

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

**Saint Mary Immaculate Larkhall &
Our Lady & Saint John's Blackwood**

Scottish Charity Number - SC011041

Telephone - 01698 884017

Email - ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk

Facebook - [catholicparishourladyoffatima](https://www.facebook.com/catholicparishourladyoffatima)

Twitter - OLOFPParish Instagram - olofparish

Website - parishofourladyoffatima.com

Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



Our Lady & St John's
Carlisle Road
Blackwood, ML11 9RZ



St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9TH AUGUST 2026**

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A false accusation often thrown at Catholics is that we worship the Virgin Mary. Catholics honour (or venerate) the Blessed Virgin Mary; we do not worship her.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (the official teaching of the Church) teaches that worship (or adoration) is meant for God alone. Catholics, as well as the Orthodox and some older Protestant groups (Lutherans, Anglicans etc.), venerate Mary and the Saints. Mary is venerated because she is full of God's own life and love, and full of his grace (Luke 1:28). Mary, by her own free will, said yes to God's will and brought the Saviour of humanity, Jesus Christ, into the world. Mary is great because God made her great; she reflects the light of Christ and her soul magnifies the Lord (Luke 1:46). This is why, since the earliest days of Christianity, Mary has been venerated and loved by Christians.



As stated, adoration or worship (*latría*) is meant only for God, but veneration is meant for Mary and the Saints. Since Mary, by her own free will, brought our Saviour into the world, she deserves a unique type of veneration that is greater than that of the other Saints. Veneration is divided into two categories: *dulia* and *hyperdulia*. *Dulia* is a form of veneration that is appropriate for the great Christian men and women known as the Saints (e.g. St Anthony, St Teresa, St Francis, etc.). Due to Mary's direct and extraordinary role in the salvation of humanity, it is appropriate that she is venerated in a greater manner than that of the other saints; this is called *hyperdulia*.

Remember veneration, and this particular type of veneration, *hyperdulia*, is completely different from adoration or worship (*latría*). Christ is the centre of Catholic Christian worship. The honour and veneration given to Mary further expresses the Christian's worship of God due to the acknowledgment of God's greatest human creation, the mother of his son, Our Blessed Mother Mary. The 4th commandment reads, "Honour your father and your mother." In John 19:26-27 Jesus hanging on the cross extended Mary's motherhood to all of humanity by handing her over to the care of the Apostle John. Since early on in Christianity the above verses were understood to mean that Mary now is the mother of all humanity. Since Mary is our mother we should give her the proper respect and honour, as any child would give their mother.

Finally, why would a Christian not have love and respect for Mary? She is Jesus' mother. Many protestant groups pay little or no attention to the Mother of God. Some groups even go as far as saying that she was just a vessel to give birth to Jesus; that she's not important! Imagine going up to your own mother and saying, "Mum, you're not that important, you were just a vessel used to give birth to me," how would this make her feel? The same goes for the Mother of God, even more so because she is the Mother of God and our Mother. The Holy Spirit deemed her "most blessed amongst women" (Luke 1:42).

The early Christians had a prayer from at least 250AD which we still use today. The version we use is, "Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy clemency hear and answer me. Amen."

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 9th August (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)

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

12noon Holy Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

Monday 10th August (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 Feast of St Lawrence (St Mary's)

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

Tuesday 11th August (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 Memoria of St Clare (Our Lady & St John's)

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

Wednesday 12th August (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 Wednesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Thursday 13th August (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 Thursday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 14th August (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 Maximilian Kolbe (St Mary's)

Saturday 15th August (St Mary's 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ Closed)

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

5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady (St Mary's)



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

10th August - Feast of St Lawrence - St Lawrence was a deacon who assisted Pope Sixtus II. He is said to have been born in Huesca in Spain around 226 and was martyred in Rome during the persecution of 258. Devotion to the saint has produced several stories, especially of his important work in Rome and of his behaviour at this execution. The tradition that he was roasted to death on a gridiron and that, on it, he asked to be turned over 'to do the other side'. His tomb is in the basilica named after him; the basilica adjoins the main city cemetery. He is the patron of cooks, chefs, and comedians, as well as librarians, archivists, and the poor.

11th August - Memoria of St Clare - St Clare was born in 1293, the daughter of wealthy parents in Assisi, and was attracted by the life and teaching of St Francis. She spent some time with him and his group but then, in 1312, she founded her own women's Franciscan group, usually known as the Poor Clares. They were to live lives of poverty, austerity and prayer. As their leader, Clare lived at the little church of Santa Chiara in the town. She died in 1353. She is the patron saint of television and embroiderers. We pray for the Poor Clare sisters who are resident in St John Ogilvie's Blantyre, who offer their lives to Christ in prayer for all of us.

14th August - Memoria of St Maximilian Kolbe - St Maximilian Kolbe was born in 1894, he was cruelly deprived of his father, hanged by Russians as a traitor. He joined the Conventual Franciscan friars, taking the name Maximilian Maria and studied in Rome. Ordained in 1918, he returned to Poland and taught in a seminary in Krakow. He had a special devotion to the Immaculate Virgin Mary and, in addition to operating a radio station, he published several periodicals, magazines and articles, mainly on Marian subjects. In 1941 the German occupying forces arrested him and he was interned in Auschwitz. When one prisoner escaped, the authorities (to deter further attempts) decided to starve ten others to death. One of those chosen implored to be exempt because he had a wife and children, and Maximilian stood forward and volunteered to be his substitute. Two weeks later, nine had starved to death but Maximilian was still alive, so a guard was ordered to give him a lethal injection on 14th August 1941. He is honoured as the patron saint of drug addicts, political prisoners, and families.

NO PARISH BULLETIN ON 30TH AUGUST OR 6TH SEPTEMBER.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£865.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£2,362.00
Digital Giving:	£264.00
Votive Candles:	£230.00
Stall:	£25.00
	£3,746.00

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**

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**



CHURCH BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

A second collection will take place next weekend for the Church Building Fund. A lot of work has been done to make our properties health & safety compliant, tidying up the church grounds and fixing the exterior lighting at both churches. Please be as generous as you always are.

RAFFLE PRIZES

If you could make donations of raffle prizes for all or any of the upcoming parish events please hand them at the back of the church over the next few weeks. Any donations will be very gratefully received indeed. Please leave any donations at the back of the church.

JAMS, SCONES & BISCUITS FOR AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Louisa and Bethany will be selling their delicious jams, scones and biscuits after the 12noon Mass on Sunday 6th September. All proceeds will go to Aid to the Church in Need.

PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION

The Parish Forty Hours Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in St Mary's this year, beginning after the **10.00am Mass on Sunday 13th September and will conclude with Mass on Tuesday 15th September at 7.00pm**. There will be sign up sheets for parishioners to commit to watching before the Blessed Sacrament for half hour slots during this time. We will also have various Masses and Liturgies, confessions, devotions and visits from the primary school children. A special Mass for the Sick will take place on Monday 14th September at 12noon to which all the sick and housebound are warmly invited. The SSVP at both churches will organise transport for those who may need a lift to the church for this Mass. Please try to keep these days free to spend some time before the Lord in the Holy Eucharist placing before him our own needs and those of our parish and come along to the additional opportunities for Mass, confessions & devotions.



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.



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

A highlight of our parish social calendar is the Parish International Night which begins with a Mass at 6.30pm and followed by a meal in the Parish Hall. It shows the diversity of our parish with people coming from many different cultures and countries who make up the life of our parish. Parishioners are invited to cook a dish (starter, main course or dessert or all) from their country of origin and bring it along on Friday 11th September. The hall will be open from 5.30pm for dishes to be set up (please note that dishes cannot be cooked in the parish hall kitchen but can only be heated up). This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as one parish made up of so many cultures and heritages but profess our one faith in Jesus Christ. If you can cook or provide a dish please place your name on the list at the back of the church.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Patricia Simpson, Gemma Barton, Paul McMurray, Marjory McMurray, Rose M. Taylor, Cathy Caven, Faith Lindsay, Pat Whalin, Stephen Fleming, Robbie Frew

RIP - Mary Vallesi (Rooney) (Rome), John Holton, Denise Japp (Chryston)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Marion Houston, Harriet Keane, Jean Tierney

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

PARISH SUMMER PARTY

In a little change from the normal Parish BBQ we will be having a Parish Summer Party this year instead. The evening will still include burgers, hotdogs etc as well as fun and games for all the family. All parishioners are very warmly invited to come along to the Parish Hall on 22nd August. The event will begin at 6.30pm and the food will be served around 7.00pm. Donations of raffle prizes will be gratefully received. Fr Wyllie asks that you place your name on the list at the back of the church if you intend on coming along. It will greatly help with catering arrangements.

ASSISTED DYING BILL

The Assisted Dying Bill is to be voted on again by MPs at Westminster on Friday 11th September. There is a letter and also a sheet for you to place your name, address (including postcode) and your signature to show our opposition to this bill. The bill has many shortcomings particularly in regard to safeguards for the most vulnerable in society. As Catholics we have a duty to be a voice against the culture of death which is prevalent in our society today. Please sign the petition at the back of the church over the next fortnight.

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN

The annual National Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto will take place this year on Sunday 6th September with a concelebrated Mass with the bishops of Scotland at 3.00pm. All welcome.

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

Bishop Toal invites the whole diocese to a special Mass at Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life on Tuesday 25th August at 7.00pm. Please make a special effort to join together as a diocese to implore the Lord to send us more priests to serve our parishes into the future.

UPDATE ON WORKS TO THE PARISH PROPERTIES & GROUNDS

St Mary's

- New emergency lighting has been installed to make the church health & safety compliant
- Several parts of the guttering around the Parish House are leaking & have been repaired
- The roof has had the moss removed and the gutters cleaned
- The monobloc at the front of the Parish House has been power-washed
- The carpark and back of the church have been weeded and trimmed & hedges trimmed
- The Parish House carpets have been professionally cleaned
- The exterior lights of the church are needing a new sensor which is currently faulty

Our Lady & St John's

- The Stained Glass Window project will begin when we hear more about grant funding
- The dampness coming through in the Parish House is to be repaired in the next few weeks
- The wasp hive in the loft-space of the Parish Hall has been treated
- The grounds have been weeded and the moss removed
- The lightbulbs on the sanctuary need replaced (hopefully in the next few weeks)
- The Parish Hall fire alarm system is now fully functional with three alarms replaced/added
- The gutters around the Parish House have been cleared
- There are two blocked external drains which have been inspected & repaired