

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



Our Lady & St John's
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St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
23RD JANUARY 2022

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

When we gather at a friend's home for a meal, we always begin with conversation, telling our stories. At Mass, after the Introductory Rite, we sit down and listen as readings from the Word of God are proclaimed. They are the stories of God's people. Three readings and a psalm. At weekday Mass there are two readings & a psalm.

The first reading will be from the Hebrew Scriptures (except during the Easter season). We recall the origins of our covenant. It will relate to the Gospel and will give background and an insight into the meaning of what Jesus will do in the Gospel.

After a few moments of silence to reflect on the reading we will sing or recite a psalm - a song from God's own inspired hymnal, the Book of Psalms of the Hebrew Bible.

The second reading will usually be from one of the letters of Paul or another apostolic writing.

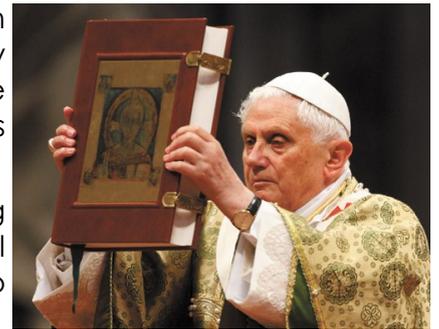
The third reading will be taken from one of the four Gospels. Because of the unique presence of Christ in the proclamation of the Gospel, it has long been the custom to stand in attentive reverence to hear these words. We believe that Christ "is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the church". The priest will again greet us with "The Lord be with you." He then introduces the Gospel reading while marking a small cross on his forehead, lips and heart with his thumb while praying silently that God cleans his mind and his heart so that his lips may worthily proclaim the Gospel. In many places, the congregation performs this ritual action along with the priest. The Gospel reading concludes with the ritual formula "The Gospel of the Lord" and we respond, "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ," again proclaiming our faith in the presence of Christ in the word. The priest kisses the text in reverence.

The Homily is more than just a sermon or a talk about how we are to live or what we are to believe. It is an act of worship rooted in the texts of the Mass and especially in the readings from Scripture which have just been proclaimed. The homily takes that word and brings it to our life situation today. Just as a large piece of bread is broken to feed individual persons, the word of God must be broken open so it can be received and digested by the congregation.

Now we stand and together recite the Creed. The Creed is more than a list of things which we believe. It is a statement of our faith in the word we have heard proclaimed in the Scripture and the homily, and a profession of the faith that leads us to give our lives for one another as Christ gave his life for us.

The Liturgy of the Word comes to an end with the intercessions. The intercessions help us become who God is calling us to be. We are the Body of Christ by Baptism. Now, as we prepare to approach the altar, we look into the readings, like a mirror, and ask: Is that who we are? Does the Body of Christ present in this congregation resemble that Body of Christ pictured in the Scripture readings? Usually not! We pray for the Church, nations and their leaders, people in special need and the local needs of our parish - the petitions usually fall into these four categories. A reader may announce the petitions, and we are usually given an opportunity to pray for the intentions we carry in our heart.

The Liturgy of the Word is basically a conversation between God and his people.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Sunday 23rd January

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 24th January

11.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Francis de Sales (St Mary's)

Tuesday 25th January

9.00am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 26th January

9.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am. Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Timothy & St Titus (St Mary's)
7.00pm	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Timothy & St Titus (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 27th January

9.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for Thursday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 28th January

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Thomas Aquinas (St Mary's)
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Saturday 29th January

10.00am	Holy Mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)
4.45pm	Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm	Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 30th January

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

24th January - Memoria of St Francis de Sales - St Francis de Sales was born in 1567 and became the Bishop of Geneva when it has become a strong centre of the Protestant Reformation. He won many to the Faith by his gentle and patient nature which even won the respect of his opponents. "A spoonful of honey attracts more flies than a barrelful of vinegar" was a saying of his. He died in 1622 and is the patron of adult education, the deaf, and journalists

25th January - Feast of the Conversion of St Paul - The Conversion of St Paul is recorded twice in great detail in the Acts of the Apostles (chapters 9 and 22). It presents us with the mystery of how he rose to greater prominence than most of the twelve apostles already hand-picked by Christ, and why he needed to be chosen in such dramatic fashion.

26th January - Memoria of St Timothy & St Titus - St Timothy & St Titus were disciples of St Paul to whom he wrote personal letters included in the New Testament. There is no strong tradition they were martyred, but lived long lives building up the Church at Ephesus and on Crete. St Timothy is the patron invoked against stomach and intestinal disorders. St Titus is the patron saint of Crete.

27th January - Optional Memoria of St Angela Merici - St Angela Merici was born in 1474 and went on to found the Ursulines. She directed them to provide education to the young with love, kindness, with firmness and an attention to each individual. She died in 1540. She is the patron of the sick, disabled and physically challenged people and those grieving the loss of parents.

28th January - Memoria of St Thomas Aquinas - St Thomas Aquinas was born in 1225 and abandoned his aristocratic upbringing to join the Dominican Order. He was a man of prayer which bore fruit in extensive writings on spiritual subjects, for which he has the title of 'Doctor of the Church'. He died in 1274 and is the patron of universities and scholars.

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND FOR CHURCH BUILDING FUND.
PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU ALWAYS ARE.**

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD & CANDLEMAS

On 2nd February we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, forty days after the celebration of Christmas. At this point, the Lord showed himself as the Light for the Nations, and as such we bless the candles which are to be used in our churches. At both the 10.00am Mass in St Mary's and the 7.00pm Mass in Our Lady & St John's we will begin the Mass, as we traditionally do, by blessing the candles. Any candles you use at home can be blessed.

CABARET NIGHT & TRIBUTE ACT



This coming Friday the Cabaret Night & Tribute Act will take place in the Parish Hall from 7.00pm till late. Tickets are priced at £7.00 and can be obtained after the Vigil Mass in St Mary's this weekend and after both Masses on a Sunday in Our Lady & St John's. All proceeds are for parish funds so please support this event.

Contact Angela Stewart on 07733440351 to book tickets.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£925.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£320.00
Votive Candles (St Mary's):	£267.00
Stall:	£60.00
TOTAL:	£1,572.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

ENROLMENT MASSES

The Enrolment Masses for those children whose parents/carers have made contact with Fr Wyllie to request the Sacrament of First Confession will take place for the pupils from St John's Primary on Thursday 3rd Feb at 9.30am and the pupils from St Mary's Primary will be enrolled on Friday 4th Feb at 10.00am.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

A letter has been sent out to the parents/carers of the senior students in our primary schools from Fr Wyllie regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation. Any child who is being presented for the Sacrament of Confirmation from our parish in March must be enrolled by their parent/carer before 3rd February in a short and informal meeting with Fr Wyllie.

His Lordship Bishop Toal will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for the pupils of both our primary schools in St Mary's on Monday 21st March at 7.00pm. This will be the first visit from the bishop to our parish since the Confirmations for St John's Primary back in February 2020.

Fr Wyllie looks forward to hearing from the parents/carers who wish their child to be presented for this Sacrament. All parents/carers will be encouraged to attend Sunday Mass.

FR WYLLIE'S HOLIDAY

Fr Wyllie will be on holiday from the parish from straight after the 10.00am Mass on Friday 4th February until the morning of Monday 14th February, during this time the Holy Ghost Fathers will celebrate the Masses in the parish. The bulletin will be available as normal on 6th February but there will be no bulletin on Sunday 13th February. **Any anniversaries or notices for the bulletin should be included in the bulletin for 6th February or 20th February.**

GIFTAID

Last year, our parish benefitted *giftaid it* from an additional £12,000.00 which we received from the UK Government due to parishioners who pay UK Tax being signed up to the Giftaid scheme. This was at no cost to those who donate through Giftaid. For every £1 you donate, the Government give us 25p. If you pay UK Tax and are not yet a member of the Giftaid scheme, please consider joining. It costs you absolutely nothing, except your normal Offertory contribution.

MASS FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Married couples from across the Diocese are invited to a special Mass to celebrate the blessing and sanctity of married and family life in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral this Thursday at 7.00pm. During this Mass the couples present will have the opportunity to renew the vows they made on their wedding day and to come together to pray for one another and for all married couples. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Toal and he extends a warm invitation to all married couples to join him for this celebration.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - James Ferguson, Alice Cumming, Janet McIntosh, Annette Thomson, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Kevin Feeney

RIP - Edward Love (*Requiem Mass 31st January at 12noon*), John Gowans, Harry Doyle (Hamilton), Margaret Murphy (Carmyle)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Kitty Reilly, Catherine Braithwaite, Ella Laverty, Jim Laverty, Robert Maguire, Ian Quinn

SACRAMENTS FOR 2022

First Confessions	St John's	22nd Feb
First Confessions	St Mary's	28th Feb
Confirmations	Both schools	21st Mar
First Communion	St Mary's	7th May
First Communion	St John's	21st May

As the children and their parents begin their preparation for receiving the Sacraments we pray for them, that they may grow in their love of God, of his Sacraments, his Church and our parish community.

ST MARY'S MINI VINNIES

Saint Mary's Mini Vinnies would like to thank everyone for their support during their recent Christmas hamper raffle. Due to your kindness and generosity, we have been able to forward a cheque for £340.00 to the Lanarkshire Cancer Care Trust.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will resume their visits to the sick and housebound from the weekend of 19th/20th February. Please let Fr Wyllie know the arrangements.

STANDING ORDERS

If you haven't managed to change the mandate with your bank to the new parish bank account then please do so as soon as possible. It's important that we merge the accounts very soon. The account details are:

Account Name: **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**

Sort Code: **800877** Account No.: **00499758**

FOODBANK COLLECTION

The monthly collection for the Foodbank will take place on 29th/30th January. Donations of foodstuffs and monetary donations will be very gratefully received. If you make a monetary donation please place an envelope clearly marked 'Foodbank' in the Offertory Collection bag. Any assistance you can give, either by donations of food or money, will be welcome.

CHURCH WORKERS SOCIAL

Menus are available at the back of the church from today for those who wish to attend. Those who are invited are: Church Cleaners, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers, Sacristans, Children's Liturgy Leaders, Stall Workers, Hall Workers, SSV, Covid Stewards, Musicians, Cantors, those who work in/around the church/grounds, members of the PPPT & Finance Team.

SAFEGUARDING

Late last year Fr Wyllie met with our Parish Safeguarding co-ordinators, Elma Rooney (St Mary's) & Nigel Davies (Our Lady & St John's). We are currently at the point of needing to update many of the PVG's which are now over five years old or will run out shortly. Fr Wyllie has been in touch with the leaders of the groups who require PVG's to function (Children's Liturgy, SSV, Extraordinary Ministers, Lunch Club Team). It is important that if the leader of these groups make contact that you attend a meeting to complete updated forms for your role in the parish. This meeting will take place when the relevant leaders of the groups/societies have been contacted.

When you come along to the meeting you must bring with you three forms of identification. One of which must be photographic and one other must have your current address. The forms of ID acceptable are: Passport (e.g. UK or other country), Driving License with photograph. Other forms of photo ID include: UK Government Department Pass/Card, Employee ID Card, NHS Scotland Card, Armed Forces ID Card, National Union Student ID, Young Scot Card).

Range of possible address verification documents: Bank/Building Society, credit or storecard statement (within 3 months), a Utility Bill (within 3 months), Credit or storecard statement (within 3 months), correspondence from statutory bodies (e.g. Jobcentre Plus, Pensions Service, Disability & Carers Service, Central or local government departments, SQA, hospital, doctor or dentist, Pension Book, Visa, Work Permit).