

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

**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
3RD AUGUST 2025**

EDITH STEIN

Edith Stein was born in Breslau, Germany (now Wrocław in modern Poland) on 12th October 1891 (the Jewish Day of Atonement that year), the youngest of the eleven children born to Siegfried and Auguste Stein.

Edith's father died when she was just two years old. She was a lively and intelligent child, excelling at school. However, she would write later: "I knew from my earliest years that it is far more important to be good than to be clever." She wanted to use her studies to help people and to make a difference for the better in the world. Her university studies were interrupted by the First World War, during which she volunteered as a nurse for the German Red Cross. After completing her doctorate in philosophy with a thesis *On the Problem of Empathy* and graduating *summa cum laude*, Edith worked as Husserl's assistant in Freiburg.



Edith was brought up in an observant but not Orthodox Jewish household. In her teenage years she began to question the existence of God. Edith's love of philosophy led her in a quest for truth which eventually brought her to the Catholic faith. In 1921, at the home of a friend, she read the *Life of St Teresa of Avila* from cover to cover. On finishing the book, Edith said to herself "That is the truth." Soon afterwards she asked to be baptised as a Catholic.

Edith left her position with Husserl to become a teacher in a Dominican college, while continuing her philosophical writings. She also travelled widely, speaking at education conferences and gatherings of professional women. She was sometimes criticised for making these lectures too spiritual but she made no apology. For Edith, there was no distinction between her spiritual life and intellectual or professional life; she presented this as a way for others to follow.

In 1932 Edith moved to a new post as a lecturer in Munster but an edict of the Nazi government preventing Jews from teaching meant that she was dismissed from this job in 1933.

For many years, Edith had felt called to religious life and the time was now ripe for her to enter Carmel, on 14 October 1933. She took the habit six months later along with the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. She made her final profession of vows on 21 April 1938.

At the end of 1938, it was decided that it would be safer for Edith and the Cologne Carmel if she moved secretly to another Carmel outside Germany. Echt Carmel in Holland were happy to receive her and later they also took in Edith's sister, Rosa, who was a Catholic and a lay Carmelite. Rosa lived and worked in the monastery extern. Their relative safety was not to last however; Holland was invaded in 1940 by the Nazis.

In retaliation for a pastoral letter of the Dutch Bishops which had condemned the deportation of the Jews, the Nazis rounded up all Catholic Jews in Holland on 2 August 1942. Most of the women and children were sent on the same transport to Auschwitz-Birkenau where they died in the gas chamber soon after their arrival on 9 August 1942.

Teresa Benedicta of the Cross was beatified in 1987 by Pope St John Paul II in Cologne, and canonised by him in Rome in 1998. The following year, she was declared a co-patron of Europe.

THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 3rd August	(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
Monday 4th August	(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)
11.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St John Vianney (St Mary's)
Tuesday 5th August	(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)
9.00am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of the Dedication of Mary Major (Our Lady & St John's)
9.55am	Novena to St Anthony (Our Lady & St John's)
Wednesday 6th August	(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)
9.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (St Mary's)
Thursday 7th August	(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)
9.00am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am	Holy Mass for Thursday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
Friday 8th August	(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)
9.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Dominic (St Mary's)
Saturday 9th August	(St Mary's 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ closed)
4.15pm	Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm	Vigil Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

4th August - Memoria of St John Vianney - St John Vianney was born in 1786 and had to contend with poverty, military service and his own intellectual shortcomings in order to become a priest. In 1817 he was sent to care for the people of Ars, a small, obscure French village. The marvellous gift of the unlearned priest for seeing into the depths of the soul brought the world to Ars. From 1830 on, the Curé averaged twelve to sixteen hours a day in the confessional. He died in 1859 and is honoured as the patron saint of parish priests.

5th August - Memoria of the Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major - The Ecumenical Council of Ephesus in 431 declared Mary to be 'Mother of God' (Theotokos). Soon afterwards, Pope Sixtus III had the Basilica of St Mary Major built on the Esquiline Hill in Rome. It is the earliest church built in honour of the Mother of God in the West. It is said that its location was determined by a snowfall on 5th August, a rather rare event during summer in Rome. The Basilica today is one of the Papal Basilicas alongside St Peter's, St John Lateran and St Pauls Outside the Walls.

6th August - Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord - Accounts of the Transfiguration event are to be found in each of the three synoptic gospels. The feast is, above all, the Father's reassurance that, despite the forthcoming crucifixion of his Son, we must not lose faith in him as our Saviour. He is the Messiah in whom the Father is 'well pleased'.

8th August - Memoria of St Dominic - St Dominic was born around 1170 in Calaruega in Old Castile, Domingo, as he was known, studied at Palencia and, having a reputation for piety and learning, was made a canon of the church at Osma in 1193. His bishop took him on a political mission to the south of France; there he travelled from place to place, working tirelessly and especially preaching conversion to the people who had become, to a great extent, followers of Albigensianism (that only the soul is created by God). He continued this work for ten years and, gradually gathering companions around him, the first house of The Order of Preachers (the Dominicans) was established. In 1215, Dominic took part in the Fourth Lateran Council and, in the following year, the Order received Papal approval. Subsequently, the Order adopted additional rules of prayer and poverty. The Order spread very successfully in Europe; there were sixty houses when the founder died in 1221. St Dominic is honoured as the patron saint of the Dominican Order which he founded, but he is also the patron saint of astronomers, natural scientists and the Dominican Republic.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£990.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers	£135.00
Stall:	£50.00
Total:	£1,175.00

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	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	Angels & 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

SCOTTISH NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

The annual Scottish National Pilgrimage will take place at Carfin Grotto on Sunday 7th September with Mass being celebrated by the Bishops of Scotland at 3.00pm. All parishioners are warmly invited. As that day is the beginning of our Parish Forty Hours a bus will not be leaving from our parish this year.

THINKING OF BECOMING CATHOLIC?

Over the past few weeks a good number of people have made contact about learning more about becoming a Catholic. This is wonderful news and will add to the twelve people received into the Church in our parish from after Covid. If you wish to begin the RCIA course in September or learn more about it, please make contact with Fr Wyllie over the next few weeks before the course begins.

MOBILE PHONES

Please ensure that mobiles and other electronic devices are silenced when you are in church.

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

RIP - Moira Corr, Carla Di Mambro, Betty Anderson, Frank Cassidy

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Rita Lyons, Agnes Morrison, The Maguire, Morrison & McStay Families, Alice Weir

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

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Our Parish Theology of Tap evenings have proved to be very popular and worthwhile in bringing parishioners together to learn more about aspects of our faith. It is hoped the first Theology on Tap after the summer holidays will be on Monday 15th September, although this could change. Please keep this date in your diary.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Billy and Howard who received the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Confirmation, and to Henry and Christina who received their First Holy Communion at a special service yesterday afternoon (Saturday). We extend our prayerful congratulations and best wishes to these four young people and ask God's blessing upon them.

WEEKDAY MASSES

If you are retired, on a day off or on holiday from work, are unemployed or have time off from college or university please consider coming to our daily Masses. Also, Larkhall parishioners are more than welcome to attend Mass in Blackwood, and parishioners from Blackwood are more than welcome to attend Mass in Larkhall. It would be lovely to see a greater number of people at weekday Masses in both churches of our parish.



PARISH BBQ

The Parish Hall

SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST

7.00pm - Late

NAMES ON LIST AT BACK OF CHURCH



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

MASS AT 6.30PM

FOLLOWED BY INTERNATIONAL MEAL



COULD YOU HELP?

We are very blessed with two beautiful churches which have been cared for and kept clean over the years. We have been handed on a great legacy of faith and love for the Church and especially for our parish church. To keep them spik and span requires helpers. If you would be able to give an hour or two of your time once every few weeks to clean the church then please speak with Fr Wyllie, or Kitty Steele for St Mary's or Mary McDermott for Our Lady & St John's. Any help would be greatly appreciated. This job is open to men as well as women and would only require hoovering, dusting and mopping. Less work with many hands.