much to teach us about trusting God and living our faith generously.

Mission Sunday also brings the challenge of mission home to our parish. How warmly do we welcome someone coming to Mass for the first time? How do we encourage those exploring the Catholic faith? Do our kindness, patience and willingness to forgive, help others recognise the Lord whom we worship?

As we celebrate Mission Sunday, let us pray sincerely and give generously, according to our means. Pope Leo reminds us that even a small gift can express our communion in the Church's mission. May our parish always be a community that receives Christ with gratitude and shares his love with joy.

This year, Missio Scotland is highlighting projects in Albania and Ukraine. In Albania, support will help the Vincentian Fathers provide a refuge near Shkodër for men experiencing homelessness and hardship, and assist the Franciscan Sisters' children's centre, offering meals, help with schoolwork and a caring place to belong. In Ukraine, Missio Scotland is helping provide generators for parish and social centres near the frontline in Kharkiv, enabling them to offer electricity, warmth, hot meals and shelter. Alongside these projects, Mission Sunday collections contribute to the Church's worldwide mission fund, supporting churches, hospitals, schools and the formation of future priests and religious.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 18th October (St Mary's 9.00am – 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)

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

12noon Holy Mass for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)



Monday 19th October (St Mary's 9.00am - 8.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

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

12noon Holy Mass for Monday of the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

12.25pm Novena in honour of St Peregrine (St Mary's)

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

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

9.30am Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

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

Wednesday 21st October (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 Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

6.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary & October Devotions (Our Lady & St John's)

7.00pm Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 22nd October (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)

9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St John Paul II (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 23rd October (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 St John of Capistrano (St Mary's)



Saturday 24th October (St Mary's 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ Closed)

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

5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

22nd October – Memoria of St John Paul II – St John Paul II was born Karol Wojtyla in Wadowice in Poland in 1920. Even during the Nazi occupation of Poland during World War II, he felt called to be a priest. Ordained in 1946, he was professor of moral theology at the universities of Lublin and Krakow. Archbishop of Krakow, 1964-1978, created cardinal in 1967 and elected pope in 1978, the first non-Italian for 450 years. As pope, he made more than one hundred 'apostolic visits', including to Great Britain in 1982 and notably several trips to Poland, influencing the end of Communist rule there. He wrote books, poems and a play in his early years and, when pope, a stream of important documents: encyclical letters, apostolic exhortations, instructions and motu proprio letters. Survived an attempt on his life by a gunman during a general audience in St Peter's Square on 13th Mat 1981. In later years, suffered from Parkinsons disease but remained as active as possible until his death in 2005. He is honoured as the patron saint of World Youth Days.

23rd October - Memoria of St John of Capistrano – St John of Capistrano was born in 1386, studied civil and canon law and in 1416 he became a Franciscan. Employed by several popes as a legate and, as an inquisitor, he attended the Council of Florence, preached against heresies in some places in Germany and against the Hussites (an early Protestant movement) in Moravia. He led Christian troops into battle to relieve the Ottoman siege of Belgrade, the succumbed to the bubonic plague in 1456. He is the patron saint of military chaplains, jurists, judges, and lawyers.

MISSION SUNDAY

Today we observe Mission Sunday, a day when we pray for and practically support the work of the missions. A second collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend. Please be as generous as you always are to the work of the Church in mission lands.

NOVEMBER LISTS AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH FROM THIS WEEKEND.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2027

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from 12th – 19th July 2027. Flights direct from Prestwick to Lourdes and return, accommodation at the Hotels Mediteranee and Alba priced at £995.00 per person full board based on twin/treble rooms, single supplement £280.00. Full programme throughout the week. £350.00 deposit required at time of booking. If you intend on travelling, please speak with Fr Wyllie or email whb.clements1@btinternet.com for more details.

PARISH FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY

This event is scheduled to take place on Friday 30th October in the Parish Hall from 7.00pm – Late with lots of fun and games for all the family. Prize for the best costume too. If you intend on attending, then place your name on the list at the back of the church this weekend to give an indication of interest.

FOODBANK COLLECTION

The next collection for the local foodbank will take place on the weekend 31st October/1st November. Donations of non-perishable foods and also monetary donations will be very gratefully received. Please leave any bags or envelopes for the foodbank at the back of the church next weekend. Your continued generosity to the foodbank is greatly appreciated.

NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

This year in preparation for Christmas we will begin the Novena to Our Lady Untier of Knots. This powerful novena is particularly for those who are experiencing problems and hardships in life. In the nine weeks preceding the celebration of Christmas we offer our prayers in this novena which will take place after the 10.00am Mass beginning this Thursday (due to Fr Wyllie being away next week). Please join us for this special prayer.



PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£1,108.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£460.00
Digital Giving:	£167.50
Stall:	£47.00
	£1,782.50

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 hires 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 or information about the hall, speak with a member of the Hall Team or contact the Hall through email: **BlackwoodHallBookings@outlook.com**



MONTHLY FAMILY MASSES

Fr Wyllie is keen to begin a special family Mass once a month which will hopefully encourage families with young children to attend Mass more often. An invitation will be sent to all the children in our two primary schools for them to join us for a special Mass on Sunday 1st November, St Mary's at 10.00am and Our Lady & St John's at 12noon. Please try to encourage others to come to Mass and join us as a community of faith in receiving the Lord's Word and Body & Blood in Holy Communion.

KEEPING OUR GROUNDS TIDY

We are fortunate in Blackwood to have a team of volunteers who cut the grass, strim and tend the plants, in St Mary's we have one faithful volunteer who cuts the grass. We are looking for more volunteers to help keep our grounds tidy by clearing leaves and litter. If you can help speak with Fr.

QR CODE & DIGITAL GIVING

The QR code can also be used to donate to the parish through your phone. Just open your camera app, hold the camera to the QR code and follow the instructions. It's simple and easy to use. Many thanks for your continued generosity to the parish.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK – Murray Brown, Kevin Brown, Margaret McCaughey, Mary Carter, Patricia Simpson, Gemma Barton, Paul McMurray, Marjory McMurray, Rose M. Taylor, Cathy Caven, Faith Lindsay, Pat Whalin, Stephen Fleming

RIP – Robbie Frew, Margaret Caraher, Mari Claire Barclay, John Connelly, Andrew McLaughlin (Edinburgh)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE – John Holton, Louise Gonnella, Joseph Wedlock, Elizabeth Gold, Chrissie Lynch, Patrick Grant, Ann Grant, Jim & Helen Grant, Jack Hastie, Thomas McDonagh, Tony & Mary Goodwin

THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

The month of November is the month when we pray in a special way for our deceased relatives, friends, fellow parishioners and all those departed souls who need our prayers:

November Lists – are available at the back of the church and should be returned filled out and returned the church, traditionally with a donation, by the beginning of November.

Cemetery Services – Larkhall Cemetery Service will take place at **1.30pm on Sunday 1st November**; Lesmahagow Cemetery Service will take place at **1.30pm on Sunday 8th November**.

Annual Requiem Mass – praying for all priests and parishioners of our parish who have died, particular those who died over the past twelve months, will take place on **Wed 11th November at 7.00pm**.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion regularly take Holy Communion to our sick and housebound brothers and sisters. Could all Extraordinary Ministers hand to Fr Wyllie and updated list of the names, addresses, phone numbers and the day and time of their regular visits with Holy Communion of those who receive Holy Communion. This will ensure that we have an up-to-date list of all those who are being visited and when they are being visited. You can either write this on a slip of paper and hand it into Fr Wyllie, or you can email him at ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Fr Wyllie will meet with the following groups this week: Safeguarding Co-Ordinators – Monday at 6.30pm; School Church Reps – Monday at 7.15pm; Music Ministry – Tuesday at 6.30pm.



PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS

The Parish Hall

EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON

2.00pm - 9.00pm



PARISH FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

7.00pm - Late



PARISH LUNCH CLUB

The Parish Hall

THURSDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

Mass at 12.30pm, Lunch after in Parish Hall



PARISH ST ANDREW'S NIGHT

The Parish Hall

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Tickets £10.00, Adults Only, Live Music from The Broclaimers

