

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST
5TH JUNE 2022



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



St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

COME HOLY SPIRIT!

Pentecost, which we celebrate this Sunday, celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. Pentecost begins the eighth Sunday, or 50 days, after Easter Sunday. The descent of the Holy Spirit ushered in a new era for the people of God.

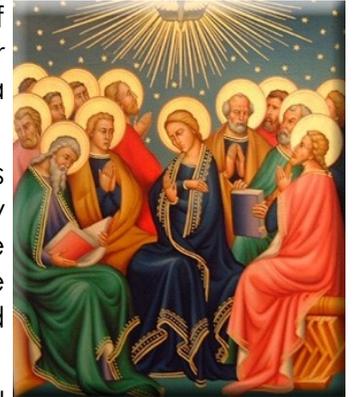
"Pentecost" is from Greek meaning "fiftieth." The name Pentecost was originally given to the Jewish Feast of Weeks which fell on the fiftieth day after Passover. On this day, the first fruits of the grain harvest were offered to the Lord (Leviticus 23:15-21 and Deuteronomy 16:9-11). The second chapter of Acts begins by noting that the Feast of Weeks had just passed.

In Acts 2:1-41 the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles. This occurred ten days after Jesus' Ascension. Jesus had asked his Apostles to pray, and their nine days of prayer can be considered as the first novena. When the Holy Spirit descended on the Apostles, they preached the Good News of Jesus Christ. Miraculously, people of many different languages and nations could understand the Apostles in their own languages. This miracle reflected God's desire for the Gospel to be preached to all, and for all the peoples of the earth to be united in faith. Another wonder surrounding Pentecost was that tongues of fire appeared and rested on the Apostles. God left no doubt that Pentecost was an important event in the history of the Church and that the Holy Spirit was truly present.

The miraculous tongues of fire, along with the Apostles' ability to speak in different languages, may seem to be the most impressive signs of Pentecost. However, the most important and most lasting effect of Pentecost went deeper than that.

Peter, the leader of the Apostles, stood in front of the crowds and preached. He preached with boldness and conviction. Consider that up until this point the Apostles had not preached at all. Just 10 days before, the Apostles still thought that Jesus' mission was to restore an earthly kingdom to Israel (cf. Acts 1:6). Now, however, Peter recognises the mission of Jesus and boldly preaches instead of remaining hidden in a room. The boldness that the Holy Spirit gave the Apostles on Pentecost gave them the courage and wisdom to preach to many nations and peoples. This, in turn, resulted in the spread of Christianity and the conversion of thousands of people. On the day of Pentecost, about 3,000 people were baptized (Acts 2:41).

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church because from that point on the apostles carried the message of Christ to the whole world. The authority that Christ gave his Apostles through the Holy Spirit extends through the bishops today. The Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church. In fact, St. Augustine said that the Holy Spirit was the soul of the Church. Just as the soul gives life to the body, so also the Spirit gives life to the Church. Although since his Ascension Jesus is no longer physically present on earth, Jesus has not left us alone. Indeed, he is still present to us in other ways. Jesus has left us the sacraments through which the Holy Spirit conveys the grace of God in a physical and tangible way. Pentecost marks the beginning of this new, sacramental era in which we live today. It does so because the ministers of the sacraments have the power to perform the sacraments because the Holy Spirit acts through them. The Holy Spirit conforms the minister to Christ.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 5th June

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Pentecost (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Pentecost (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Pentecost (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 6th June

11.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Memoria of Mary, Mother of the Church (St Mary's)

Tuesday 7th June

9.00am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 8th June

9.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
9.30am	Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
10.00am	Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (St Mary's)
7.00pm	Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 9th June

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 the Feast of St Columba (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 10th June

9.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am	Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit (St Mary's)

Saturday 11th June

4.45pm	Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm	Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (St Mary's)

IF YOU ARE RETIRED, OFF WORK OR ON HOLIDAY PLEASE CONSIDER COMING TO WEEKDAY MASS

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

6th June - Memoria of Mary, Mother of the Church - Pope Francis inscribed the Memoria of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church in the Roman Calendar in 2018 to remind all Christ's disciples, that, if they want to grow and be filled with the love of God, it is necessary to plant their lives firmly on three great realities: the Cross, the Eucharist, and the great Mother of God.

9th June - Feast of St Columba - St Columba was born of royal blood in Gartan, County Donegal. In the year 563 he left for Iona where he founded a monastery from which the Catholic Faith was preached in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. He died in 597 and was buried on Iona.

11th June - Memoria of St Barnabas - St Barnabas was a Levite of Cypriot origin who sold land he owned and gave the money to help the early Church. He smoothed over the first meetings between St Paul, the former persecutor of the Christian community and the Apostles. The growing Church in Antioch was entrusted to his care. He went to Tarsus to have St Paul join him and they go together on the first of the long missionary journeys. On their return they go to the Church's first Council at Jerusalem which considered how to relate to the increasing number of Gentiles who were asking for Baptism. About to embark on a second missionary journey, Barnabas and Paul have a "violent quarrel" and Barnabas sets sail for his native Cyprus to preach the Gospel there. Tradition, which honours him with the title 'Apostle', says he was martyred at Salamis in the year 61. He is the patron of Cyprus, Antioch, and against hailstorms.

BABY LUCA BRANNAN

Luca Brannan is just 17 months old and has been diagnosed with an inflammatory myofibroblastic tumour (IMT) that requires regular treatment. He has to be taken each day to the Glasgow Children's Hospital. Kieran and Shannen, his mum and dad, are organising an event at Hamilton Accies New Douglas Park next month. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the back of St Mary's after the Saturday Vigil Mass and the Sunday 10.00am Mass. The raffle prizes include various football strips, corporate suite at Parkhead, various hotel overnights for two, Spa Day, beauty voucher, MOT to the value of £250, Snap on Tools worth £250, various bottles and Coerver Football Training Camp vouchers.

MASS FOR MARRIED COUPLES

To celebrate the World Meeting of Families taking place in Rome late June, there will be a special Mass in our parish for all married couples. The Mass will take place on 29th June at 7.00pm in Our Lady & St John's and all married couples can collectively renew their marriage vows at this Mass. Any couple preparing for marriage who would like their engagement ring blessed, or any married couple who would like their wedding rings blessed will have the opportunity after Mass for this to take place. All married couples are warmly invited to this Mass.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£852.00
Ascension Collection:	£317.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£1,127.00
TOTAL:	£2,296.00
Communications Collection:	£231.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

RCIA

The RCIA programme will begin again after the summer for anyone interested in becoming a Catholic. Please speak with Fr Wyllie before the summer holidays if you are interested in becoming a Catholic next Easter.



PARISH PILGRIMAGE

Many thanks to all those parishioners who came along to the Parish Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto, it was lovely to see so many parishioners join us for the day, especially for the Mass in the Glass Chapel. A word of thanks must go to the catering and Grotto staff who made the visit so enjoyable and memorable. Throughout the day we had around 70 parishioners there to enjoy the day. The SSVP of St Mary's made a donation of £750.00 toward the cost of the day. We thank them for their generosity in helping to offset the cost.

CHURCHES OPEN FOR PRAYER

Over the past year both churches have been open for private prayer during the day. It has been very heartening to see the number of people who pop in to light a candle or who take the opportunity for silent prayer before the tabernacle. Fr Wyllie encourages all parents, carers and children to try and make an effort to pop into the church before or after school for a moment of prayer, especially now that the better weather is here. Both churches are open from **8.30am until 5.30pm Monday to Friday**; St Mary's is open on a Saturday from 9.00am until 6.30pm and then a Sunday from 9.00am until 6.00pm or after the evening liturgy. Our Lady & St John's is open on a Sunday from 11.00am until after the 5.00pm Mass.

AUCHLOCHAN MASS

The next Mass with the residents of Auchlochan will take place on Thursday 16th June at 12.30pm followed by a function in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along to the Mass & the Hall afterwards.

FEAST DAY OF ST ANTHONY

There will be a special Mass to celebrate the Feast of St Anthony on 13th June at 7.00pm in St Mary's. There will be the traditional blessing of the lilies at this Mass. Parishioners are invited to bring along lilies to the Mass and at the conclusion of the Homily the lilies will be blessed. St Anthony is almost always portrayed with lilies, a sign of purity. If you like lilies in the house or know of someone who would appreciate a blessed lily please come along.

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our prayerful congratulations to Scott Maquilang who will receive his First Holy Communion at the 12noon Mass in Our Lady & St John's today. We pray that Scott will always love and appreciate the beautiful gift of the Lord in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and grow in that love and appreciation every day.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Fr Wyllie would like to extend an invitation to all the boys and girls of the parish to consider becoming altar servers. Please speak with him after Mass if you would like to join our team of altar servers. This is a beautiful way to serve God and grow closer to him in the Eucharist, especially for the young boys in our parish to help foster vocations to the priesthood.

BUILDING FUND

The next collection for the Building Fund will take place on the weekend of 18th/19th June, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi. This collection helps with the cost of maintaining our parish buildings and grounds. We are custodians of two beautiful churches so please give as generously as you can to this collection.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - 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 - Bill Farrell (Carmyle), Michael Heggarty (Lincoln)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Ann Reilly, Charles Morrison, The Morrison, Maguire & McStay Families, Mrs Mary Maguire, John Maguire, Sadie Semple, The Hunter Family

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

BLESSED SACRAMENT PROCESSION FROM NEWARTHILL TO CARFIN

On the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, there will be a Blessed Sacrament Procession from St Teresa's Newarthill, through the streets to Carfin Grotto, concluding with Benediction with Bishop Toal. This begins at 3.00pm and everyone is invited. All First Communicants and Altar Servers are invited to take a special part in the procession. Please try your best to go along to show our love for the Lord in the Holy Eucharist, to come together as a diocese with our bishop at Carfin Grotto and spend some time at our Diocesan Shrine to Our Blessed Mother.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

13th June	Mass for the Feast of St Anthony with blessing of lilies	7.00pm (St Mary's)
16th June	Mass with the residents of Auchlochan	12.30pm (OLSJ)
19th June	Solemn Benediction after all Masses for Corpus Christi	All Sunday Masses
22nd June	Last Mass of Term for St Mary's Primary School	10.00am (St Mary's)
23rd June	Last Mass of Term for St John's Primary School	9.30am (OLSJ)
28th June	Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul	7.00pm (St Mary's)
29th June	Early Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul	8.00am (St Mary's)
29th June	Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul	9.30am (OLSJ)
29th June	Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul	10.30am (St Mary's)
29th June	Special Mass for Married Couples	7.00pm (OLSJ)

PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

One of the suggestions which cropped up a number of times in the Synod deliberations was to hold an International Night in our parish. This would be an opportunity for us to get to know our parishioners who come from various countries throughout the world. We are very fortunate to have parishioners from different countries in Europe, Oceania, Africa and Asia. What a great blessing that is and one that we should really appreciate more. The evening would include food and snacks from the various countries, traditional dress, music and other entertainment. If you would be interested in helping to organise this event or taking part in this event then please speak with Fr Wyllie as soon as possible so that preparations can be made for holding this event after the summer holidays. A Mass would precede the event where we would have each country represented by a flag being processed in at the beginning of Mass and at the end of Mass, with the readings in various languages and maybe some hymns too.



WORRY BOX & SLEEPING ST JOSEPH

A few years ago devotion to Sleeping St Joseph was popularised by Pope Francis when he said that any worries he has he writes them down and places them under the statue of Sleeping St Joseph which he keeps on his desk. We are hoping to take possession of two of these statues over the next few weeks. We will combine the idea of a worry box, suggested by the young people, with the statue of the Sleeping St Joseph. There will be a box on which the statues will rest on and all parishioners are invited to place their worries in the box, for him to intercede for them and their particular intention. It will take a few weeks for the boxes for the statues to rest on to be prepared and set up.

