

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE 14TH APRIL 2024

THE RESURRECTION

In the Easter Season the liturgy offers us manifold incentives to strengthen our faith in the Risen Christ. Today, on the Third Sunday of Easter, for example, St Luke tells how the two disciples of Emmaus, after recognizing him "in the breaking of the bread" (Lk 24: 35), returned to Jerusalem full of joy to tell the others what had happened to them.

And just as they were speaking, the Lord appeared, showing them his hands and his feet with the signs of the Passion. Then, in the face of the Apostles' disbelief and wonder, Jesus had them give him some broiled fish and ate it before their eyes (see Lk 24: 35-43).

In this and in other accounts, one can discern a repeated invitation to overcome incredulity and believe in Christ's Resurrection, since his disciples are called to be witnesses precisely of this extraordinary event.

The Resurrection of Christ is central to Christianity. It is a fundamental truth to be reasserted vigorously in every time, since to deny it, as has been, and continues to be attempted, or to transform it into a purely spiritual event, is to thwart our very faith. St Paul states: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain" (I Cor 15: 14).

In the days that followed the Lord's Resurrection, the Apostles stayed together, comforted by Mary's presence, and after the Ascension they persevered with her in prayerful expectation of Pentecost. Our Lady was a mother and teacher to them, a role that she continues to play for Christians of all times.

Every year, at Eastertide, we relive this experience more intensely and perhaps, precisely for this reason, popular tradition has dedicated to Mary the month of May that normally falls between Easter and Pentecost. Consequently, the month of May helps us to rediscover the maternal role that she plays in our lives so that we may always be docile disciples and courageous witnesses of the Risen Lord.

Let us entrust to Mary the needs of the Church and of the whole world, especially at this time which is marked by so many shadows. We turn to her with the prayer of the Regina Caeli, a prayer that enables us to know the comforting joy of the Risen Christ's presence.



The Regina Caeli:



Regina caeli
laetae, alleluia.
Qua quem
meruisti portare,
alleluia.
Resurrexit sicut dixit,
alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum,
alleluia.

Queen of heaven
rejoice, alleluia.
He whom you did
merit to bear,
alleluia.
Has risen as he said,
alleluia.
Pray for us to God,
alleluia.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 14th April

- 10.00am Holy Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 15th April

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

Tuesday 16th April

- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Third Week of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 17th April

- 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 Third Week of Eastertide (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 Third Week of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 18th April

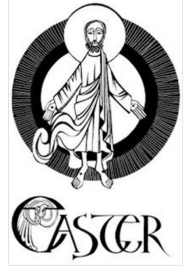
- 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.00am Confessions until 9.20am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Thursday of the Third Week of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 19th April

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for Friday of the Third Week of Eastertide (St Mary's)

Saturday 20th April

- 4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)



GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Next week is known as Good Shepherd Sunday, and is also observed as the world day of prayer for vocations to the priesthood. This day affords us the opportunity as the universal Church to pray for our shepherds: pope, bishops and priests and to pray to God asking him to raise up for us good and holy priests. Please pray for your bishops and priests every day and also for more vocations to the priesthood. We also keep in our prayers next weekend those young men who are currently in formation for the priesthood for our diocese in the Pontifical Scots College in Rome and St Mary's College, Oscott.

PROJECT WELLSRING WORKING GROUP

The next meeting of the Project Wellspring Working Group will be held in St Mary's Parish House this Tuesday, 16th April, at 7.00pm. The members of the group are: Fr Wyllie, Sylvia Brown, Marie Beacom, Harvey Perrie, June Walker and Jonathan Lyons. If you have anything you'd like brought up at the meeting please speak with any of the members beforehand.

AUCHLOCHAN MASS

The next Auchlochan Mass and lunch will take place on Thursday 25th April at 12.30pm. The Mass will be followed by a lunch in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along, but if you intend on going to the lunch please let Betty McGonagle know in advance. Volunteers are always welcome to come along and lend a hand. The more the merrier.

FOODBANK COLLECTION

A collection of foodstuffs for the local foodbank will take place on Saturday 27th/Sunday 28th April. Please consider donating a bag of groceries to help those who need our practical assistance. You can also make monetary donations, please clearly mark an envelope 'Foodbank' and hand it in, either to the offertory collection or at the back of the church.

PARISH FINANCES

Easter Collection & Donations: £850.00
Standing Orders: £200.00
Total: £1,050.00

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.

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

Today at all Masses a second collection will be taken up for the Building Fund. A power of work has been carried out on our parish properties over the past number of months. Your donations to this collection will help us enormously in ensuring that we are able to maintain our parish buildings and grounds in the future. Anything you are able to give to this collection will be very gratefully received. Please be as generous as you always are.

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.



CHURCH WORKERS' SOCIAL

The Church Workers' Social took place on Friday evening and turned out to be another huge success. Many thanks to Anyas Catering for the beautiful food, to Alan the DJ, and to the bar staff who gave so willingly of their time to work behind the bar. A great night was had by all.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LISBON

The joint Parish Pilgrimage with St Mary's Lanark and our own parish will take place from Tuesday 2nd July - Tuesday 9th July to Our Lady's shrine at Fatima and then moving on to the capital city of Portugal, Lisbon. There will be another meeting held before we travel, the date and time of which will be published in the bulletin over the next few weeks. The final instalment is to be paid by Wednesday 24th April directly to ALBA Tours. The bank details are:

Acc Name: **Alba Tours Ltd** Acc Number: **00898164**; Sort Code: **802260**



PROPOSED PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI 2025

Every twenty five years, the Catholic Church celebrates what is known as a Jubilee Year, when we are all invited to Rome to pass through the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica. This would be a great opportunity for us as a parish to go to Rome to join in the celebrations for the Jubilee Year and also to see the beautiful city and experience all that the city has to offer. We would also visit Assisi, the beautiful little town in the Umbrian Hills where St Francis and St Clare lived and worked. If you would be interested in going on this pilgrimage in 2025 please speak with Fr Wyllie. There are no arrangements at the moment as we need to see how many parishioners would be interested and the costs involved. Please be advised that you would need to be in good health for the walking that will be required in Rome and Assisi. Please speak with Fr Wyllie soon. So far we have 10 parishioners who have expressed an interest.



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday 2nd June at all Masses, there will be a special blessing and commissioning of new and present Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. These Extraordinary Ministers are instituted to assist, where necessary, the Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion (the priest), and also to assist him with visiting the sick with Holy Communion. As Sunday 2nd June is the Solemnity of Corpus Christi it is an opportune time for us all to rededicate ourselves to a greater love and respect for the Holy Eucharist, but particularly for those who have the privilege of helping distribute Holy Communion to their brothers and sisters.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Gary Biggar, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Kathleen Brannigan, Anne O'Neil, Aaron Mulligan, Margaret McLaughlin, Kevin Wyllie, Kerry Peterson, Noel Bennetts (Australia), Jeanne Gowans

RIP - Jim Wotherspoon (Bothwell), Drew Stewart, Hugh Brady (Wigan), Margaret Shearer (Gorbals), Bobby Clark (Wishaw), Stewart McPhee, Bishop-Elect Father Martin Chambers

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - David O'Neill, Nancy O'Neill, Maureen Hutchens, John C. Gowans, Eileen Wood (Seagrave), Margaret & Jimmy Smith, Betty Lyons, Jim Sinclair

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

FEAST DAY OF ST PEREGRINE

St Peregrine is honoured as the patron saint of those who suffer from cancer. The date of his feast day is 1st May. This year we will have a special Mass in Our Lady & St John's on **Wednesday 1st May at 7.00pm** to pray for all those who suffer from cancer, those who have died from this terrible disease, their families, and to pray for all those doctors, nurses and care-workers who help to alleviate and find a cure for this disease. We will all know and love someone who is going through cancer treatment, or who have lost their life to cancer, so it is a fitting moment for us to offer our prayers for all those who are or have been affected by cancer. This Mass will also include the anointing of the sick. Everyone is welcome to come along.

LIGHT BITE AFTER MASS

The Parish Hall

Sunday 21st April

After 12noon Mass

*Rolls and sausage, teas & coffees,
cans of juice*

Prices available in the Parish Hall

All welcome

*Sunday
Brunch*

*Sunday
Brunch*

SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

THE PARISH HALL

SATURDAY 25TH MAY

TIME TO BE CONFIRMED (EXPECTED KICK-OFF 3.00PM)

£5.00 PER PERSON

GAME SHOWN ON THE BIG-SCREEN; PIES & SAUSAGE ROLLS AT HALF-TIME;

PINTS OF MENABRA - £4.50; PINTS OF TENNENTS - £3.50

ALL WELCOME



PROSECCO AFTERNOON HIGH TEA

The Parish Hall

Saturday 15th June

2.00pm until 7.00pm

Tickets £20.00 per person

Glass of prosecco or bottle for groups of 4 or more on arrival;
savouries, sandwiches, cakes and scones;
bar, live entertainment and raffle

All welcome

