

# OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



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

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**26TH JUNE 2022**

St Mary's  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

## THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME

Ordinary Time is a liturgical season, just like any other. And just like any other season in the liturgical calendar, this season celebrates a very specific time in the life of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

When we think of liturgical seasons we typically think of the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. These seasons celebrate what could be thought of as "The Main Event." Namely, the incarnation, birth, passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus.

It seems as though there isn't much to celebrate during Ordinary Time, but there is!

The thirty three or thirty four weeks of Ordinary Time contain the rest of Jesus' earthly ministry and some of the major events of the Gospels we have come to know and love. The miracles, the parables, the calling of the twelve, the sermon on the mount, the bread of life discourse. . . we get all that and more during this season. Truly, there is much to celebrate.

The term 'ordinary' in our common use typically refers to something being plain, unimpressive, or unexciting. A kind of 'it is what it is' mentality. For that reason, many people hear 'Ordinary Time' and they immediately think of the season as such. But that understanding doesn't reflect the true meaning of the season.

Ordinary, in this context, comes from the Latin term *ordinalis*, meaning 'numbered' or 'ruled'. This title simply refers to the ongoing and rhythmical nature of the season. Just like everyday life, there is a rhythm to the days and the weeks. In that time we have holidays and special occasions that we look forward to that changes the pace, just like we have holy days and feast days in the Church year. But those special occasions aren't the whole picture, just like there is more to the life of Christ than what we celebrate in other liturgical seasons.

Technically, Ordinary Time has two parts, but it remains one season. The first part begins right after the feast of the Epiphany and runs until Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday (when Lent begins). The second part begins the Monday after Pentecost and runs until the First Sunday of Advent. This part is typically about twice the length of the first.

The liturgical colour for Ordinary Time is green. This is to represent the time of growth and expansion of the Church following the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Green is a very natural colour, and is often a symbol for growth and new life.

Like all liturgical seasons, Ordinary Time is meant to be lived! We aren't passive receptors of the liturgy – or at least we shouldn't be. We are called to be active participants, opening our hearts to the liturgy! Participating in Ordinary Time means participating in the everyday life of Jesus.

Ordinary Time is a feature of the current (post-Vatican II) liturgical calendar which was revised in the 1970's. In the traditional Catholic calendar used before 1970 and still used in the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass, as well as in the calendars of the Eastern Catholic Churches, the Anglican & Lutheran Communities, the Sundays of Ordinary Time are referred to as the Sundays After Epiphany and the Sundays After Pentecost, as was the case for us before 1970.



# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

## Sunday 26th June

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10.00am | Holy Mass for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)            |
| 12noon  | Holy Mass for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's) |
| 5.00pm  | Holy Mass for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's) |

## Monday 27th June

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 12noon | Holy Mass for Monday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's) |
|--------|--|

## Tuesday 28th June

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 9.30am | Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Irenaeus (Our Lady & St John's) |
| 7.00pm | Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul (St Mary's)  |

## Wednesday 29th June

*Please note the reduced number of Masses for this Holyday of Obligation:*

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 10.00am | Holy Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul (St Mary's)                              |
| 7.00pm  | Holy Mass for the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul & Renewal of Vows (Our Lady & St John's) |

## Thursday 30th June

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 9.30am | Holy Mass for the Memoria of the First Martyrs of Rome (Our Lady & St John's) |
|--------|---|

## Friday 1st July

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 10.00am | Votive Mass in honour of the Most Precious Blood of the Lord (St Mary's) |
|---------|--|

## Saturday 2nd July

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 2.00pm | Wedding Service (St Mary's)                                       |
| 4.45pm | Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)                              |
| 5.30pm | Vigil Mass for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's) |

**IF YOU ARE RETIRED, OFF WORK OR ON HOLIDAY PLEASE CONSIDER COMING TO WEEKDAY MASS**

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**28th June - Memoria of St Irenaeus** - St Irenaeus was born in 130 and came from Smyrna, present-day Izmir, Turkey, where the bishop was St Polycarp, one of the last to have known St John, the longest-surviving Apostle. Irenaeus emphasised the importance of the unbroken succession of bishops since the time of the Apostles as a guarantee of orthodox teaching. Following the trade routes to southern France he became a missionary at Lyon, now the primatial see of France. He was its second bishop. He was instrumental in undoing the influence of the Gnostic heresy. Tradition says he died a martyr about the year 200. He is the patron of catechists.

**29th June - Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul** - St Peter, originally Simon, son of John, brother of St Andrew, from Bethsaida in Galilee, married, a fisherman to trade, has his call from Jesus recorded in all four Gospels. With James and John he makes up the three apostles who were chosen by Jesus to accompany him on special occasions. He recognises Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God" and Jesus gives him the new name Peter "and on this rock I will build my Church". The Gospels witness to his growing authority among the apostles. Tradition has him as the first Bishop of Antioch before settling in Rome where he was crucified during the persecution instigated by Emperor Nero in 64. He is patron of netmakers, shipbuilders, fishermen & locksmiths. St Paul, originally Saul, was from Tarsus, present-day Southern Turkey, the son of Jewish parents, a pharisee and the son of pharisees, and a tent-maker to trade. He arrived in Jerusalem shortly after Our Lord's time and became a student of the rabbinical school of Gamaliel. He was present at the stoning of St Stephen. After his 'Damascus moment' conversion he was treated with suspicion by Jews and Christians alike. Barnabas brought him to Antioch. That became his base for his three great missionary journeys. Tradition has him dying a martyr's death in Rome in 67. He is the patron of missionaries, evangelists, writers and public workers.

**30th June - Memoria of the First Martyrs of Rome** - The First Martyrs of the Roman Church are those who died in the persecution instigated by Emperor Nero. It was the first persecution of several which took place over the next 250 years. Nero used the Christians as a scapegoat to blame for the disastrous fire which destroyed two-thirds of Rome in 64. Tacitus, the Roman historian, wrote: "Covered with the skins of beasts, they were torn by dogs and perished, or were nailed to crosses, or were doomed to the flames and burnt, to serve as a nightly illumination, when daylight had expired. Nero offered his gardens for the spectacle, and was exhibiting a show in the circus.

## HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION THIS WEEK

Wednesday of this week is the Solemnity of St Peter & St Paul, a Holyday of Obligation, when all Catholics are asked to attend Mass. Please find the times of our Masses below. Please note that as the schools are on holiday we have reduced the number of Masses for this Holyday:

|                |                |  |
|----------------|----------------|--|
| Tuesday 28th   | <b>7.00pm</b>  | Vigil Mass for the Solemnity (St Mary's)           |
| Wednesday 29th | <b>10.00am</b> | Holy Mass for the Solemnity (St Mary's)            |
|                | <b>7.00pm</b>  | Holy Mass for the Solemnity (Our Lady & St John's) |

### PARISH FINANCES

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Collection & Donations:           | £823.00          |
| Standing Orders & Bank Transfers: | £2,460.00        |
| Building Fund:                    | £1,044.00        |
| Stall:                            | £110.00          |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                     | <b>£4,437.00</b> |

**Many thanks for your very generous support**

### MASS FOR MARRIED COUPLES

A special Mass will be celebrated for all married couples in Our Lady & St John's  on Wednesday 29th June at 7.00pm. Couples will have the opportunity to renew their vows & at the conclusion of Mass to have their rings blessed. An invitation is extended to all married couples to take part in this Mass.

### ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

This year we will celebrate the 140th Anniversary of the opening of Our Lady & St John's Church on **Friday 13th October with a special Mass at 7.00pm** celebrated by His Lordship Bishop Toal. Please keep this date free in your diary for the special Mass of Thanksgiving and for the reception afterwards in the Parish Hall.

We will also celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Parish of St Mary's with a special Mass of Thanksgiving on **Thursday 8th December at 7.00pm**. His Lordship Bishop Toal will celebrate this Mass of Thanksgiving. Please keep this date free in your diary for this special Mass and for the reception afterwards in St Mary's Primary School.

The Parish Pastoral Planning Team will meet after the summer holidays to arrange and plan for these important milestones.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

At the Vigil Mass next weekend, Joao Nunes will receive his First Holy Communion. We keep Joao in our prayers as he prepares to receive the Lord for the first time in Holy Communion.  Joao's dad and brother were received into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil in April. We keep them all in our prayers.

### A WARM WELCOME

This weekend the Holy Ghost Fathers from Carfin will celebrate the parish Sunday Masses. Fr Wyllie would like to thank the community for their help in covering the Masses to allow him to attend the Diaconate Ordination of Colum Martin in St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham, this weekend. Fr Wyllie will be away from the parish until Tuesday morning.

### SPONSOR A TILE

It is the intention that the work on the new tiled floor will be completed for the 140th anniversary Mass on Friday 13th October. We intend to lay a new parquet flooring under the pews too. If you would like to sponsor a tile, as a family or individual, for a deceased loved one or in gratitude for something, then please place a donation of £25.00 per tile in an envelope clearly marked 'SPONSOR A TILE' with the names of the those you would wish the tiles dedicated to inside. Please hand in all sponsor money by Sunday 7th August.

### HAPPY RETIREMENT

After forty years of unbroken service to Holy Cross High School, Frank Boyle retired on Friday. Over the years he taught Biology and latterly was a Guidance Teacher. Although he will be greatly missed in the school, we wish him a very happy retirement. God bless you Frank.

### NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The Nigerian Catholic Community Glasgow & Environs invite everyone to their Harvest Thanksgiving & Bazaar/Summer Fete. This will take place on Sunday 7th August at St Roch's Catholic Church, 311 Roystonhill, Glasgow, G21 2HN. The afternoon will begin with Holy Mass at 1.00pm to which everyone is invited.

### CHURCH BUILDING FUND

Many thanks to all those parishioners who contributed to the Church Building Fund last weekend. The total collected was £1,044.00. This will help toward the cost of the electrical work which needs to be carried out.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SICK** - Selina Gold, 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** - Mary Helen Brannigan

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Ina Williamson, Margaret Moran, The Sweeney & McCabe Family

## PARISH BARBECUE & SOCIAL

Fr Wyllie is hoping to hold a Parish Barbecue in the grounds of St Mary's on **Saturday 13th August**, the Vigil of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary from after the Vigil Mass. If you would be able to help with organising this or being active on the evening to cook and help serve the food then please speak with Fr Wyllie as soon as possible so that plans can be made. All parishioners, from St Mary's & Our Lady & St John's, are warmly invited to come along and enjoy the evening, especially young families. There will be a list at the back of both churches during July and a bus will be booked if enough uptake.



## PARISH INTERNATIONAL MASS & NIGHT

A Parish International Night would be an opportunity for us to get to know our parishioners who come from various countries throughout the world. We are very fortunate to have parishioners from different countries in Europe, Oceania, Africa and Asia. What a great blessing that is and one that we should really appreciate more. The evening would include food and snacks from the various countries, traditional dress, music and other entertainment in the Parish Hall. If you would be interested in helping to organise this event or taking part in this event then please speak with Fr Wyllie. **This will hopefully take place on Friday 9th September at 6.30pm.**

## JULY - MONTH OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

The month of July is dedicated to The Precious Blood of Jesus. The entire month falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical colour green. This symbol of hope is the colour of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.



The Blood that coursed through the veins of Christ was a part of that Sacred Humanity made possible by the maternity of Mary, whose parents, St Joachim and St Anne are honoured this month, on July 26th. Our Lord's blood poured out on the Cross purchased our salvation, washed clean the robes of the martyrs, and gave birth to the Church as it flowed from his wounded side. The Precious Blood of Christ - now pulsing through his Mystical Body - continues its salvific work, preserving and purifying, repairing and providing nourishment for regeneration and renewal of its members.

July's longer and warmer days also provide us with the opportunity for renewal, both in body and in spirit. Schedules relax and pressures ease, inviting travel. But, whether we travel or not, like the missionary, St Junipero Serra (July 1), we preach to others - by our conduct, our speech, even the clothes we wear. May we be modest in everything we do, imitating St Maria Goretti, the young martyr for purity (July 6), and "preaching" Christ to everyone we meet.

The summer Readings of Ordinary Time remind us that our earthly pilgrimage is also a journey, a great adventure towards union with Christ, the Beginning and the End of our journey. Each Sunday with its Easter renewal becomes a mile marker along the way, linking where we have been with where we are going. May the Precious Blood of Jesus sustain us as we journey to our true home, with Mary and the angels as our companions on the way.

## BLESSING AT HOLY COMMUNION

If you cannot or do not receive Holy Communion at Mass, you are invited to come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you would like a blessing by placing your hand over your chest.