

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
6TH NOVEMBER 2022

St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

PRAYING FOR OUR DEAD

As the weather grows colder and the leaves fall, and Christmas approaches, it is natural for many of us to think about the people we've loved who are no longer with us. For the Catholic Church, November begins with All Saints Day and All Souls Day, as the Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Perhaps no Catholic doctrine has been more misunderstood by Catholics themselves than the doctrine of Purgatory. Consequently, some tend to downplay it, even seem a little embarrassed by it. But according to Catholic theology, it is the Holy Souls who suffer because of the living's discomfort with the doctrine.



Purgatory is not, as many people think, one last trial. Catholics believe that all of those who make it to Purgatory will one day be in Heaven. Purgatory is where those who have died in grace, but who have not fully atoned for the temporal punishments resulting from their sins, go to finish their atonement before entering Heaven. A soul in Purgatory may suffer, but they have the assurance that they will ultimately enter Heaven when their punishment is complete. Catholics believe Purgatory is an expression of God's love, His desire to cleanse human souls of all that might keep them from experiencing the fullness of joy in Heaven.

Christians believe that they don't travel through this world alone. Their salvation is wrapped up with the salvation of others, and charity requires them to go to their aid. The same is true of the Holy Souls. In their time in Purgatory, they can pray for the living, and the living should pray for the faithful departed that they may be freed from the punishment for their sins and enter into Heaven. Catholics should pray for the dead throughout the year, especially on the anniversary of their death. In this Month of the Holy Souls, daily prayers should be said for the dead. Those that wish to participate should start with those closest to them - like their mother and father, for instance - but they should also offer prayers for all the souls, and especially for those most forsaken.

Christians believe that the Holy Souls for whom they pray will continue to pray for them after they have been released from Purgatory. Followers of the faith believe that they, too, will likely find themselves in Purgatory someday and that their acts of charity toward the Holy Souls there now will ensure that they remember them before the throne of God when they are most in need of prayers. It's a comforting thought for many, and one that encourages many Catholics, especially during the month of November, to offer their prayers for the Holy Souls.

The *De Profundis* takes its name from the first two words of the psalm in Latin. It is a penitential psalm that is sung as part of vespers (evening prayer) and in commemorations of the dead.

Out of the depths I have cried to Thee, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication. If Thou, O Lord, should mark iniquities: Lord, who shall endure it? For with Thee there is plentiful redemption: and by reason of Thy law I have waited on Thee, O Lord. My soul hath relied on His word: my soul hath hoped in the Lord. From the morning watch even until night: let Israel hope in the Lord. For with the Lord there is mercy: and with Him plentiful redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 6th November

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

Monday 7th November

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

Tuesday 8th November

- 9.00am Recitation of the Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of Blessed John Duns Scotus (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 9th November

- 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 the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (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 the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 10th November

- 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 of the Memoria of St Leo the Great (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 11th November

- 9.30am Recitation of the Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00m Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Martin of Tours (St Mary's)

Saturday 12th November

- 4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

8th November - Memoria of Blessed John Duns Scotus - Blessed John Dun Scotus was born around 1265 in Duns in Berwickshire and joined the Franciscan Friars Minor. He was sent to study at the University of Oxford and to teach at the University of Paris. He had a considerable influence on the philosophy and theology of his day, being known as Doctor Subtilis (Subtle Doctor). In particular, he taught the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception of Mary (that she as conceived without original sin). He was sent to teach in Cologne where he died in 1308. He is buried at the Franciscan church near the famous Cologne Cathedral.

9th November - Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - Following the Emperor Constantine granting freedom of worship to the Catholic Church in 313, the church was built beside the palace of the Laterani family and consecrated in 324. This church is the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome and, until 1309, the popes lived there. Its original dedication is to the Most Holy Saviour; in the Middle Ages, the names of St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist were added (thus, the common name is now 'St John Lateran'). The basilica bears the description: 'Omnium Urbis et Orbis terrarium Mater et Caput' (Of All the Churches in the City and in the World, the Mother and Head). This feast was extended to the whole world in 1565.

10th November - Memoria of St Leo the Great - St Leo was born around 390 of a prominent Roman family, he was eminent as pope. To the ecumenical council of Chalcedon meeting near Constantinople in 451, he sent his 'Dogmatical Letter' which declared, that Christ in his one divine person, had two natures, human and divine (called the hypostatic union) a teaching that the council hailed as 'the voice of Peter'. The following year, he met Attila the Hun and persuaded him to abandon the invasion of the Italian peninsula. Leo is one of the great Doctors of the Church in Western Europe. He is the patron of popes and confessors.

11th November - Memoria of St Martin of Tours - St Martin was born in 316 at Pannonia and was a soldier in the army of the Roman Empire. He was forced to become the bishop of Tours. It is a coincidence that this day, the day that World War I ended, is the feast of a saint born in Germany who became bishop in France. He is the patron of beggars, wool-weavers & tailors.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Motherwell Diocesan Choir - '*In Memoriam*' is the title of a musical reflection on the Holy Souls, given by the Diocesan Choir in Motherwell Cathedral on Friday 11th November at 7.30pm. The programme will include the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré and a number of traditional Holy Souls hymns not often heard nowadays. Admission is free.

Young Adults Retreat Evening - An evening for young people aged between 16 and 35 will take place in St Bride's Hall, Motherwell, on Wednesday 23rd November from 7.00pm until 9.00pm. The evening will include inspirational talks, prayer, social, live music and pizza. Entry is free but please email Mishal if you intend on going. mishal@rcdom.org.uk

Inter-Christian Dialogue - Fr Charles Coyle would like to gather anyone interested in ecumenism to a meeting at the Xavier Centre in Carfin on Monday 7th November at 7.00pm.

Annual Mass Attendance Census - will be taken at all Masses in all churches of our diocese this weekend to help with the future restructuring and provision of parishes, churches and Masses.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations 16th Oct:	£730.00
Collection & Donations 23rd Oct:	£722.00
Collection & Donations 30th Oct:	£1,055.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£2,349.00
Votive Candles:	£345.00
Stall:	£220.00
TOTAL:	£5,421.00
Many thanks for your very generous support	
Mission Sunday Collection:	£1,153.00

BAR STAFF FOR PARISH HALL

So far we have an additional ten volunteers who are willing to help behind the bar, so thank you to those who have put themselves forward to help. If you could get involved please contact Fr Wyllie.

MANY THANKS

Many thanks to those parishioners who attended the Light Bite after Mass on 16th October and for supporting Michael in his 'Glainne Mara' sale which raised £213.50 which he has donated to the SSVP. Well done to Michael for all his great work & generosity.

MONTH OF PRAYING FOR OUR DEAD

Throughout the month of November, Mass will be offered up every day for those entered into the November Lists. Please take a list home with you and list all the dead you wish prayed for. Place the list and a donation into the envelope provided and return to the box which can be found at the back of both churches. Please remember your dead.

MASS ATTENDANCE CENSUS

This weekend the number of people attending all Masses in the diocese will be recorded and sent to the diocese. This will aid the bishop and the College of Consultors in making decisions regarding the future provision of Masses in our parishes, the number of churches we have, and the distribution of priests to churches/parishes for the future. Please encourage your family & friends to attend Mass this weekend.

'MY KIND OF TOWN' BBC SCOTLAND

The BBC Scotland programme 'My Kind of Town' which was recorded a few months ago in St Mary's will be broadcast on Thursday 17th November. The BBC were unable to confirm the time which the programme will air but it will be advised over the course of this week.

SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER

This weekend we welcome to our parish the Sisters of St Peter Claver who are looking for our support in their endeavours to raise funds for the poor, infant and persecuted Church in mission lands. They will be selling their 2023 calendars and ask all parishioners to be as generous as possible.

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The SSVP Group Meeting and Mass will take place in Our Lady & St John's on Wednesday 16th November at 7.00pm. We look forward to welcoming members of the Group to our parish.

ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS FOR ALL DECEASED PARISHIONERS

Our Annual Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 23rd November at 7.00pm in Our Lady & St John's. At this Mass we will remember all those priests who served this parish and the parishioners who have died, especially those who have died over the past twelve months.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - Selina Gold, Adrienne McEnhill, Kathy Newbound, Ernie Girvan, Pat Whalin, Charles Kennedy (Florida), James Ferguson, Alice Cumming, Janet McIntosh, Annette Thomson, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Kevin Feeney

RIP - Stephen Reilly, Maureen Hutchens, Mary Griffiths (Weir), May Connachan, Neil Weir, Elizabeth Regan

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Ian Quinn, Robert Maguire, Isabella Freeland, Winifred Tait, Archie Beckett, Johnny & Letty Gonnella, Neil Smith, Gerard Wyllie, Elizabeth Caraher

SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Fr Wyllie will be visiting the sick and housebound of the parish over the next few weeks. If you or a relative would like confession, Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of the Sick then please contact Fr Wyllie over the next few days. Those who already have Holy Communion brought to them by an Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion will not have to get in contact as they are already on the list to be visited by Fr Wyllie. Before his visit, Fr will always telephone to arrange a suitable time.

PARISH HALL

After a good number of years of faithful and efficient stewardship and leadership of our Parish Hall, Bert Lynch and Angela Stewart have decided to step down from their roles in the running of the Hall. Fr Wyllie, on behalf of the whole parish, thanks the both of them for all that they did to ensure the Hall was so successful by giving so much of their time and talents over the past few years.



In order for the Hall to continue to function and be a place where the parish and wider community can come together for functions and events, Fr Wyllie is keen to put a Hall & Social Team in place as soon as possible. Bert & Angela have kindly agreed to stay in post until mid-November until this new group has been established.

As well as a team to work together to organise and plan fundraising and social events we also need a Bar Co-ordinator to purchase the stock and organise the bar staff rota, we also need Hall Janitor(s) who would deep clean after functions, and another person responsible for taking the bookings for the Hall and organising the diary. We also need volunteers for social events.

A meeting will take place on Wednesday 9th November after the 7.00pm Mass in the Hall for all those who could give of their time to be a part of this new team. Please, if you can, come along and be a part of this new team who will work together to build on the wonderful work which has been done over the past few years and to take the mission of the Hall forward.

PARISH STALL

Both our stalls have a variety of Christmas cards and 2023 calendars for sale. Please try to keep Christ in Christmas by sending religious Christmas cards to your relatives, friends and neighbours. In purchasing from our parish stalls you are supporting the parish. Have a look after Mass today.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST MARY'S PARISH

On Thursday 8th December, we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of St Mary's parish back in 1872. This will be marked by a special Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Bishop Toal at 7.00pm followed by a reception in St Mary's Primary. All parishioners are warmly invited to this Mass and function afterwards. Fr Wyllie is looking for volunteers to help with serving drinks at the front of the church after the Mass as we are unable to have alcohol in the school.

SUPPLY PRIESTS

Fr Wyllie would like to apologise for the Vigil Mass & the 10.00am Mass beginning late last weekend. The Holy Ghost Fathers will be in the parish from Friday of this week until Monday of next week celebrating the Masses while Fr Wyllie is at a clergy gathering in Leeds.