

# 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

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 26TH JANUARY 2025

### THE WORD OF THE LORD

It pleased God, in his goodness and wisdom, to reveal himself and to make known the mystery of his will (Ephesians 1:9). His will was that all people should have access to the Father, through Christ, the Word made flesh, in the Holy Spirit, and thus become sharers in the divine nature. By this revelation, then, the invisible God, from the fullness of his love, addresses us as his friends and moves among us, in order to invite and receive us into his own company. This economy of Revelation is realised by deeds and words, which are intrinsically bound up with each other. As a result, the works performed by God in the history of salvation shows forth and bear out the doctrine and realities signified by the words; the words for their part, proclaim the works, and bring to light the mystery they contain. The most intimate truth which this revelation gives us about God and the salvation of man shines forth in Christ, who is himself both the mediator and the sum total of Revelation.



God, who creates and conserves all things by his Word, provides us with constant evidence of himself in created realities. And, furthermore, wishing to open up the way to heavenly salvation, he manifested himself to our first parents from the very beginning. After the fall, he buoyed them up with the hope of salvation, by promising redemption; and he has never ceased to take care of the human race. For he wishes to give eternal life to all those who seek salvation. In his own time God called Abraham, and made him into a great nation. After the era of the patriarchs, he taught this nation, by Moses and the prophets, to recognise him as the only living and true God, as a provident Father and just judge. He taught them, too, to look for the promised Saviour. And so, throughout the ages, he prepared the way for the Gospel.

The divinely revealed realities, which are contained and presented in the text of Sacred Scripture, have been written down under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. For Holy Mother Church relying on the faith of the apostolic age, accepts as sacred and canonical the books of the Old and New Testaments, whole and entire, with all their parts, on the grounds that, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author, and have been handed on as such to the Church herself. To compose the sacred books, God chose certain men who, all the while he employed them in this task, made full use of their powers and faculties so that, though he acted in them and by them, it was as true authors that they consigned to writing whatever he wanted written, and no more.

Since, therefore, all that the inspired authors, or sacred writers, affirm should be regarded as affirmed by the Holy Spirit, we must acknowledge that the books of Scripture, firmly, faithfully and without error, teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation, wished to see confided to the sacred Scriptures. Thus "all Scripture is inspired by God, and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

*Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum),  
Second Vatican Council, 18th Nov 1965*

# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

<b>Sunday 26th January</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)</i>
<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Holy Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (St Mary's)
<b>12noon</b>	<b>Holy Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Our Lady & St John's)
<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Holy Mass for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Our Lady & St John's)
<b>Monday 27th January</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
11.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for Monday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
2.00pm	Holy Mass for the Patronal Feast of St John's Primary (Our Lady & St John's)
<b>Tuesday 28th January</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
9.00am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Thomas Aquinas (Our Lady & St John's)
<b>Wednesday 29th January</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
9.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
9.30am	Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm (Our Lady & St John's)
6.30pm	Confessions until 6.50pm (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm	Holy Mass for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood (Our Lady & St John's)
<b>Thursday 30th January</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
9.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.00am	Confessions until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for Thursday of the Third Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)
<b>Friday 31st January</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
9.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am	School Mass for the Memoria of St John Bosco (St Mary's)
<b>Saturday 1st February</b>	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ closed)</i>
4.15pm	Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Vigil Mass for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord</b> (St Mary's)



## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**28th January - Memoria of St Thomas Aquinas** - St Thomas Aquinas was born in 1225 and abandoned his aristocratic upbringing to join the Dominican Order. He was a man of prayer which bore fruit in extensive writings on spiritual subjects, for which he has the additional title of Doctor of the Church. His theological works, especially his Summa Theologica, were the standard texts for students of the priesthood for centuries afterwards, and even today. He died in 1274 and is honoured as the patron saint of students, teachers, Catholic universities, and publishers.

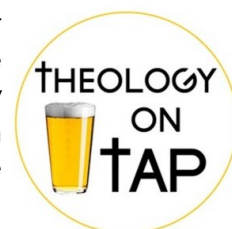
**31st January - Memoria of St John Bosco** - St John Bosco was born in 1815 and dedicated his life as a priest to the street children of Turin, finding them shelter, food and spiritual nourishment. He was a great believer in Divine Providence especially when his work was imperilled. To further this apostolate he founded the Salesian Fathers and Sisters as well as the Co-operators among Christ's faithful. He died in 1888 and is the patron saint of young people, especially those in poverty.

## VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Any young man considering the priesthood is invited to a Vocations evening in the Cathedral House, Motherwell this Tuesday at 7.00pm, or contact Fr Wyllie - [frwyllie@rcdom.org.uk](mailto:frwyllie@rcdom.org.uk)

## THEOLOGY ON TAP

The next Theology on Tap will take place on Monday 17th February beginning at 6.30pm with the talk commencing at 7.00pm. The speaker will be Doctor Valerie Fleming, a Judge on the Scottish Marriage Tribunal which deals with the Nullity Process for marriages. This is a subject which generates much interest and can be clouded by intrigue and speculation, so please come along and learn more about Annulments and the Nullity Process and support this event.



## PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£920.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers	£410.00
Stall:	£90.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,420.00</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**

*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**



## CONGRATULATIONS

As a parish we extend our prayerful congratulations to Luca John who was baptised in St Mary's last Sunday. We pray that the grace of baptism together with the good example of his parents, godparents and family, will help him to always walk as a child of the light.

## AUCHLOCHAN MASS & LUNCH

The next Auchlochan Mass & Lunch will take place in Our Lady & St John's on Thursday 30th January beginning with Mass at 12.30pm followed by the lunch in the Parish Hall. As always, all parishioners are invited but please let Betty McGonagle know for catering purposes.

## CHURCH WORKERS SOCIAL

The annual Church Workers Social will take place on Friday 21st February beginning with a drinks reception at 6.45pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for those who perform ministries and fulfil roles in our two churches to come together in a social setting to foster a greater sense of community and working together as two churches but one parish. Those who are invited to this evening are those who currently perform the following duties, roles or ministries: Readers, Extraordinary Ministers, Musicians & Cantors, Sacristans, Cleaners, Florists, Grounds Workers, Hall Team members, Pastoral Planning Team members, Finance Team members, Wellspring Working Group members, RCIA Leaders, Children's Liturgy Leaders, Stall workers, Mini Vinnie Leaders, Housekeepers, Bar Volunteers, SSVP members, Collection Counters, those who wash the altar vessels and altar linens. Further details and menus will be available over the next few weeks.

## NEW SUNDAY MISSALS

A batch of new Sunday Missals were delivered during the week for those who have ordered them. Could only those who ordered a Sunday Missal pick it up this weekend or next weekend.

## POPE FRANCIS FAITH AWARD

The boys and girls of P6 from St John's Primary School will be commissioned for the Pope Francis Faith Award on Monday 27th January at the 2.00pm Mass.

## GROWN-UPS PRIZE BINGO NIGHT

The Parish Hall

**FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY 7.00PM**

**GROWNUPS ONLY** Donations of Prizes Welcome



## CHURCH WORKERS SOCIAL

The Parish Hall

**FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY**

**Drinks Reception beginning at 6.45pm**



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

**RIP** - Anne Marie White (*Requiem Mass Tuesday 4th Feb 9.30am*), Irene (Catherine) Kennedy (*Receiving Thursday 6th Feb at 5.00pm; Requiem Mass Friday 7th Feb at 10.00am*), Michael Walker (Hamilton), Jean-Claude Deguet (France), Isobel Thomson, Alex Braceland (Cyprus), Edward McMahan (Hamilton), Mary Thomas (Invergordon)

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Kitty Reilly, Ella Laverty, Jimmy Laverty, Mary Melville, Patrick Corrigan, Margaret Corrigan

## DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

The Motherwell Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Monday 14th July - Monday 21st July. Any parishioner wishing to travel as a pilgrim on this trip should speak with Fr Wyllie as soon as possible. The pilgrimage is being organised by Joe Walsh Tours, everyone intending on travelling should contact Joe Walsh Tours directly, either online or by phone. <https://joewalshstours.co.uk/pilgrimages/group-diocesan-pilgrimages/diocese-of-motherwell-pilgrimage/>

## BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

A second collection will be taken up for the Church Building Fund on the weekend 1st/2nd February to help with the costs of the ongoing maintenance of our parish properties. There are no major works planned on any of our parish buildings except the painting of the exterior of St Mary's. General repairs and maintenance of our buildings can be very expensive. Please be as generous as you always are to the Building Fund collection on 1st/2nd February.

## PARISH FINANCES

In the Diocese of Motherwell our financial year runs from 1st January until 31st December. The Financial Returns for 2024 have been compiled, recorded, checked and handed into the Diocesan Office. The Parish Finance Team members will receive a copy of the returns this weekend and will meet to discuss and analyse the income and expenditure for 2024 in the next few weeks. A full Financial Report for 2024 will be available for all parishioners next month.

## SSVP BURNS DAY LUNCH

A Burn's Lunch hosted by St Mary's SSVP Conference for seniors aged over 60 years will take place this afternoon at 1.00pm in the Maltings, Union Street, Larkhall.

## INTERIOR CHURCH DOORS

Fr Wyllie asks that the interior porch doors in both churches remain closed until the final hymn has begun at the conclusion of Mass. This will ensure that in this cold snap the heat is conserved in both our churches. Please do not wedge the swing doors open before or during the Mass.

## BLESSING OF THROATS

The traditional blessing of throats takes place on the Feast Day of St Blaise, 3rd February. The 12noon Mass on Monday 3rd February will include the blessing of throats at the conclusion of Mass for the Memoria of St Blaise, bishop and martyr.

## ST JOHN'S PRIMARY PATRONAL FEAST DAY

As the Feast of St John takes place on 27th December, during the Christmas holidays, it is customary for the Patronal Feast Day of St John's Primary to take place on 27th January. This year a special Mass will take place in Our Lady & St John's for the pupils and staff of the school this Monday at 2.00pm. All parishioners are warmly invited to this Mass to celebrate with the school community.

