

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

Scottish Charity Number - SC011041

Telephone - 01698 884017

Email - ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk

Facebook - catholicparishourladyoffatima

Twitter - OLOFParish Instagram - olofparish

Website - parishofourladyoffatima.com

Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION 31ST MARCH 2024

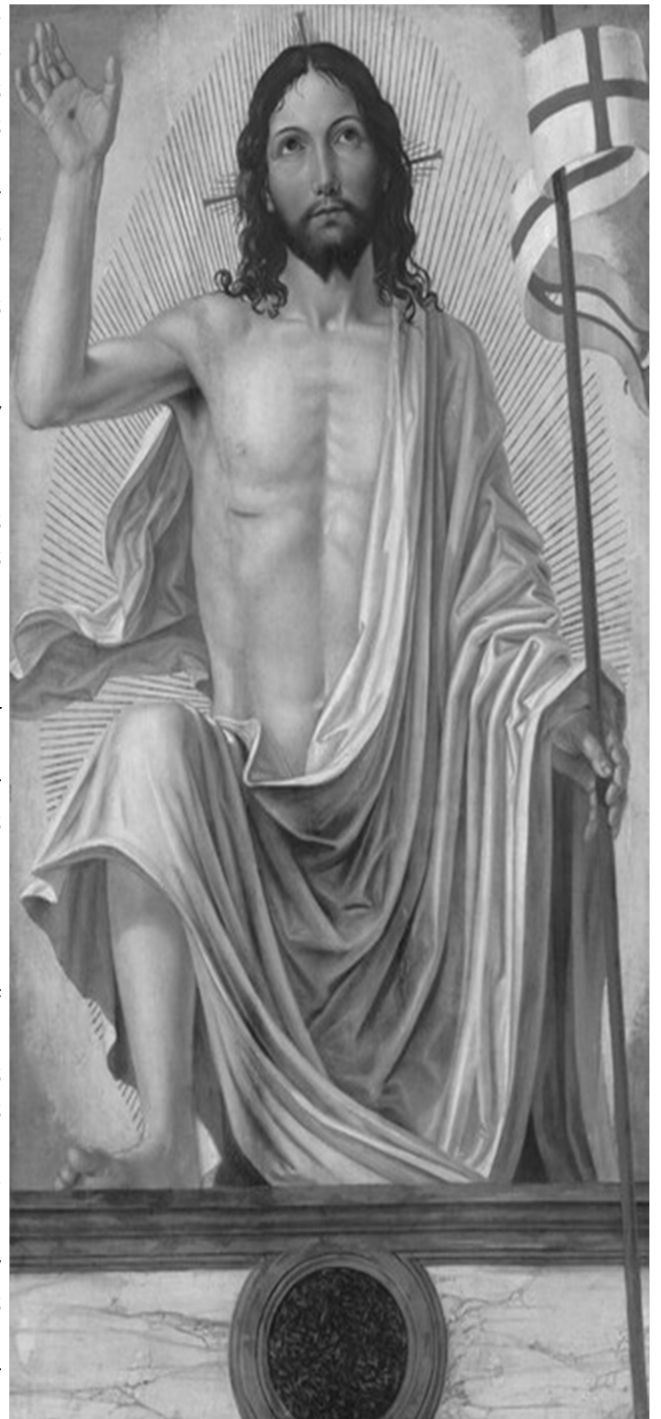
CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT! ALLELUIA!

On Easter night, the night of the new creation, the Church presents the mystery of light using a unique and very humble symbol: the Paschal candle. This is a light that lives from sacrifice. The candle shines inasmuch as it is burnt up. It gives light, inasmuch as it gives itself. Thus the Church presents most beautifully the paschal mystery of Christ, who gives himself and so bestows the great light. Secondly, we should remember that the light of the candle is a fire. Fire is the power that shapes the world, the force of transformation. And fire gives warmth. Here too the mystery of Christ is made newly visible. Christ, the light, is fire, flame, burning up evil and so reshaping both the world and ourselves. "Whoever is close to me is close to the fire," as Jesus is reported by Origen to have said. And this fire is both heat and light: not a cold light, but one through which God's warmth and goodness reach down to us.

The great hymn of the Exsultet, which the priest or deacon sings at the beginning of the Easter liturgy, points us quite gently towards a further aspect. It reminds us that this object, the candle, has its origin in the work of bees. So the whole of creation plays its part. In the candle, creation becomes a bearer of light. But in the mind of the Church Fathers, the candle also in some sense contains a silent reference to the Church. The cooperation of the living community of believers in the Church in some way resembles the activity of bees. It builds up the community of light. So the candle serves as a summons to us to become involved in the community of the Church, whose *raison d'être* is to let the light of Christ shine upon the world.

Let us pray to the Lord at this time that he may grant us to experience the joy of his light; let us pray that we ourselves may become bearers of his light, and that through the Church, Christ's radiant face may enter our world. Amen!

Fr Wyllie wishes all parishioners and their families a very blessed and happy Easter.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 31st March

10.00am Holy Mass for Easter Sunday (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for Easter Sunday (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 1st April

NO MASS IN THE PARISH

Tuesday 2nd April

9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Easter Octave (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 3rd April

9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Easter Octave (St Mary's)
6.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Easter Octave (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 4th April

9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Thursday of the Easter Octave (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 5th April

9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for Friday of the Easter Octave (St Mary's)

Saturday 6th April

12.30pm Wedding Service (St Mary's)
4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm **Vigil Mass for the Second Sunday of Eastertide** (St Mary's)



THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Many thanks to everyone who came along in such great numbers to the Masses & Liturgies of the Sacred Triduum. A special word of thanks to the young people who had their feet washed at the Mass of the Last Supper, to all our servers, readers, musicians, cantors, extraordinary ministers, the florist and helpers for the floral displays, the cleaners, passkeepers, the SSVP, the sacristans, the painters at St Mary's, and all those who helped in any way setting up the churches for the moving and very worthy celebration of the Sacred Triduum here in our parish.

EASTER MONDAY

Neither of the churches will be open on Easter Monday for private prayer. This is to allow everyone a restful day after the rigours of Lent and the celebration of Holy Week & Easter.

EASTER COLLECTION

A second collection will be taken up at Mass this weekend, traditionally known as the Easter Collection. This collection, together with the Christmas collection, is viewed as an opportunity for individuals and families to make a gift to the parish. Please be as generous as you always are.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The Second Sunday of Eastertide (next Sunday) is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. On that day at 3.00pm we will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Everyone is invited to come along.

CATHOLIC TEACHER APPROVAL

Those wishing to teach in a Catholic school are required to receive approval from your parish priest to show that you accept and live out the teachings of the Catholic Faith, including coming to Mass on a Sunday. This applies to those enrolling for the Catholic Teachers course, about to start as probationary teachers and all those applying for teaching posts, or promoted posts, within the Catholic sector. Fr Wyllie asks that all those looking for approval do so in good time, and also to remind them that they must attend Mass in our parish or no approval will be given.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£1,065.00
Standing Orders:	£224.00
Stall:	£25.00
Total:	£1,314.00

Many thanks for your very generous support

To set up a Standing Order for your collection:

Account Name - **Our Lady of Fatima Parish**
Account No - **00499758** Sort Code - **800877**

Giftaid forms available at back of the church.

TOP-SOIL AT OUR LADY & ST JOHN'S

There is a mound of top-soil between the church and the school fence which needs to be cleared over the next few weeks. If any parishioner could make use of this for their own gardens then please feel free to help yourself. The area in front of the Parish Hall will be getting power-washed over the next few weeks so please just help yourself to however much top-soil you require over the next few days.

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** or speak to Suzanne.



CHURCH WORKERS' SOCIAL

The Church Workers' Social will take place in the Parish Hall on Friday 12th April. The evening will begin with a prosecco/orange juice reception at 6.30pm followed by a three-course meal being served from 7.00pm. The evening will include a DJ with music and also the bar will be opened for drinks to be purchased. This is a great way for those who work so tirelessly in the life of the parish to come together and share an evening of good food, good company and good entertainment as one parish community.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LISBON

The joint Parish Pilgrimage with St Mary's Lanark and our own parish will take place from Tuesday 2nd July - Tuesday 9th July to Our Lady's shrine at Fatima and then moving on to the capital city of Portugal, Lisbon. There will be another meeting held before we travel, the date and time of which will be published in the bulletin over the next few weeks. The final instalment is to be paid by Wednesday 24th April directly to ALBA Tours. The bank details are:

Acc Name: **Alba Tours Ltd** Acc Number: **00898164**; Sort Code: **802260**.



PROPOSED PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI 2025

Every twenty five years, the Catholic Church celebrates what is known as a Jubilee Year, when we are all invited to Rome to pass through the Holy Door of the Papal Basilica. This would be a great opportunity for us as a parish to go to Rome to join in the celebrations for the Jubilee Year and also to see the beautiful city and experience all that the city has to offer. We would also visit Assisi, the beautiful little town in the Umbrian Hills where St Francis and St Clare lived and worked. If you would be interested in going on this pilgrimage in 2025 please speak with Fr Wyllie. There are no arrangements at the moment as we need to see how many parishioners would be interested and the costs involved. Please be advised that you would need to be in good health for the walking that will be required in Rome and Assisi. Please speak with Fr Wyllie soon.



HAPPY EASTER

Fr Wyllie would like to wish all parishioners and their families a very happy and blessed Easter, praying that the risen Lord will bestow peace and blessings on all of us in this parish and on our troubled world. He thanks all those parishioners who have handed in gifts and cards and for the many ways that you have shown support for him and the parish over the days of the Triduum and over the past year. May God bless you all for your goodness and generosity.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Gary Biggar, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Kathleen Brannigan, Anne O'Neil, Aaron Mulligan, Margaret McLaughlin, Kevin Wyllie, Kerry Peterson

RIP - William McLearn, Janet McIntosh, Benny Lynch, Janette Thomas (Blantyre), Philip Wilson, Jim Wotherspoon (Bothwell)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Robert Maguire, Ian Quinn, Isa & Walter Freeland, Alice, Cornelius Weir & Family

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



EASTER REMEMBRANCES



*This Easter the Sacrifice of Holy Mass is offered for the following,
that they may rest in peace and rise in glory*

Betty, Eddie, Wullie & Margaret McCabe, The Sweeney & McCabe Families,
Janet McIntosh, John & Catherine Deerin, Hugh & Margaret Wyllie, Gerard Wyllie,
Martin Wyllie, George Wyllie, David James, Ellen Mullen, Frank Lyons, Jim McShane,
Paul McKenna, Very Reverend Kieran Canon O'Farrell, Alice, Cornelius Weir & Family,
Robert Maguire, Ian Quinn, Isa & Walter Freeland, Jim Higgins, Eleanor Morrison,
May & Stan Kos, Elizabeth Wightman, Martin Gibney, Jim & Mary Somerville,
Charlie & Annie McNally, Charlie & Margaret McNally, Johnny McNally, Alan Rennie,
Jerry Dunn, Desmond & Marion Houston, Michael Simpson, Simon Cheresna,
John & Betty Connachan, Joseph & Margaret Cassidy, Maureen Crawley

PARISH STALL

Our Parish Stall has a wide range of cards, candles, rosaries, religious medals and other religious articles. Why not have a little look after Mass today or over the next few weeks? The Stall in St Mary's is to the left as you come in the main entrance and in Our Lady & St John's in the sacristy area. There is a wide selection of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards too.

BAPTISMS

We have been very blessed with a good number of baptisms in our parish this year so far. **There are 6 baptisms booked in over the next few weeks, so any parent who has booked a baptism is asked to contact Fr Wyllie to arrange a meeting to discuss the details of the baptism and to fill out the necessary paperwork. Please do this as soon as possible.**

FEAST DAY OF ST PEREGRINE

St Peregrine is honoured as the patron saint of those who suffer from cancer. The date of his feast day is 1st May. This year we will have a special Mass in Our Lady & St John's on **Wednesday 1st May at 7.00pm** to pray for all those who suffer from cancer, those who have died from this terrible disease, their families, and to pray for all those doctors, nurses and care-workers who help to alleviate and find a cure for this disease. We will all have known and loved someone who is going through cancer treatment, or who has lost their life to cancer, so it is a fitting moment for us to offer our prayers for all those who are or have been affected by cancer.

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Mass with Anointing of the Sick will take place in Our Lady & St John's on **Wednesday 1st May** at 7.00pm. Each year we will have two Masses with Anointing of the Sick, one in the evening in the first half of the year, and the other during the day as part of our Parish Forty Hours in September. All the sick are invited to come along to this special Mass to receive God's healing.

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

The next collection for the Church Building Fund will take place on 13th/14th April.