

# 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  
Carlisle Road  
Blackwood, ML11 9RZ



St Mary's  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
**16TH JANUARY 2022**

## THE BEGINNING OF MASS

When at Mass, Catholics know what is going to happen next. One of the basic, distinctive marks of our way of praying is ritual: We do things over and over. When the priest says, "The Lord be with you," without any thought or hesitation the congregation responds, "And with your Spirit."

Our daily lives have their rituals also: There are set ways of greeting people, eating, responding to a text. And when we are accustomed to a certain way of doing things we seldom ask why we do it that way. In the Mass, too, we have many ritual actions which we perform without asking why. What is the Mass or Liturgy? A good way to describe the Mass is to say that it is Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday made present today in ritual. The basic "shape" of the ritual of the Mass can be described as a meal but it is also, and primarily, a sacrifice.



**Use of water** - One of the first things Catholics do when they come to church is dip their right hand in water and make the sign of the cross. This ritual is a reminder of our Baptism: We were baptised with water and signed with the cross. At every Mass we renew our promises to die to sin.

**Genuflection** - In medieval Europe, it was a custom to go down on one knee (to genuflect) before a king or person of rank. This secular mark of honour gradually entered the Church and people began to genuflect to honour the altar and the presence of Christ in the tabernacle before entering the pew. This is an act of adoration toward the Lord in the tabernacle.

**Posture, song** - When the Mass begins everyone stands up. Standing is the traditional posture of the Christian at prayer: It expresses our attentiveness to the word of God and our readiness to carry it out. Often we begin by singing together. What better way to gather than to unite our thoughts and our voices in common word, rhythm and melody. The priest kisses the altar as a sign of reverence, as the altar represents Christ himself.

**Greeting** - The priest will begin with the sign of the cross, again reminding us of Baptism, and will greet us, saying, "The Lord be with you." It is both a wish (may the Lord be with you) and a profound statement of faith (as you assemble for worship, the Lord is with you). It is an ancient biblical greeting: Boaz returned from Bethlehem (we read in the Book of Ruth 2:4) and said to the reapers, "The Lord be with you!" The ritual response to this greeting is always the formula, "And with your spirit."

**Penitential Rite, Gloria** - All the other ritual acts of this first part of the Mass are intended to gather us together to worship the Holy Trinity. We are asked to pause and recall our common need for salvation (the Penitential Rite). This never replaces or substitutes the Sacrament of Confession. On Sundays and Holydays the hymn "Glory to God in the Highest" is sung or recited at this point. The "Gloria" has been a part of the Mass since about the sixth century!

**Opening Prayer** - At the close of this first part of the Mass the priest will ask us to join our minds in prayer, and after a few moments of silence he will collect our intentions into one prayer to which we all respond "Amen," a Hebrew word for "So be it." This prayer is very beautiful, but can sometimes get lost. Try to listen to what the priest is saying in this prayer as it sums up what we are asking the Lord during our Mass.

# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

## Sunday 16th January

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

## Monday 17th January

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 11.30am | Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)                   |
| 12noon  | Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Antony of Egypt (St Mary's) |

## Tuesday 18th January

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 9.00am | Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)                             |
| 9.30am | Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Second Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's) |
| 6.00pm | Reception of the body of John Gowans & Holy Rosary (St Mary's)                   |

## Wednesday 19th January

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10.00am | Requiem Mass for John Gowans (St Mary's)  |
| 7.00pm  | Holy Mass for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood (Our Lady & St John's) |

## Thursday 20th January

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

## Friday 21st January

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10.00am | Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Agnes (St Mary's) |
|---------|---|

## Saturday 22nd 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 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's) |

## 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) |

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**17th January - Memoria of St Antony of Egypt** - St Antony was born in 251 and is known as the 'Father of Christian Monasticism'. As a teenager he gave up all his possessions when his parents died and went to live as a hermit in the Egyptian desert. However, he gave public support to the local church in times of difficulty, particularly helping St Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, in opposing the Arian heresy. He died in 356 at the age of 105. He is the patron of undertakers, gravediggers and cemetery workers.

**21st January - Memoria of St Agnes** - St Agnes was born in 291 and is one of the young virgin martyrs whose names have a permanent place in the Roman Canon (First Eucharistic Prayer). She refused several approaches from young men, one of whom denounced her to the authorities as a Christian. She was put to death at the age of 13 in the year 303. She is the patron of young girls, rape victims and of chastity.

## GIFTAID

Last year, our parish benefitted 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 £1.00 you donate, the Government give us 25p. *giftaid it*

If you pay UK Tax and are not yet a member of the Giftaid scheme, would you please consider joining? It costs you absolutely nothing, except your normal Offertory contribution which you can pay through standing order from your bank account or through Giftaid envelopes which are placed in the Offertory bag at the normal collection time.

There are forms available at the back of the church for you to complete and hand back to the parish, or if you intend on paying through the bank to hand in one section of the form to the bank and hand the other section back to the Fr Wyllie.

## AUCHLOCHAN MASS & LUNCH CLUB

We had intended on restarting the Auchlochan Mass and Lunch Club this month but due to the nature of the restrictions and anxiety of the new covid variant we have decided to postpone until things are safer. This is a lovely afternoon which places Christ at the centre followed by a small social gathering in the Parish Hall afterwards. The SSVP, who organise this event, will let us know when we are due to restart.

## CABARET NIGHT & TRIBUTE ACT



**Tickets are now on sale for the Cabaret Night & Tribute Act to take place in the Parish Hall on Friday 28th January from 7.00pm till late. Tickets are priced at £7.00 and can be obtained after the Vigil Mass in St Mary's over the next week and 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:           | £915.00          |
| Standing Orders & Bank Transfers: | £210.00          |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                     | <b>£1,125.00</b> |

**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 at the beginning of February in both churches. The pupils from St John's Primary will be enrolled on Thursday 3rd Feb at 9.30am and the pupils from St Mary's Primary will be enrolled on 4th Feb at 10.00am.

### ST JOHN'S PRIMARY ONE ENROLMENT

Parents/carers of children who are 5 years of age between 1st March 2022 and the end of February 2023 are required to register their child for starting school. Parents should register their child at their catchment school.

How do I enrol?

**Week beginning 17th January 2022** - enrol your child using South Lanarkshire Council's online enrolment form.

You must identify the catchment school for your permanent home address by using the school catchment checker.

The link to the online form will be given when you select your catchment school.

The online registration form will ask you to provide each child's full birth certificate and two pieces of recent official documentation both containing your permanent home address. Proof of where the child lives may be required.

Accepted official documentation: Utility bill; council tax statement; housing rent card; child benefit documentation.

### MASS TIMES BOARDS DESIGN

**OUR LADY & ST JOHN'S**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
12noon  
5.00pm

**HOLY DAY MASSES**  
9.30am  
7.00pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
Tuesday & Thursday 9.30am  
Wednesday 7.00pm

01698 884017 catholicparishourladyoffatima ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk

**ST MARY'S**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
Vigil 5.30pm  
10.00am

**HOLY DAY MASSES**  
Vigil 7.00pm  
8.00am  
10.30am

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
Monday 12noon  
Wednesday, Friday & Saturday  
10.00am

01698 884017 catholicparishourladyoffatima ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk

### 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 on Thursday 27th January 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 Mass.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

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

**RIP** - Edward Love, John Gowans, Therese Shiels

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Mary Goodwin, Michael & Mary Vernal,

**Please remember to have your deceased loved ones prayed for on their anniversaries & months mind**

### WEDDINGS FOR 2022

All couples who are due to be married in our parish this year are asked to contact Fr Wyllie to begin the necessary paperwork and to organise completing the Marriage Preparation Course which is necessary for being married in the Catholic Church. Even though it may seem that your wedding is months away, we can begin to prepare by completing the paperwork and discussing the various aspects of the Nuptial Mass/Service. Please email Fr Wyllie at [ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk](mailto:ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk).

### SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Pope Francis has called on the whole Church to engage in a consultation of the lay faithful to gather ideas and opinions on how the Church can live out its mission in the world today. Our two parish representatives, Margaret Wilson & Vivien Stewart have attended meetings at a Diocesan level and will, in due course, roll out the process in our parish. Fr Wyllie will meet with both representatives to discuss the best way to take this plan forward for our parish. More information will be available in due course.

### 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

We are hopeful that the Church Workers Social will take place on Friday 18th February beginning at 6.30pm with a drinks reception followed by a three course meal and entertainment & bar to purchase drinks. The suggested menu for the evening is as follows:

#### STARTERS

##### **Chef's Lentil Broth**

*with a soft seeded bread roll*

##### **Delicious Chicken Liver Pate**

*delicate parfait of chicken livers blended to chef's own special recipe, served with red onion chutney seasonal leaf's & oat Cakes*

##### **Polpotini**

*Italian meatballs in a spicy tomato sauce*

#### MAIN COURSE

##### **Medallions of Beef**

*(With a creamy peppercorn sauce)*

##### **Tarragon Chicken**

*fillet of chicken poached in a creamy tarragon sauce*

*Dauphinoise potatoes & broccoli*

**Cheesy Vegetable Strudel** *(Vegetarian)*

#### DESSERT

##### **Sticky Toffee Pudding**

*smothered in toffee sauce*

##### **Chocolate Profiteroles**

*smothered in chocolate sauce*

##### **Home Baked Apple Pie**

*All served with Vanilla Ice Cream*

##### **Tea/Coffee with Mints**

The menu will be available from next week for those who wish to attend. Those who are invited are: Church Cleaners, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers, Sacristans, Children's Liturgy Leaders, Church Grounds Workers, Hall Workers, SSVF, Covid Stewards, Musicians, Cantors, those who work in/around the church, members of the PPPT & Finance Team.