

# OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

Scottish Charity Number - SC011041

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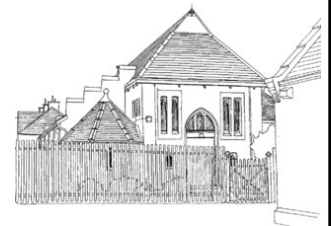
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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



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



St Mary's  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE**  
**24TH APRIL 2022**

## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

In the Jubilee Year 2000, Pope John Paul II proclaimed that from that year forward the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonisation Mass of St Faustina Kowalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter. In her spiritual life, her contemplation on the Mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbour.

In her years in the convent, St Faustina heard a call from God to make God's mercy known to the world so that the world may more fully receive God's healing grace. St Faustina promoted the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which consists of the recitation of prayers to the Eternal Father with the use of the rosary for the sake of Christ's sorrowful passion.

The Chaplet is prayed as follows:

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross, one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles' Creed.
2. On the Our Father beads, recite the following:  
"Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."
3. On the ten Hail Mary beads, say the following:  
"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."
4. Repeat step two and three for all five decades.
5. Conclude by reciting three times:  
"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

When celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday, the faithful are called to reflect more personally on the graces won through the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. In this way their hearts may be more fully aware of the mercy of God for them personally and for the sake of the world.

The full text of the absolution given by the priest in confession is:

"God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Included in this text are several important messages:

1. Forgiveness comes from the mercy of God.
2. Reconciliation takes place through the death and resurrection of Jesus.
3. The presence of the Holy Spirit among us is a sign of God's forgiveness.
4. The Church plays a role in the extension of God's forgiveness to us.
5. The priest acts as judge of the person's sincerity in seeking forgiveness.
6. Forgiveness is granted in the name of the three persons of the Trinity.



# EASTER OCTAVE IN OUR PARISH

## Sunday 24th April

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 Devotion with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Second Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)

**NO MASS IN THE PARISH FROM MONDAY 25TH - SATURDAY 30TH**

**BOTH CHURCHES WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPEN FROM 8.30AM UNTIL 5.00PM  
FOR PRIVATE PRAYER**

## Saturday 30th April

**NO MORNING MASS**

5.30pm	Vigil Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)
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## Sunday 1st May

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Third Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)
6.00pm	May Devotions concluding with Benediction (Our Lady & St John's)

## MONDAY 25TH APRIL - SATURDAY 30TH APRIL

Fr Wyllie will be away from the parish from tomorrow (Monday) until Saturday. He has tried to get a supply priest to cover Masses in both churches but all the religious orders and retired priests are unable to provide cover and at present we only have one curate in the diocese. From after the 5.00pm Mass today there will be no Mass in the parish until the Vigil Mass on Saturday 30th April, effectively there will be no Mass Monday - Friday of that week. As the number of priests decline and the number of religious orders in our diocese continues to dwindle we may have to adapt the provision of Masses in our parishes in the years to come when the Parish Priest is on holiday. We have been informed that priests from abroad will no longer be coming to Scotland to relieve priests in the summer as was the case pre-Brexit and pre-Covid.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS

Our Parish Stall has a variety of First Holy Communion cards and First Holy Communion Gift bags for sale. The cards are priced at £1.00. Why not have a look after Mass today?

## DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS

Today (Sunday) at 3.00pm there will be the Divine Mercy Chaplet concluding with Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in St Mary's. Please make an effort to come along and join in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

## SINCEREST THANKS

Anna Hannigan, who has played the organ at the Sunday 5.00pm Mass in Our Lady & St John's for a good number of years will now step down from this role and attend Mass in St Mary's Lanark, her home parish. Fr Wyllie would like to thank Anna for her dedication and for using her talent in the service of God and our parish community over the years.

## MUSIC LITURGY IN THE PARISH

There will be a meeting of all those involved in the Music Liturgy of the parish on Wednesday 11th May at 7.30pm in Our Lady & St John's. Anyone who can play an instrument or hold a tune is welcome to come along and to be involved in helping lead the music at our Sunday Masses. We are also in the process of trying to form a Children's Choir which would lead the singing one Sunday a month in both our churches. Please encourage the young people to respond.

**SECOND COLLECTION FOR SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS ON 7TH/8TH MAY.**

## EASTER SUNDAY MASSES

It was wonderful to see so many parishioners turning out for the Easter Masses in our parish last weekend. At the Solemn Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday we had around 150 and then both Masses on Easter Sunday were packed too. A special word of thanks to all of you for coming along, especially to the many young families. Many thanks too to those who led the music, the altar servers, the sacristans, the readers, the passkeepers and to the St Vincent de Paul for providing the Easter eggs for the younger parishioners.

### PARISH FINANCES

Easter Collection & Donations:	£2,301.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£460.00
Stall:	£120.00
Votive Candles:	£170.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£3,051.00</b>

**Many thanks for your very generous support**

### SCIAF WEE BOXES

Today is the cut off for handing in your SCIAF Wee Boxes to the church. If you haven't brought it along with you then please forward your donation to SCIAF yourself. You can donate on their website: [www.sciaf.org.uk](http://www.sciaf.org.uk). Thank you to those who have handed theirs in.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

The children from P4 of both our schools whose parents have met with Fr Wyllie will be enrolled for First Holy Communion on the following dates:

**Friday 6th May** - St Mary's at 10.00am Mass

**Thursday 12th May** - St John's at 9.30am Mass

The children will receive the Sacrament on:

**Saturday 7th May** - First Holy Communions at 12noon for the pupils of St Mary's Primary in St Mary's Church

**Saturday 21st May** - First Holy Communions at 12noon for the pupils of St John's Primary in Our Lady & St John's Church

### CABARET NIGHT



The next Cabaret Night will take place on  
**Friday 29th April**  
in the Parish Hall.

**GILON, Music through the Decades**

Tickets £7.00

Contact Angela Stewart on  
07733440351

### MAY DEVOTIONS

The Church traditionally dedicates the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is part of our Catholic tradition and heritage to celebrate May Devotions on the Sundays of May. These devotions include the Holy Rosary, Litany to Our Lady and concluding with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.

May Devotions will take place on:

Sun 1st May - Our Lady & St John's at 6.00pm

Sun 8th May - Our Lady & St John's at 6.00pm

Sun 15th May - Our Lady & St John's at 6.00pm

Sun 22nd May - St Mary's at 6.30pm

Sun 29th May - St Mary's at 6.30pm

Please make a special effort to come along to honour our Blessed Mother during her special month and to commend ourselves, our families, our parish, the Church and the world into her maternal hands. *'O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee'*.

### PARISH PASTORAL TEAM

The Parish Pastoral Planning Team will meet on Monday 9th May at 7.00pm in St Mary's Chapel House to discuss the responses to the Synod Questionnaire and to begin to make plans to implement the suggestions and ideas which were expressed. The members of the group would be pleased to hear your opinions and suggestions so please speak to them before the meeting. The members of this group are: Russell McAllister, Suzanne McCaughey, Scott Smith, Laura Steele (Kennedy), Ciaran Reilly & Suzanne Sherry.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Parish Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday 10th May at 3.30pm in St Mary's. If you have anything you would like raised at the meeting then please speak to Fr Wyllie, Mary McDermott, Gerry McCaughey, Patricia Weir or Irene McGoldrick before 10th May so it can be discussed.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SICK** - John Leonard, 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** - Agnes McKee (Wishaw), John Allan (Netherton)

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - James Girvan, Margaret Girvan Bennet, Mary Dawson, Babs McGurk, Alice Watters, Jean Gordon, John Dickson

### EASTER REMEMBRANCES

*On this joyful day of the resurrection we pray that the Risen Lord will receive these souls into his Kingdom*

John Creechan, Thomas & Catherine Kennedy, Annie & Michael Creechan, Kennedy Family, Creechan Family, Alice, Cornelius, Jimmy & Michael Weir, John & Catherine Deerin, Gerard Wyllie, Hugh & Margaret Wyllie, George Wyllie, Martin Wyllie, David James, Annie Mulhearn, Very Reverend Kieran Canon O'Farrell, Marion Hoey, John Allan, Christine McCluskey, Christine Weller, Christine Fuller, Louis Weller, Teresa McCluskey, John McCluskey, David Yardley Kennedy, Robert Kennedy Jnr, Robert Kennedy Snr, James Hotchkiss, Margaret Hotchkiss, Margaret Fotheringham, Linda Smith, Paul Donnachie, Beatrice & Hugh McGhee, The McGhee Family, The McVicar Family, Hugh Morrison, James Whyte, Canon Keane, Jim Higgins, Molly & Joe Tierney, Joe & Jina Tierney, Mary Duncan Kenny, Fay Deveney, Susie Tierney, Robert Hume, Peggy & Pat McGowan, Mary & James McCormack, Patrick & Elaine Young, Eugenia Young, Betty, Edward, Wullie & Margaret McCabe, The Sweeney & McCabe Families, Frank Campbell, Bunty Kane, Millie Lynch, Margaret McGeechan, Robert Maguire, Ian Quinn, Jim Somerville, Alan Rennie, Annie McNally, Charlie McNally (snr), Charlie McNally (Jnr), Johnnie McNally, Edward O'Mara, Joseph & Mary O'Mara, Hugh & Margaret McCann & Family, McGonagle, Stewart & McLaughlin Families, Elizabeth & James Sherry, Logan Ross, James & Grace Sherry, Francis & Elizabeth Caraher, Josephine Rynn, Mary Rynn, Bernard Rynn

### LIGHT BITE AFTER 12NOON MASS

Fr Wyllie is looking for volunteers to take this forward the plan to reintroduce the Light Bite after the 12noon Mass in Our Lady & St John's. If you would be willing to consider being a part of this venture then please contact him over the next few weeks. Some of the children from the school have offered their services so it would be great to support them and to offer parishioners the opportunity to gather after Mass on a Sunday. So far only one parishioner has volunteered to help.

### RCIA

Over the past two years we have been very blessed to have received nine adults into full communion with the Catholic Church, in 2021 we had four candidates and this year we had five. The RCIA programme will begin again over the next few weeks, so if you know of anyone who is interested in joining the Catholic Church then please ask them to speak with Fr Wyllie as soon as possible. An information evening will take place soon, when we know if there is anyone interested.

### PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO CARFIN GROTTO

A pilgrimage for our parish will take place to Carfin Lourdes Grotto on **Thursday 2nd June**. This year the Grotto will be raised to the status of Scotland's National Marian Shrine as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Grotto back in 1922. All parishioners are invited to come along and to share in this day of pilgrimage to the very special and beautiful Grotto at Carfin dedicated to Our Lady & Lourdes & St Therese of Lisieux. A list is available at the back of the church for you to place your name down for the bus and for the lunch. The itinerary for the day is as follows:

10.00am Bus leaves Blackwood  
10.20am Bus leaves Larkhall  
10.45am Bus arrives at Carfin  
10.50am Tea & Coffee with biscuits or cakes at the Xavier Centre  
11.20am Rosary Procession from the Lourdes Shrine  
12noon Visit to the Reliquary  
12.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Glass Chapel  
1.00pm Holy Mass in the Glass Chapel  
1.45pm Lunch at the Xavier Centre  
3.45pm Leave for Larkhall & Blackwood

