

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH



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

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

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St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
12TH JULY 2026**

THE DIVINE OFFICE

The Divine Office (also known as The Liturgy of the Hours) has deep roots in salvation history. Its foundation lies in the Jewish tradition of praying the Psalms at specific hours of the day. The first Christians continued this practice in the early Church; Acts 3:1 references the Apostles Peter and John going to the Temple for "ninth hour" of prayer.

In the 6th century, St. Benedict structured monastic life around eight daily hours that covered the entire Psalter in a week. This led to the canonical hours that still shape the Divine Office today.

St. Francis revised this rhythm in the 13th century, simplifying it for friars who were traveling preachers. Finally, the Second Vatican Council revised the schedule so that all 150 Psalms could be prayed over the course of a month, making the Divine Office more accessible for the laity.

The Divine Office is made up of many different "hours." These aren't 60-minute periods of time but rather moments of the day dedicated to prayer. The five main hours are:

Office of Readings – Once called "Matins," this includes extended readings from Sacred Scripture and the Church Fathers. It can be prayed at any time of day.

Morning Prayer (Lauds) – Prayed at dawn, it offers praise for the gift of a new day.

Daytime Prayer – One or all of the following hours: mid-morning (Terce), midday (Sext), and mid-afternoon (None)

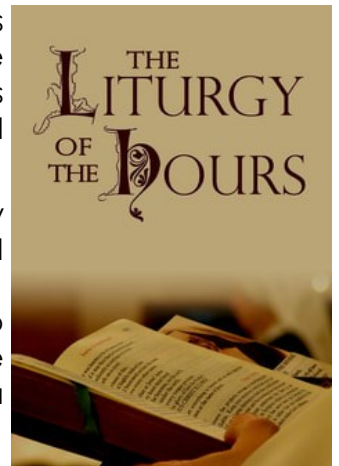
Evening Prayer (Vespers) – Prayed at sunset (often considered the most solemn hour)

Night Prayer (Compline) – The final hour, prayed before bedtime.

While only priests (and seminarians in the process of becoming priests) are obligated to pray all the hours daily, deacons and religious also pray many of them. Due to work and family obligations, laity often choose to pray just one or two of the hours, such as Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer.

Each hour of the Divine Office follows a similar pattern, though with unique texts for the time of day. Throughout the course of the day, the hours will include: Hymn, Psalms and Canticles, Scripture Reading, Responsory, Gospel Canticle (Three of the hours include a canticle from the Gospel: the Benedictus in the morning, the Magnificat in the evening, and the Nunc Dimittis at night), Intercessions (Petitions for the Church, the world, and other intentions), The Lord's Prayer, Concluding Prayer and Blessing. This rhythm of psalms, readings, hymns, and prayers allows Catholics to join in the same words prayed by the universal Church across time zones and continents.

Praying the Divine Office may seem intimidating at first, but it's more accessible than you might think. Many laity use one of the following tools for their prayer: A Breviary – The traditional four-volume set (or single-volume Christian Prayer) contains all the texts for the year. A Mobile App – Apps like iBreviary, Laudate, or Universalis guide you step by step.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 12th July (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 2.00pm)

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

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

1.00pm Baptism (Our Lady & St John's)

NO 5.00PM MASS



Monday 13th July (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 Monday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

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

Tuesday 14th July (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 Tuesday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

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

Wednesday 15th July (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 Bonaventure (St Mary's)

Thursday 16th July (St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

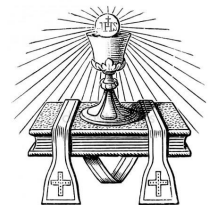
9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)

9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 17th July (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 Friday of the Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



Saturday 18th July (St Mary's 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ Closed)

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

5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

15th July - Memoria of St Bonaventure - St Bonaventure was baptised as John in 1221. St Francis of Assisi was credited with curing him from a serious illness while still a child, and so his mother nicknamed him "Buona Ventura" (good fortune). He joined the Franciscans and, aged 35, he was elected Minister General or superior of the Franciscan Order. He provided them with a good structure for running their affairs and a clear spirituality based on the teachings of St Francis. He wrote many works on philosophy and theology, intertwining the two. Among theologians he is known as the Seraphic Doctor. He died in 1274 and is the patron saint of bowel disorders.

16th July - Memoria of Our Lady of Mount Carmel - Our Lady of Mount Carmel was the name accorded to the Blessed Virgin Mary by the hermits who used Mount Carmel in present-day Israel, above the port of Haifa, as their base in the late 12th century. This was the beginning of the Carmelite Order, male and female, of whom Our Lady of Mount Carmel is the patron.

STAINED GLASS

Many thanks to those parishioners who have made donations to the Stained Glass Window project at Our Lady & St John's. These donations are very gratefully received and will contribute to the £50,000.00 bill for this project. These beautiful windows have been in place from the opening of the church, they are a rich part of our history and heritage. If you are in a position to make a donation to this project, no matter how small, it would be very welcome indeed. The ways you can donate to this project are as follows:



Bank Transfer: You can create a bank transfer, using the reference **Building Fund**, to the parish bank account, the details: Account Name - **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**, Account No - **00499758**, Sort Code - **800877**

Digital Giving Machines: At the back of the church you can select **Building Fund** and make a donation through the digital giving machines by following the instructions on screen

Old fashioned way: You can donate through handing in an envelope either through the offertory collection or through the chapel house letter box.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations: £750.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers: £1,920.00
Digital Giving: £156.50
£2,826.50

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**

Giftaid forms available at back of the church.

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**



PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

The pilgrimage will take place on Saturday 1st August at Carfin Grotto with Mass at 12noon. Bishop John Keenan invites all the Catholic faithful of Scotland to attend this event. At the same time in England, the same prayers will be offered at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

CONGRATULATIONS

We extend our congratulations and best wishes to Mark and Alicia who were married in Our Lady & St John's yesterday (Saturday). We keep them very much in our prayers as they begin their married life together, joined together by God in the sacred seal of Holy Matrimony.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WHITHORN

A two day trip has been organised for 29th/30th August to join the National St Ninian's Pilgrimage to Whithorn. We will be accompanied by Bishop Toal and will be staying overnight at the Premier Inn in Dumfries. The cost of the trip is £159pp for a twin/double room and £189pp for a single room. The price includes coach travel from Motherwell, dinner, bed and breakfast, and fish and chips on the return journey. For more information, contact Jim McKelvie on 07957847290 or email pilgrimage@rcdom.org.uk



VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Matthew O'Neill and Aidan Kelly, the two seminarians for the Diocese of Motherwell, have returned from the mission experience in Uganda at the conclusion of their Pastoral Year working in the diocese. The three men on the Propaedeutic Course in Salamanca, Spain have also returned home in recent days. Once Bishop Toal receives the reports from the Rector of the college, a decision will be made regarding their future. There are currently several young men from our diocese taking part in the discernment process with a view to beginning the Propaedeutic Period in September. We keep our seminarians and those discerning a vocation to the priesthood very much in our prayers. The annual Diocesan Vocations Mass will take place on Tuesday 25th August at 7.00pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell. Please make a special effort to join the bishop for this Mass.

THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Over the past year there has been a considerable increase in the numbers of people seeking to find out more about the Catholic faith in our country and throughout the world. If you, or someone you know, are thinking of becoming a Catholic or would like to find out more about what is involved, please speak with Fr Wyllie to organise an initial and informal chat. We hope to run the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) course from late September with a view to those taking part in the course being received into full communion at Easter 2027.

ETIQUETTE IN THE CHURCH

All mobile phones and devices should be switched to silent in the church, we should try to be on time for Mass beginning and have as little movement around the church during Mass as possible.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Gemma Barton, Rose M. Taylor, Cathy Caven, Faith Lindsay, Pat Whalin, Stephen Fleming, Robbie Frew

RIP - John Holton, Jacqui Wyllie (Shieldmuir), Jim Crilly, Sally Gallagher, Harry McCall, James Kennedy (Strathaven), Theresa Nicol

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Sadie Feeney, George & Nan Feeney, Michael Weir, Grace Girvan, John McCormack

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.



SYRO-MALABAR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

It is with great joy and thanksgiving that the Syro-Malabar community in the Diocese of Motherwell share the news that the St Mary's Syro-Malabar Catholic community have been granted a permanent place of worship in our diocese. They have purchased the former Craigneuk & Belhaven Church of Scotland on Craigneuk Street, just down from St Patrick's Shieldmuir. As children of St Thomas the Apostle, inheritors of a two-thousand year-old faith tradition they have been here in our diocese for twenty-three years. Parishioners are cordially invited to the consecration of the church on Sunday 26th July at 2.30pm. All welcome.

HOLIDAY CHURCHES

Over the past few years we have encouraged parishioners to send photographs of the churches they attend on their summer holidays. It's wonderful to see the churches that parishioners send through email and the parish Facebook, reminding us that we are part of a Church which is present in every country in the world. If you are heading away on holiday why not send through a photo of the church you attend and let us know where it is and we'll share it on the parish social media.



PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS
The Parish Hall
EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON
2.00pm - 9.00pm
Card Payments preferable



PARISH SUMMER PARTY
The Parish Hall
SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST
Bar open from 6.30pm; Food served around 7.30pm
Food, fun and games for all the family



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT
The Parish Hall
FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER
Mass at 6.30pm followed by International Meal
Please make a dish from your country of origin



PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION
St Mary's
13TH-15TH SEPTEMBER
From after Sunday 10.00am Mass until Tuesday 7.00pm Mass

