

# OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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

**SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING  
21ST NOVEMBER 2021**

St Mary's  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year we celebrate the solemnity of Christ, King of the Universe. Today's Gospel presents a passage of the dramatic interrogation to which Pontius Pilate subjected Jesus, when he was handed over to him with the accusation of having usurped the title "king of the Jews."

Jesus responded to the questions of the Roman governor affirming that he was King, but not of this world (cf. John 18:36). He did not come to dominate peoples and territories, but to free men from the slavery of sin and be reconciled with God. And he added: "For this I was born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Every one who is of the truth hears my voice" (John 18:37).

But, what is the "truth" which Christ came into the world to witness? His whole existence reveals that God is love. This is, therefore, the truth of which he gave full testimony with the sacrifice of his own life on Calvary. The cross is the "throne" from which he manifested the sublime royalty of God-Love. By giving himself in expiation of the sin of the world, he defeated the power of the "prince of this world" (John 18:31) and established definitively the Kingdom of God. A Kingdom that is manifested in fullness at the end of time, after all his enemies and finally death, are subjected to him (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:25-26).

Then the Son will hand over the Kingdom to the Father and finally God will be "all in all" (1 Corinthians 15:28). The road to achieve this goal is long and it is not possible to take short cuts. It is necessary that each person freely accept the truth of the love of God. He is Love and Truth, and love as well as truth never impose themselves: They knock on the door of the heart and mind and, where they enter, bring peace and joy. This is the way God reigns; this is his plan of salvation, a "mystery," in the biblical sense of the term, namely, a plan that is revealed little by little in history.

The Virgin Mary is associated in a very special way to Christ's royalty. God asked her, humble maiden of Nazareth, to become the Mother of the Messiah, and Mary corresponded to this call with her whole being, uniting her unconditional "yes" to that of her Son, Jesus, becoming with him obedient to the point of sacrifice. Because of this, God exalted her above all creatures and Christ crowned her Queen of Heaven and earth. We entrust the Church and the whole of humanity to her intercession, so that the love of God might reign in all hearts and his plan of justice and peace be fulfilled.

...On this Solemnity of Christ the King, let us pray for the spread of the Gospel, the triumph of God's reconciling love and the coming of his eternal Kingdom of holiness, justice and peace. May Christ's peace always reign in your hearts!

*Pope Benedict XVI, Solemnity of Christ the King, 26th November 2006, St Peter's Square, Vatican*



# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

## Sunday 21st November

- 10.00am Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (St Mary's)  
12noon Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (OLSJ)  
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (OLSJ)

## Monday 22nd November

- 11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)  
12noon Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Cecilia (St Mary's)

## Tuesday 23rd November

- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)  
9.30am Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Thirty Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)  
6.30pm **Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (No Benediction this week)** (St Mary's)  
7.00pm Annual Requiem Mass for deceased parishioners (St Mary's)

## Wednesday 24th November

- 10.00am Requiem Mass for Theresa (Terry) Pein (St Mary's)  
6.30pm **Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help** (Our Lady & St John's)  
7.00pm Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Andrew Dung Lac & Companions (Our Lady & St John's)

## Thursday 25th November

- 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (Our Lady & St John's)  
9.00am Confessions until 9.20am (Our Lady & St John's)  
9.30am Holy Mass for Thursday of the Thirty Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

## Friday 26th November

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)  
10.00am Holy Mass for Friday of the Thirty Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

## Saturday 27th November

- 10.00am Holy Mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)  
4.45pm Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)  
5.30pm **Vigil Mass for the First Sunday of the Season of Advent** (St Mary's)

## Sunday 28th November

- 10.00am **Holy Mass for the First Sunday of the Season of Advent** (St Mary's)  
12noon **Holy Mass for the First Sunday of the Season of Advent** (OLSJ)  
5.00pm **Holy Mass for the First Sunday of the Season of Advent** (OLSJ)

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**22nd November - Memoria of St Cecilia** - St Cecilia was a Roman martyr. Legends makes her a noblewoman who founded a church in Trastevere, Rome, and was martyred under Marcus Aurelius - when attempts to suffocate her in the bathroom failed, a headsman was sent to decapitate her. However, three strokes failed to sever her head and she lingered on for three further day, praying and singing to God. She is venerated as the patron of music.

**24th November - Memoria of St Andrew Dung Lac and Companions** - This feast celebrates the witness of 117 Vietnamese martyrs, who died between 1625 and 1886 and were canonised in 1988. The include St Andrew Dung Lac (1795-1839), a Vietnamese diocesan priest who was beheaded at Hanoi in 1839. Twenty one of the martyrs were foreign missionaries, such as St Theophane Venard, a member of the Paris Society of the Foreign Missions, who was beheaded in 1861 and exercised a strong influence on St Therese of Lisieux.

## EDUCATION SUNDAY

This Sunday we mark Education Sunday, giving us all an opportunity to pray for and support the work done in our Catholic Schools. This weekend at our Masses pupils will lead us in our Bidding Prayers and represent their schools, a very warm welcome to them and their families. There will also be the opportunity for us to contribute to a collection for the work of the Scottish Catholic Education Service, please contribute to this if you wish. We assure Mrs McCart, Mrs Colgan and Mr Reilly of our prayers for them and the school communities of St John's, St Mary's & Holy Cross.



## PARISH STALLS

There is still a wide selection of Christmas cards and 2022 calendars for sale in both our parish stalls. In St Mary's you will see the display as you enter the church and in Our Lady & St John's in the former sacristy to the right of the sanctuary. Please have a look after Mass today and help us to keep Christ in Christmas while supporting the parish. Boxes of 18 cards at £3.50, ornate cards pack at £4.00, small packs of cards at £2.00 and Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards at £2.00.

### RCIA 2021-2022

The first meeting of the RCIA programme will take place this coming Monday, 22nd November, at 7.00pm. Please pray for the two ladies who are about to begin this journey of learning about the truths of the Catholic Faith. If you or someone you know has ever considered becoming a Catholic please make contact with Fr Wyllie or ask them to contact Fr Wyllie directly.

### POPE FRANCIS FAITH AWARD

Congratulations to the boys and girls in P6 in St John's Primary who were commissioned for the Pope Francis Faith Award on Tuesday of last week. We look forward to them taking on some responsibilities in the parish, such as altar serving, reading, pass keeping and helping to keep the church tidy after Mass.

### DECEASED CLERGY MASS

A special Mass will be celebrated in St Bernadette's, Logans Road, Motherwell, at 7.00pm, on Monday 6th December for all those bishops and priests from our Diocese who have died, especially those who have died over the past twelve months. The Mass will be celebrated by His Lordship Bishop Toal and all are invited to come along.

### SCHOOL CONFESSIONS

Fr Wyllie will hear the confessions of the children in both schools, P4-P7 throughout the Season of Advent. Parents and carers are encouraged to lead by example in coming to the Sacrament of God's mercy and healing regularly and encouraging their children to do so too.

### ST ANDREW'S HOSPICE LIGHT UP A LIFE CAMPAIGN

You can celebrate the life of someone special and make a difference to the lives of our patients and their loved ones this Christmas. The Hospice is extremely fortunate that we have been able to adopt some local authority and community Christmas trees in towns throughout Lanarkshire and people can choose to dedicate a light in memory or in honour of a loved one. You can sponsor a light in a number of ways:-

Online at [www.st-andrews-hospice.com](http://www.st-andrews-hospice.com) Visiting one of our Hospice shops By telephoning our Fundraising Department and making a payment over the phone. Please ask for Lorna McCafferty on 01236 772087.

### PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£938.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£300.00
Votive Candles:	£58.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£1,296.00</b>

**Many thanks for your very generous support**

### CHRISTMAS QUIZ NIGHT



**Our Lady & St John's Hall**  
**Friday 26th November 2021**

**Starts 7.30pm**

**Bar open from 7.00pm.**

**Teams of 2, 3 or 4 (max)**

**£2.50 per person.**

*Raffle/Prize donations greatly appreciated.*

### ST ANDREW'S LUNCH

The Larkhall SSVP conference are having a lunch for those who are 60 years of age and over in the Maltings next Sunday, Sunday 28th November at 1.00pm. We were unable to have one last year so do come along and enjoy the get-together. Please put your name on the list in the porch of the church for catering purposes. If you require any more information please speak to a member of the SSVP.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SICK** - Pat Tierney, James Ferguson, Murray Brown, Alice Cumming, Alice Goodwin, Rory Quigley, Janet McIntosh, David Hillhouse, Annette Thomson, Liz Rees OCV, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Gerard Lyons, John Gowans, Kevin Feeney

**RIP** - Theresa (Terry) Pein (*Requiem Mass on Wednesday 24th November at 10.00am*), Mark McTaggart (*Reception to the Church on Tuesday 30th November at 6.30pm, Requiem Mass on Wednesday 1st December at 10.00am*), Sadie Burns, John Zambonini, Christine Donnelly

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - James Sinclair, Mary Goodwin, Janice Mulhearn & Annie Mulhearn

**Please remember to have your deceased loved ones prayed for on their anniversaries & months mind**

### MOTHERWELL DIOCESAN CHOIR

Fr Wyllie is delighted to announce that the Motherwell Diocesan Choir will lead a Carol Concert in St Mary's on Thursday 16th December at 7.00pm. As we were unable to properly celebrate Christmas last year, this is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather together to join together as a parish to prepare ourselves spiritually for the great celebration of Christmas. Tickets - £4.00 for adults.

### FOOBANK

The next parish collection for the work of the local foodbank will take place next weekend, 27th/28th November. At this time of year there will be many families and individuals who are struggling so please give whatever you can to assist them either by food donations or monetary donations.

### OLSJ SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

The SSVP are conscious that many families will be struggling at this time of year especially as a result of high gas prices and the loss of £20 a week from their benefits. If anyone needs assistance then please contact Our Lady & St John's SSVP on the telephone number below: 07522925723.

### ST MARY'S SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

For uplift & delivery enquiries please call the Furniture Unit on 07483904658 or 07483363888 on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 11.00am until 3.00pm.

If you know of anyone in the community who would like a visit from members of the SSVP or anyone struggling with daily needs or household effects please let Fr Wyllie or any conference member know.

## CHRISTMAS 2021

As next week begins the Season of Advent, we are turning our focus to celebrating the Lord's Nativity at Christmas. Below you will find the programme for Masses in our parish over those days:

### Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve

**5.00pm** Vigil Mass of Christmas (OLSJ)  
**8.30pm** First Mass of Christmas (St Mary's)  
**12.00am** Midnight Mass (St Mary's)

### Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day

**10.00am** Dawn Mass of Christmas (St Mary's)  
**12noon** Day Mass of Christmas (OLSJ)

### Sunday 26th December - Feast of the Holy Family

**10.00am** Holy Mass (St Mary's)  
**12noon** Holy Mass (OLSJ)

### Monday 27th December - Feast of St John,

### Tuesday 28th December & Thursday 30th December

12noon Holy Mass (OLSJ)

### Wednesday 29th December, Friday 31st December & Saturday 1st January

12noon Holy Mass (St Mary's)

### Friday 31st December - Last Day of the Year

6.30pm Adoration followed by Vespers at 7.00pm & Benediction (OLSJ)

