

# OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH



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

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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



**St Mary's**  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE**  
**27TH APRIL 2025**

## POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis was born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 17th December, 1936. His parents, Mario and Regina, were Italian immigrants. As a young man, Jorge underwent surgery to remove part of one of his lungs due to a serious infection. He graduated from a technical school as a chemical technician before beginning training at the Diocesan Seminary of Villa Devoto. In March 1958, he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus.

He taught literature and psychology at Immaculate Conception College in the Argentinian province of Santa Fé in 1964 and 1965 then the next year taught the same subjects in Buenos Aires. He studied theology and received a degree from the Colegio of San José from 1967 to 1970, and finished his doctoral thesis in theology in Freiburg, Germany, in 1986.

Ordained a priest in December 1969, Fr Bergoglio began serving as Jesuit provincial of Argentina in 1973. He has said that initially, his mother didn't support his decision to enter the priesthood despite the fact that she was a devout Catholic. By the time he was ordained, however, she accepted his calling and asked for his blessing at the end of his ordination Mass. He later returned to the Colegio of San José, his alma mater, where he served as rector from 1980 to 1986 as well as a professor of theology.

In February 1998, he became archbishop of Buenos Aires. Three years later, in February 2001, he was elevated to cardinal by Pope John Paul II and named the cardinal-priest of Saint Robert Bellarmino. He served as president of the Bishops' Conference of Argentina from 2005 until 2011.

On 13th March, 2013, at the age of 76, Cardinal Bergoglio was named the 266th pope of the Catholic Church. The new pontiff adopted the name Pope Francis after Saint Francis of Assisi. He is the first citizen from the Americas, the first non-European, and the first Jesuit priest to be elected pope. On that night of his election, addressing a crowd of tens of thousands in Saint Peter's Square, Pope Francis stated: "As you know, the duty of the conclave was to appoint a bishop of Rome. It seems to me that my brother cardinals have chosen one who is from the ends of the earth... Here I am. I would like to thank you for your embrace."

More than three and a half million young people attended Mass on Copacabana Beach on his first overseas visit to Brazil. He went on to embark on 45 official trips outside of Italy, being the first pontiff to visit Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Myanmar, North Macedonia, Bahrain and Mongolia.

The Pope confronted Mafia bosses, brought together the Israeli President and the Palestinian President in peace talks, brought together Cuban President Raul Castro and U.S. President Barack Obama in an historic meeting that precipitated significant foreign policy changes.

After a long illness with double Pneumonia he died at the Casa Santa Marta in Vatican City at 7.35am on Monday 21st April 2025, in the twelfth year of his pontificate. Requiescat in pace.



# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

**Sunday 27th April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)

**10.00am** Holy Mass for the Second Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)

**12noon** Holy Mass for the Second Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

**3.00pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet with Adoration & Benediction (St Mary's)

**5.00pm** Holy Mass for the Second Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

**Monday 28th April** (St Mary's 9.00am - 3.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

**11.30am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

**12noon** Holy Mass for Monday of the Second Week of Easter (St Mary's)

**Tuesday 29th April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 3.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

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

**9.30am** Holy Mass for the Feast of St Catherine of Siena (Our Lady & St John's)

**9.55am** Novena to St Anthony (Our Lady & St John's)

**Wednesday 30th April** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 3.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 7.45pm)

**9.30am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

**10.00am** Holy Mass for the Memoria of Pope St Pius V (St Mary's)

**6.30pm** Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)

**7.00pm** Holy Mass for the Memoria of Pope St Pius V (Our Lady & St John's)

**Thursday 1st May** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 3.00pm; 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 St Joseph the Worker (Our Lady & St John's)

**Friday 2nd May** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 3.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)

**9.30am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

**10.00am** Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Athanasius (St Mary's)

**Saturday 3rd May** (St Mary's open 9.00am - 5.45pm; OLSJ closed)

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

**5.00pm** Vigil Mass for the Second Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)



## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**29th April - Feast of St Catherine of Siena** - St Catherine of Siena was born in 1347 and became a Dominican tertiary as an adolescent. While still young she had mystical experiences in prayer which led to her receiving the stigmata. Her writings are of great spiritual profit - she was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1970. She campaigned successfully for the pope to return from Avignon to Rome. She died in 1380. She was declared a Patron of Europe in 1999.

**30th April - Memoria of Pope St Pius V** - Pope St Pius V was born in 1504 and elected pope in 1565. He laboured to pull the Church out of the chaos caused by the Reformation, and in particular bringing to a satisfactory conclusion the Council of Trent, providing measures to bring some sense of discipline to the life of the Church so that it was better able to meet the challenges of the future. He promulgated the Mass which was used until the reforms of the Second Vatican Council 1969. He died in 1572.

**1st May - Memoria of St Joseph the Worker** - The image of St Joseph, the carpenter, earning his daily living by the work of his own hands is held up to emphasise the necessity of work, the part it plays in the self-esteem of many, and the contribution made to society by so many skills and talents. It is a day for highlighting the social encyclicals of the popes.

**2nd May - Memoria of St Athanasius** - St Athanasius was born in 295 and became the Bishop of Alexandria, Egypt, in 328. Much of his time and energy was taken up with the long-running struggle with the Arian heresy. This spoke of Jesus as being somehow less than God, rather than True God and True Man, which is the Faith of the Church. He suffered much for true doctrine and opponents forced him out of Alexandria on five occasions totalling 17 of the 45 years he was bishop there. He died in 373 and is the patron saint of theologians, apologists, and scholars due to his relentless dedication to upholding the truth of Christian doctrine.

**3rd May - Feast of St Philip & St James** - St Philip and St James were two of the Twelve Apostles. St Philip spread the faith in Greece and Turkey, being martyred there in 80AD. St James, called the Lesser or Younger, was Bishop of Jerusalem and was martyred there in 62AD. St Philip is the patron saint of Luxembourg and Uruguay, St James is the patron of pharmacists.

## PARISH FINANCES

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Offertory Collection & Donations: | £1,448.00        |
| Easter Collection:                | £1,290.00        |
| Stall:                            | £160.00          |
| Standing Orders & Bank Transfers  | £190.00          |
| <b>Total:</b>                     | <b>£3,088.00</b> |

**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**

## 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**



## HOLY PLACES OF THE HOLY LAND & SCIAF WEE BOXES

Many thanks to those parishioners who contributed to the collection on Good Friday for the Christian places of worship in the Holy Land the total collected was **£702.00**. The SCIAF Wee Boxes raised **£1,189.00**. Many thanks for your wonderful generosity to these causes.

## THE XAVERIAN FATHERS

This coming week we welcome to our parish the Xaverian Fathers who are based at the Conforti Institute in Coatbridge they will celebrate Masses for us in the parish from Monday - Friday. Please make a special effort to come along to Mass during this week for the priests who will travel here.

## PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN GROTTO

Our Parish Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto will take place on Thursday 8th May with the bus leaving around 9.30am that morning and returning back to the parish mid-afternoon. The day will include tea/coffee on arrival, time for personal prayer, a visit to the large reliquary, recitation of the Rosary, Mass, Stations of the Cross and lunch. Please sign up on the sheets at the back of the church. Please sign up by the end of today so that arrangements can be made for transport and catering.



## ST MARY'S PRIMARY - BINGO NIGHT

The Parent Council of St Mary's Primary are organising a Bingo Night to help raise funds for the school, to help with the cost of outings and other necessary expenses for the boys and girls. The Bingo Night will take place on Friday 9th May at 6.30pm in Raploch Bowling Club. All welcome.



## THEOLOGY ON TAP

The Parish Hall

**MONDAY 19TH MAY**

**Anthony Horan on the relationship between Church & State**



## SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

The Parish Hall

**SATURDAY 24TH MAY**

Time TBC

Tickets **£5.00**

Pies at Half-time



## LADIES PROSECCO AFTERNOON TEA

The Parish Hall

**SATURDAY 31ST MAY**

**1.00pm - 7.00pm**

**Tickets - £20.00**

Bar, Sandwiches, Sausage Rolls, Cakes, Scones  
Bottle of Prosecco for tables or 4+, Live Singer



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

**SICK** - Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Aaron Mulligan, Stephen Fleming, Marion Bryson, William Young, James Thomson, Andy McGarvey, Julia Brassington, Moira Corr, Maureen Crank, Robbie Frew

**RIP** - His Holiness Pope Francis, Michael Fitzpatrick, Walter Stewart, Anne Gilmour

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - John Leonard

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

## EASTER REMEMBRANCES

May the souls of the faithful departed through the  
Risen Christ rest in peace and rise in glory



His Holiness Pope Francis; Alice & Cornelius Weir & Family; David Yardley Kennedy, Robert Kennedy Snr, Robert Kennedy Jnr, Gordon Hotchkiss, Graham Hotchkiss, Sharon Campbell, Christine McCluskey, Christine Weller, Christine Fuller, Louis Fuller, James Hotchkiss, Margaret Hotchkiss, Alexander Young; John & Catherine Deerin, Gerard Wyllie, Hugh & Margaret Wyllie, Martin Wyllie, George Wyllie, Annie Mulhearn, Kevin Wyllie, David James, Jim McShane, Paul McKenna, Frank Lyons, Ellen Mullen, Very Reverend Kieran Canon O'Farrell, Very Reverend William Canon Dunnachie, Very Reverend Giles Canon Goward, Eleanor Morrison, Tommy Ferrie; John Creechan, Thomas & Catherine Kennedy, Michael & Annie Creechan, Kennedy Family, Creechan Family; George & Rose Rodger, Tommy & May McMahon; Michael Simpson, Simon Cheresna; John & Letty Gonnella; Ian Quinn, Robert Maguire, Isabella Freeland; Martin Gibney, McLaughlin Families, Duncan Families; Paul Murphy; Jamie Dunn, Jerry Dunn, Marion Houston, Desmond Houston, Ellen Richardson, Barbara McLean, Joyce O'Neill, Christine Morris; Chris Crumley; Elizabeth & James Sherry, Logan Ross, Elizabeth & Frank Lynch, Elizabeth & Francis Caraher, Jim Wotherspoon; The McGonagle, Stewart & Wright Families; Emily Leonard, John Leonard, Alan Brotherton; James Rafferty; All forgotten souls.

May their souls, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

## MANY THANKS

Fr Wyllie would like to thank those parishioners who very generously handed in cards and gifts for him over Easter. May God reward your kindness, generosity and support towards him.

## THE SEDE VACANTE (VACANT SEAT) & INTERREGNUM

Following the death of our late Holy Father Pope Francis, a Mass was held in Motherwell Cathedral last Monday evening with over 400 people attending. Bishop Toal invites the whole diocesan community to a Requiem Mass for Pope Francis in the **Cathedral on Thursday 1st May at 7.00pm**. Another Mass will take place at **Carfin Grotto on Sunday 4th May at 3.00pm** to invoke the Holy Spirit on the Cardinals about to enter the Conclave. In our parish, there will be a special Mass on **Wednesday 7th May at 7.00pm in Our Lady & St John's** to join our prayers with those of the Universal Church for the election of our new pope. All parishioners are invited. If the cardinals have already chosen a new Holy Father by that stage then the Mass will be offered for the new pope, invoking the Holy Spirit upon him as he begins his Petrine Ministry.



## PARISH LIGHT BITE AFTER MASS

The Parish Hall

**SUNDAY 4TH MAY**

After the 12noon Mass

