

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

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
5TH JULY 2026**

MISSA PRO POPULO

The Missa pro populo, Latin for "Mass for the people," is a specific liturgical obligation in the Roman Catholic Church whereby diocesan bishops and parish priests are required to celebrate at least one Mass each Sunday and on holy days of obligation for the spiritual benefit and intentions of the faithful entrusted to their pastoral care, for every soul in the parish community.



This Mass underscores the priest's role as shepherd, applying the fruits of the Eucharist collectively to the needs of the parish or diocese rather than to individual requests. Rooted in ancient Church traditions of communal prayer and pastoral responsibility, the formal obligation for the Missa pro populo was codified in the 1917 Code of Canon Law, which mandated that pastors offer such a Mass weekly on Sundays and holy days, a requirement carried forward unchanged into the 1983 Code of Canon Law (Canons 388 and 534). The Missa pro populo holds ongoing significance in emphasising the universal application of the Mass's graces to the local church, fostering a sense of communal solidarity, and reinforcing the priest's duty to intercede for his flock irrespective of attendance or personal circumstances. During periods of vacancy in a diocese or parish, the appointed administrator assumes the same obligation, ensuring continuity of this pastoral commitment.

The Missa pro populo serves as a tangible symbol of the parish priest's spiritual bond with his flock, embodying his role as paternal shepherd responsible for interceding on behalf of all parishioners, including those unable to attend Mass regularly. This obligatory Sunday and holy day offering reinforced the priest's commitment to the community's well-being, often highlighted in parish communications to affirm the collective spiritual care extended to every soul under his charge, thereby strengthening communal ties in an era when parish life centred on the pastor's visible leadership.

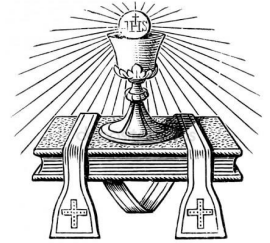
Following the Second Vatican Council, the Missa pro populo integrated more seamlessly into the rhythm of parish worship, frequently designated as the principal Sunday Mass and announced in advance through parish bulletins as an intention "for the people of the parish," which encouraged greater lay awareness and participation in the shared liturgical life of the parish. This practice enhanced lay involvement by making the Mass's communal purpose explicit, allowing parishioners to recognise it as a dedicated prayer for their intentions, thus deepening the sense of inclusion and active engagement in the Eucharistic celebration.

The Missa pro populo contributed significantly to parish identity and morale by ensuring ongoing spiritual support, particularly in challenging contexts where physical gatherings were limited, as it reminded the faithful of the priest's unwavering intercessory role and the graces flowing from the Mass for the entire community. In rural settings, this fostered resilience amid isolation, while in immigrant parishes, it bolstered a sense of belonging and hope through the priest's prayerful solidarity with newcomers navigating cultural transitions.

The Church out of love for God's people ensures that at least one Mass a week is offered for every soul within the parish boundary. The Missa pro Populo is offered for all of you each Sunday.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 5th July (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 1.00pm)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)
NO 5.00PM MASS



Monday 6th July (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 Maria Goretti (St Mary's)
12.25pm Novena in honour of St Peregrine (St Mary's)

Tuesday 7th July (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 Tuesday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
9.55am Novena in honour of St Anthony (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 8th July (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)
9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Requiem Mass for John Holton (St Mary's)

Thursday 9th July (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 Feast of Our Lady of Aberdeen (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 10th July (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 Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions (St Mary's)

Saturday 11th July (St Mary's 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ Closed)
4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

6th July - Memoria of St Maria Goretti - St Maria Goretti was born into a poor farming family in 1890. Because of their poverty, they had to share with the Serenelli family, at Nettuno, south of Rome. Alessandro Serenelli, aged twenty, made persistent approaches which Maria, aged twelve, always resisted, being a prayerful and spiritual girl. Her refusal on the final occasion led to a frenzied attack with an awl (a tool used for piercing holes in leather). She died the next day in 1902, forgiving her attacker. He was sentenced to thirty years in prison, unrepentant. Maria appeared to him while in prison, offering him flowers. This changed him, and on his release his first act was to visit Maria's mother and ask forgiveness. She is honoured as the patron saint of victims of assault, rape victims, and abused children.

9th July - Feast of Our Lady of Aberdeen - Devotion to Our Lady of Aberdeen stems back at least to Bishop Gavin Dunbar in 1514 when a statue of the Madonna and child was placed by him in a chapel near the Bridge of Dee. It was saved from destruction during the Reformation, and eventually found its way to Brussels. It continues to be venerated there under the title of Notre Dame du Bon Succès (Our Lady of Good Success). A number of copies are the object of devotion here in Scotland, including in Motherwell Cathedral above the High Altar.

10th July - Memoria of St Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions - St Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions were 120 Chinese martyrs who suffered between 1648 and 1930. They include European missionaries, such as St Gregory Grassi (1823-1900), the Italian-born Bishop of North Shanxi martyred during the Boxer Rebellion, and indigenous Christians, such as St Augustine Zhao Rong, a diocesan priest put to death in 1815. They were canonised by Pope John Paul II in 2000. The Chinese Catholics continue to suffer persecution for their faith under the Communist regime which controls the country.

11th July - Feast of St Benedict - St Benedict was born at Norcia, north-east of Rome in 480, where he went on to study law. He was appalled by the immorality of the city, and abandoned it, going to Subiaco, east of Rome, where he became a religious hermit. Gradually others were attracted to join him and communities were set up. His influence was widespread and his way of life and thinking had a huge civilising effect on Europe, which made Pope Paul VI name him Patron of Europe in 1964. He is the patron saint of Europe, school children and monks.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£765.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£1,820.00
Digital Giving:	£223.00
Stall:	£35.00
	£2,843.00

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**



STAINED GLASS

Many thanks to those parishioners who have made donations to the Stained Glass Window project at Our Lady & St John's. These donations are very gratefully received and will contribute to the £50,000.00 bill for this project. These beautiful windows have been in place from the opening of the church, they are a rich part of our history and heritage. If you are in a position to make a donation to this project, no matter how small, it would be very welcome indeed.

PETER'S PENCE

Many thanks to all those parishioners who contributed to the collection last weekend for Peter's Pence, to help our Holy Father in his ministry as the Bishop of Rome and Successor of St Peter. £890.00 has now been forwarded from our parish. Many thanks for your generosity.

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

The pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 1st August at Carfin Grotto with Mass at 12noon. Bishop John Keenan invites all the Catholic faithful of Scotland to attend this event.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN

A two day trip has been organised for 29th/30th August to join the National St Ninian's Pilgrimage to Whithorn. We will be accompanied by Bishop Toal and will be staying overnight at the Premier Inn in Dumfries. The cost of the trip is £159pp for a twin/double room and £189pp for a single room. The price includes coach travel from Motherwell, dinner, bed and breakfast, and fish and chips on the return journey. For more information, contact Jim McKelvie on 07957847290 or email pilgrimage@rcdom.org.uk



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy at the 12noon Mass will take a break during the school summer holidays. Fr Wyllie would like to thank all the adult helpers who make it possible for us to help our young people at primary school understand the scriptures at Mass each week.

THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Over the past year there has been a considerable increase in the numbers of people seeking to find out more about the Catholic faith in our country and throughout the world. If you, or someone you know, are thinking of becoming a Catholic or would like to find out more about what is involved, please speak with Fr Wyllie to organise an initial and informal chat. We hope to run the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) course from late September with a view to those taking part in the course being received into full communion at Easter 2027.

ETIQUETTE IN THE CHURCH

Fr Wyllie makes a special appeal for parishioners to ensure that their mobile phones and electronic devices are switched to silent in the church, that we try to be on time for Mass beginning and for parishioners to stay in their places particularly during the Eucharistic Prayer.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Rose M. Taylor, Cathy Caven, Faith Lindsay, Pat Whalin, Stephen Fleming

RIP - John Holton (*Requiem* - Wednesday 8th July 10.00am), James Crilly, Alan Johnstone

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - John Creechan, Thomas & Catherine Kennedy, Annie & Michael Creechan, Charles Kennedy, Patricia Weir, Lara Markson, Annette Thomson, Tony & Mary Goodwin, Louise Gonnella

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

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.



SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

It is with great joy and thanksgiving that the Syro-Malabar community in the Diocese of Motherwell share the news that the St Mary's Syro-Malabar Catholic community have been granted a permanent place of worship in our diocese. They have purchased the former Craigneuk & Belhaven Church of Scotland on Craigneuk Street, just down from St Patrick's Shieldmuir. As children of St Thomas the Apostle, inheritors of a two-thousand year-old faith tradition they have been here in our diocese for twenty-three years. Parishioners are cordially invited to the consecration of the church on Sunday 26th July at 2.30pm. All welcome.

HOLIDAY CHURCHES

Over the past few years we have encouraged parishioners to send photographs of the churches they attend on their summer holidays. It's wonderful to see the churches that parishioners send through email and the parish Facebook, reminding us that we are part of a Church which is present in every country in the world. If you are heading away on holiday why not send through a photo of the church you attend and let us know where it is and we'll share it on the parish social media.



PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS

The Parish Hall

EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON

2.00pm - 9.00pm

Card Payments preferable



PARISH SUMMER PARTY

The Parish Hall

SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST

Bar open from 6.30pm; Food served around 7.30pm

Food, fun and games for all the family



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER

Mass at 6.30pm followed by International Meal

Please make a dish from your country of origin



PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION

St Mary's

13TH-15TH SEPTEMBER

From after Sunday 10.00am Mass until Tuesday 7.00pm Mass

