

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE 21ST APRIL 2024

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter and "Good Shepherd Sunday", is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. All the faithful are exhorted to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood.

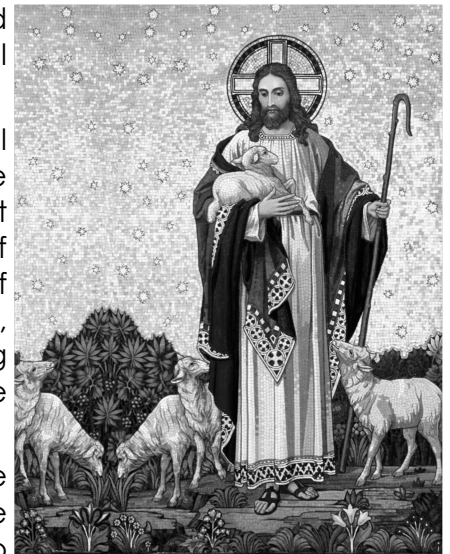
I ask you to remember all those whom the Lord continues to call by name, just as he once called the Apostles on the shores of the Sea of Galilee to become "fishers of men", that is, his closest collaborators in the proclamation of the Gospel and the service of the Kingdom of God in our time. Let us ask for the gift of perseverance for all priests: may they stay faithful to prayer, celebrate Holy Mass with ever renewed devotion, live by listening to the Word of God, and day after day assimilate the same sentiments and attitudes as those of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

Let us then pray for those who are preparing to take on the priestly ministry and for the teachers who form them in the seminaries throughout the whole world. Let us pray for families, so that the "seed" of the call to the priestly ministry may continue to mature and flower.

All the baptised are called to contribute to the work of salvation. In the Church, however, there are some vocations which are dedicated especially to the service of communion. The person primarily responsible for Catholic communion is the Pope, Successor of Peter and Bishop of Rome; with him, the Bishops, successors of the Apostles, are custodians and teachers of unity, assisted by the priests. But consecrated persons and all the faithful are also at the service of communion.

At the heart of Church communion is the Eucharist: the different vocations draw from this supreme Sacrament the spiritual power to build constantly, in charity, the one ecclesial Body. Let us now turn to Mary, Mother of the Good Shepherd. May she who responded promptly to God's call, saying: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord" (Lk 1: 38), help all of us to accept with joy and willingness Christ's invitation to be his disciples, always motivated to be "of one heart and soul".

Today we pray for our pope and bishop, our priests, those who are in formation studying for the priesthood at major seminary and for those who feel called to the priesthood, that they will respond to the Lord's calling with generosity and an open heart.



Any man who is considering a calling/vocation to the Priesthood in the Diocese of Motherwell should make himself known in the first instance to his Parish Priest.

**His contact details will then be forwarded to the
Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Charles O'Farrell.**

If anyone wishes to receive information or encouragement about discerning their vocation, contact can be made with Fr O'Farrell at frfarrell@rcdom.org.uk

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 21st April

- 10.00am Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)
2.00pm Baptism (St Mary's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Eastertide (Our Lady & St John's)



Monday 22nd April

- 11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary for Vocations (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass praying for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood (St Mary's)

Tuesday 23rd April

- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St George (Our Lady & St John's)

Wednesday 24th April

- 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 Fourth Week in Eastertide (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 praying for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 25th April

- NO 9.30AM MASS
12.30pm Holy Mass for the Feast of St Mark (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 26th April

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

Saturday 27th April

- 4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Eastertide (St Mary's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

23rd April - Memoria of St George - St George was born of Christian parents. He followed his father into the army of the Roman Empire and made rapid promotion. He was a casualty of the decision of the Emperor Diocletian that Christians in the army were to be demoted and obliged to offer incense to the Roman gods under pain of death. He was martyred around 303AD in Palestine during the persecution of Diocletian at Diospolis (Lydda, now Lod, near Tel Aviv, Israel), where his tomb can be found. Legend depicts him killing the dragon, a symbol of the triumph over evil. He is the patron saint of several countries and regions, including England.

25th April - Feast of St Mark - St Mark, the author of the Gospel bearing his name, is often identified as the young man who ran away when the Lord was arrested. His Gospel gives the teaching and memoirs of St Peter. He joined St Paul and St Barnabas on their first missionary journey and later became St Paul's secretary in Rome. He is thought to have established the Church in Alexandria, and to have died a martyr there around 75AD. He is honoured as the patron saint of notaries, attorneys, lawyers, barristers, captives, prisoners, imprisoned people, glaziers, and stained glass workers.

AUCHLOCHAN MASS

The next Auchlochan Mass and lunch will take place this Thursday at 12.30pm. The Mass will be followed by a lunch in the Parish Hall. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along, please let Betty McGonagle know in advance. Volunteers are always welcome to come along too.

FOODBANK COLLECTION

A collection of foodstuffs for the local foodbank will take place next weekend. Please consider donating a bag of groceries to help those who need our practical assistance. You can also make monetary donations, please clearly mark an envelope 'Foodbank' and hand it in, either to the offertory collection or at the back of the church.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£945.00
Building Fund Collection:	£1,850.00
Standing Orders:	£610.00
Total:	£3,405.00

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.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations and best wishes go to baby Finley who will be baptised in St Mary's today (Sunday) and to his parents, Nathan and Lisa. Through the waters of baptism Finley has become a child of God and an heir to everlasting salvation. We pray that he will always live his life as a child of God and, with his family and friends to help him by word and example, know and appreciate God's love and presence in his life.

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.



BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

Many thanks for your generosity to the collection last weekend for the Church Building Fund. The total collected was £1,850.00. Sincerest thanks to the generous donor of £1,000.00.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

The Parish Divine Mercy Prayer Group will begin meeting in Our Lady & St John's on a Wednesday evening after the 7.00pm to pray for the sick, the dying and the departed. All welcome to join.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA & LISBON

The final instalment for the Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lisbon is to be paid by this Wednesday directly to ALBA Tours. The bank details are: **Alba Tours Ltd 00898164 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.



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

On Sunday 2nd June at all Masses, there will be a special blessing and commissioning of new and present Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion as they assist the Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion (the priest) in his ministry to feed the Lord's flock with His Body & Blood.

HEATING & LIGHTING OUR PARISH PROPERTIES

Since 1st January we have paid just shy of £7,000.00 for heating and lighting our parish properties. This is a huge amount of money. Fr Wyllie has turned the heating off in the Parish Hall, both parish houses and both churches. On cold days please ensure you are well wrapped up.

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, Noel Bennetts (Australia), Jeanne Gowans

RIP - Bishop-Elect Father Martin Chambers, Sheila Begg, Jessie McMillan, Jim Wotherspoon (Bothwell), Bridget McKean (Viewpark), Lorenzo Vallesi (Italy), Jim Kane (Gourock)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - John Creechan, Thomas & Catherine Kennedy, Michael & Annie Creechan, Catherine Anne Bews, The Creechan Family, The Kennedy Family, James Kennedy, Eddie Feeney, Sadie Feeney, James Girvan, Margaret Girvan Bennet, Monica McCorry, James & Catherine McLaren, Charles McCorry, McLaren & McCorry Families, Tom Campbell

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 with anointing of the sick 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 know and love someone who is going through cancer treatment, or who have 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.

SCIAF WEE BOXES

Fr Wyllie asks that any SCIAF Wee Boxes which you may have at home be returned to the church by next Sunday so that the money from the Wee Boxes can be counted and forwarded on to SCIAF. Many thanks to all those parishioners who have already handed in their Wee Boxes so far.

LIGHT BITE AFTER MASS

The Light Bite after Mass will take place this afternoon after the 12noon Mass. All parishioners are very warmly invited to the Parish Hall for rolls and sausage and tea/coffee/juice. Please try to support this venture. All proceeds go to the parish.

SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

THE PARISH HALL

SATURDAY 25TH MAY

TIME TO BE CONFIRMED (EXPECTED KICK-OFF 3.00PM)

£5.00 PER PERSON

GAME SHOWN ON THE BIG-SCREEN; PIES & SAUSAGE ROLLS AT HALF-TIME;

PINTS OF MENABREA - £4.50; PINTS OF TENNENTS - £3.50

ALL WELCOME



PROSECCO AFTERNOON HIGH TEA

The Parish Hall

Saturday 15th June

2.00pm until 7.00pm

Tickets £20.00 per person

Glass of prosecco or bottle for groups of 4 or more on arrival;

savouries, sandwiches, cakes and scones;

bar, live entertainment and raffle

All welcome

