

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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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
24TH AUGUST 2025**

THE AUGUSTINIAN ORDER

The Order of St Augustine was founded in 1244 in Italy when several communities of hermits living in the region of Tuscany came together to ask Pope Innocent IV that they be united under one common Rule of life and one Superior General like other Orders that had recently been founded. The Pope gave them the Rule of St Augustine and asked representatives of each of their houses, gathered in chapter, to elect a Prior General who would be the sign and principal promoter of their desired unity. Not many years later, as the number of friars grew and the Order became more geographically extensive, other similar groups of hermits, scattered mostly throughout central Italy, were united to them, forming in 1256 what has come to be known as the Grand Union of the Order. The strong eremitical emphasis which characterised the early groups gradually began to give way to a mixed life of contemplation and pastoral ministry as the Church called the Order to form part of the Mendicant Movement and engage in the work of evangelisation.



Within a century of the Grand Union there were already 8,000 friars established in many countries, involved in a variety of works, as pastors, preachers, educators, scholars, theologians and missionaries – all for the proclamation of the Gospel, – as well as others engaged as carpenters, farmers, beggars and bakers, for the internal needs of the communities. All of them professed one and the same way of life according to the ideals and values upon which St Augustine had ordered his vision of religious community. Early in their history groups of women religious were aggregated to the Order as well, and many lay men and women shared the Order's spirituality and liturgical customs as members of Augustinian lay fraternities.

During periods of great missionary effort in the Church, Augustinians were counted among other religious of various Orders and Congregations who ventured into foreign lands to extend the message of the Gospel and to lay the foundations for religious life. They ventured throughout Europe, as well as to North and South America, Africa, Japan, Persia, India, and China. Augustinians were among the founding fathers of the first university of the New World, and were the first evangelisers of the Philippine Islands.

The foundation and characteristic of Augustinian life is life in common, in which friars seek to construct a path that is directed to God in service to others. They do this not only through the sharing of ideals and values, but also in the communion of all their material and spiritual goods. In this way they strive to grow through the gift of God's grace, and so give witness to the mystery of the Trinity and of the Church, anticipating now on earth the reality we all hope for in the future in the Father's house.

The opening words of St Augustine's Rule gives the direction: "we are to be of one mind and heart on the way to God. We are travellers on pilgrimage together, wherein Christ is our constant companion, as well as our way and our goal." The Augustinian life is characterised by three essential elements: the constant search for God by means of a deep interior life; the practical love of neighbour; and the constant pursuit of truth. The most famous of the Augustinian friars in the world today is His Holiness Pope Leo XIV (whose coat of arms is found above, incorporating the Word of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary and the heart of the Augustinian Order).

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 24th August	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)</i>
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
Monday 25th August	<i>(St Mary's 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 Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
Tuesday 26th August	<i>(St Mary's 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 Tuesday of the Twenty-First Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
9.55am	Novena to St Anthony (Our Lady & St John's)
Wednesday 27th August	<i>(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 7.45pm)</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 the Memoria of St Monica (St Mary's)
6.30pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm (Our Lady & St John's)
6.30pm	Confession until 6.50pm (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Monica (Our Lady & St John's)
Thursday 28th August	<i>(St Mary's 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 9.20am (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Augustine (Our Lady & St John's)
Friday 29th August	<i>(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
9.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of the Passion of St John the Baptist (St Mary's)
Saturday 30th August	<i>(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ closed)</i>
4.15pm	Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm	Vigil Mass for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

27th August - Memoria of St Monica - St Monica was born around 332, the North African Catholic woman whose prayers, pleading and example helped both her husband Patricius and her son Augustine to be converted and baptised. Augustine was in Milan where Monica went and saw him baptised. They then were on their way back to Africa when Monica fell ill and died at Ostia in 387, the port of Rome. Her long, patient efforts and prayers for her husband and son are a model and inspiration to encourage many wives and mothers today. She is honoured as the patron saint of mothers, particularly those with wayward children.

28th August - Memoria of St Augustine - St Augustine was born to Patricius and Monica in North Africa (present day Algeria) in 354. Extremely intelligent, he crossed to Europe as a young man and, after a short time in Rome, went to Milan. He had a brilliant career there but, still unbaptised, also lived a rather dissolute life. He fathered Adeodatus who died at a young age. Encouraged by the presence of his mother, Augustine received baptism and returned, a committed Catholic, to North Africa. Such was his renown that he was made bishop of the city of Hippo. An outstanding writer and preacher, his books and sermons became (and still are) extremely influential in the Church. The two most famous are his Confessions (a type of autobiography) and De Civitate Dei (to explain the divine plan for us in this world). Augustine owed much to Platonic ideas and was, in his lifetime, an adversary of various pseudo-Christian views, above all, Donatism (named after bishop Donatus and prevalent mostly in North Africa) which held that, unless priests and bishops were morally perfect, their ministry, especially of the sacraments, was invalid. Among the Doctors of the Church, St Augustine holds a very special place. He died in 430 and is the patron saint of brewers, printers, theologians, and those suffering from sore eyes.

29th August - Memoria of the Passion of St John the Baptist - John the Baptist was imprisoned and decapitated by Herod Antipas, son of Herod the Great, for his heroic witness to the truth, thereby becoming the precursor of the Lord's own death, as he had been in his birth and preaching.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£1,240.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers	£535.00
Stall:	£40.00
Total:	£1,815.00

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**



PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION



Our Parish Forty Hours Adoration will take place this year in Our Lady & St John's. There are half hour slots for praying before the Blessed Sacrament over these days. Please place your name on the list at the back of the church to ensure the Blessed Sacrament is not left unattended.



SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

12noon	Solemn Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 4.55pm
3.00pm	Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
4.15pm	Confessions until 4.45pm
5.00pm	Holy Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
6.30pm	Solemn Evening Prayer of the Church followed by Benediction

MONDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am	Holy Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11.55am
12noon	Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick followed by Adoration
3.00pm	Recitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
6.00pm	Angelus & Recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
6.00pm	Confessions until 6.45pm
7.00pm	Holy Hour concluding with Benediction

TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm
12noon	Angelus & Luminous Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
6.00pm	Angelus & Recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
6.00pm	Confessions until 6.45pm
7.00pm	Closing Mass followed by tea in the Parish Hall

PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

MASS AT 6.30PM

FOLLOWED BY INTERNATIONAL MEAL



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

A highlight of the parish social calendar is the annual Parish International Night. We have many parishioners from various countries and cultures and we invite them to prepare a dish from their country of origin. Over the past few years we have had around 12 different countries represented at this International Night and the food has always been second to none. If you or your family origin is from another country or culture please indicate which country your dish is from on the lists at the back of the church. Starters, main courses or desserts are welcome.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Faith Lindsay, Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Paul McMurray, Margaret Craig, Aaron Mulligan, Stephen Fleming, Marion Bryson, William Young, James Thomson, Andy McGarvey, Julia Brassington, Maureen Crank, Robbie Frew, George Murphy, Phyllis Fleming, Kerry Peterson

RIP - Marie Campbell, Sabina Brown, John McShane, Garry Hunter (Coatbridge), Duncan O'Hara

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Margaret Dowie Brady, Elaine Begley

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

DIVORCED, SEPARATED OR WIDOWED?

The Beginning Experience are holding a weekend for those who find themselves divorced, separated or widowed. The weekend will take place from 26th-28th September at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge. For more details contact Maggie on 01389n751677 or email beginningexperiencescotland2@gmail.com. Applications must be completed by 12th Sept.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

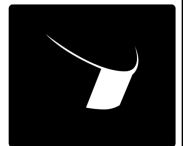
This years Scottish National Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto will take place on Sunday 7th September with Mass being celebrated by the Bishops of Scotland at 3.00pm. All parishioners are invited to join the bishops for this special annual Mass when Catholics from all over Scotland gather to pray together at Our Lady's shrine at Carfin. There will be no bus leaving from our parish this year.

AN INVITATION TO ALL PARISHIONERS

Fr Wyllie would like to draw your attention to two events during our Parish Forty Hours this year. On the Sunday evening it is hoped that the Schola Benedicti will lead us in a **Solemn Sung Vespers** at 6.30pm. Please make a special effort to come along to this special liturgy. Also, on the Monday afternoon at 12noon there will be a special **Mass with Anointing of the Sick**. If any sick parishioners need a lift to the Mass then please speak with any member of the SSVP.

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

Bishop Toal invites everyone in the diocese to join him on Tuesday 16th September for a special Mass praying for vocations to the priesthood at 7.00pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell. Please make a special effort to come together as a diocesan community to ask the Lord to send us good, faithful and holy priests.



AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Aid to the Church in Need will host a North Korean defector in Scotland next month to share his story of Christian persecution in the Communist state. Timothy Cho will share his remarkable story shining a light on a subject which rarely makes the news agenda in this country. The talk will take place in St Joseph's Clarkston on 10th September from 7.00-9.00pm. Reserve your ticket now at Scotland@acnuk.org or call 01698 337470 or visit www.trybooking.com/uk/FDYV

DEANERY MASS FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

Each deanery in the Diocese of Motherwell will have a special Mass with Bishop Toal and the Diocesan Jubilee Cross. The Hamilton Deanery (which we are a part of) will have a special Mass in St Bride's Bothwell on Wednesday 10th September. All parishioners are warmly invited to this Mass to celebrate the Jubilee Year with others in our deanery.

THERE WILL BE NO PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS THIS WEEK DUE TO A PRIVATE FUNCTION

WELCOME

We welcome Fr Montessi who will celebrate the 5.00pm Vigil and 10.00am Mass in St Mary's this weekend. Fr Montessi is from the Xaverian Order based at Coatbridge. We thank him for coming to celebrate these Masses with us.