

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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
6TH OCTOBER 2024

THE AMBO

The Church teaches that at the Mass the people of God are served from two tables: the table of the word and the table of the sacrament. From both these tables the faithful of God receive Christ himself, present in the word proclaimed and in the bread that has become his Body and the wine that has become his Blood. It is therefore important when the Holy Scriptures are read everything be done to help make it clear to those present that these words we hear are the living word of God.

There are many ways in which the importance of the word is emphasised. Special ministers are trained and commissioned for the ministry of proclaiming God's word. The word is proclaimed only from books of dignity and beauty. We respond to the readings by affirming that this is indeed the word of the Lord and offering our thanks to God for his word. When the reading is from the Gospels we mark the especial dignity of this word in additional ways - we stand and sing our Gospel Acclamation; we trace the sign of the cross on our forehead, lips and heart, to indicate our desire to take this word to heart, to ponder its meaning, and to carry its message to the world. Sometimes we use candles and lights to further emphasise the significance that this reading has for us.



Of particular importance in establishing the importance that the word of God has for the Church is the ambo. This should normally be fixed and not simply a moveable lectern. The material and design of the ambo should themselves point to the permanence and beauty of God's saving word. The dignity of the word of God requires that the church have a place that is suitable for the proclamation of the word and toward which the attention of the whole congregation of the faithful naturally turns during the Liturgy of the Word. In the same way that the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist are so closely related as to make up one act of worship, so it is appropriate that there be an evident relationship between the ambo and the altar. Sometimes this is achieved through their being made from the same materials.

The dignity of the ambo requires that only a minister of the word should make use of it. The ambo is used exclusively for the proclamation of God's word, including the singing of the responsorial psalm; the breaking open of the word in the Homily and general intercessions; and also the Easter proclamation (Exsultet). The ambo should not be used for announcements etc.

The ambo should reflect the dignity and nobility of the message proclaimed from it. The key word here is "proclaimed". The Word of God is not the printed text in a book. It is those words spoken by the reader, deacon or priest. It is something alive and active. Our reverence for the Word of God is expressed in the reverence that we pay to the Book of the Gospels and the Lectionary - the priest or deacon proclaiming the Gospel will kiss the passage he has read when he finishes. It is only right that this should be expressed in the design and placement of the ambo.

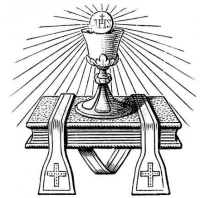


**Our Lady of Fatima Parish where we are inclusive
and all are welcome to live and grow in faith.**



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 6th October	<i>(St Mary's open 9.00am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 11.00am - 5.45pm)</i>
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
Monday 7th October	<i>(St Mary's open 8.55am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
11.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Memoria of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
Tuesday 8th October	<i>(St Mary's open 8.55am - 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-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)
Wednesday 9th October	<i>(St Mary's open 8.55am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 7.45pm)</i>
9.25am	October Devotions (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
6.25pm	October Devotions (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm	Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)
Thursday 10th October	<i>(St Mary's open 8.55am - 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 Thursday of the Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)
Friday 11th October	<i>(St Mary's open 8.55am - 4.00pm; OLSJ 8.00am - 4.00pm)</i>
9.30am	Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am	School Mass with Pope Francis Faith Award Commissioning (St Mary's)
Saturday 12th October	<i>(St Mary's open 8.55am - 5.45pm; OLSJ closed)</i>
4.15pm	Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm	Vigil Mass for the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

7th October - Memoria of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary - The feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary was instituted in thanksgiving for the naval victory of the 'Holy League' (of Catholic nations led by Don John of Austria) over the ships of the Ottoman Empire in 1571 at Lepanto (off the coast of Greece). Nowadays, the feast is a special day in the month of the Holy Rosary, the prayer that allows us to meditate on the mysteries of Jesus, whose life was so closely associated with Mary.

9th October - Optional Memoria of St Denis - St Denis, sent from Rome around 250 to preach the gospel to the Gauls, was the first bishop of Paris and, by tradition, the apostle of France. The Roman governor had him arrested, tried and, with two other Christians (Rusticus and Eleutherius), tortured and beheaded. The saint's remains are in the basilica of Saint Denis formerly an abbey church, now a cathedral, where many of the kings and queens of France are buried. He is the patron saint of those who are troubled by headaches.

11th October - Optional Memoria of St John XXIII - Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was born in 1881 of a peasant family in Sotto il Monte, near Bergamo. Ordained in 1904 and a chaplain in World War I, later he was apostolic delegate in Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece and, in 1944, Nuncio to Paris. Patriarch of Venice in 1953, he was elected Pope in 1958. Soon after, he convened the Second Vatican Council. He was known as 'Good Pope John' and died in 1963, during the Second Vatican Council. He is the patron saint of the Italian Army and Papal Delegates.

MASS ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK IN OUR LADY & ST JOHN'S

12noon - 83 5.00pm - 42 **Total - 125**

SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER

The sisters will be selling their 2025 calendars at all Masses on weekend of 2nd/3rd November. The sisters support many missionary projects throughout the world including schools, hospitals, orphanages, providing clean water and other essentials as well as helping to build up Catholic communities in the poorest regions of our world. Please give as generously as you always do the Sisters of St Peter Claver.

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£1,105.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£1,532.00
Stall:	£170.00
Total:	£2,807.00

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.

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**



POPE FRANCIS FAITH AWARD

The Bishops Conference of Scotland instituted The Pope Francis Faith Award programme to help young people in Scotland's Catholic schools to see and feel for themselves the benefits of acting with love, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The award is designed to help children to show 'signs of love' in their daily lives and to be active members of their local parish.

It invites young people in Primary 6 and 7 to use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and to see how they can bear fruit in their homes, schools and parishes. It is directly connected to what young people are learning about the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Each year our senior pupils take part in the Pope Francis Faith Award, learning about each gift in turn, reflecting on it and then deciding how to act on it. By the end of Primary 7, pupils work towards achieved accreditation. Pupils who play an active part in their parish life can also be awarded a Parish Commendation which is verified by their Parish Priest.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2025

For our 2025 Parish Pilgrimage, rather than Rome we are looking at two alternative options. These two options are: Tuscany with trips to Florence/Pisa/Cinque Terre, or, Padua with trips to Lake Garda/Milan. It is unfortunate that a pilgrimage to Rome is proving to be so difficult but airlines and hotels have increased their prices due to the Holy Year. If you would be interested in either option please let Fr Wyllie know as soon as possible. October 2025 is the most probable time.

MISSION SUNDAY

Sunday 20th October is Mission Sunday, a day when we pray for and support the work done by MISSIO Scotland in caring for the poorest in our world. A second collection will be taken up at all Masses on 19th/20th October for MISSIO, the official charity of the Holy Father the Pope. He encourages us to give as generously as we can to the work done through MISSIO.

NOVENA IN HONOUR OF ST ANTHONY

We will begin a novena in honour of St Anthony every Tuesday after the 9.30am Mass in Our Lady & St John's. This novena will begin on Tuesday 15th October. St Anthony is a powerful intercessor for all of us, so please make a special effort to come and pray to him for your needs.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Over the past few years a new initiative has grown in popularity called 'Theology on Tap'. It's main aim is to foster catechesis, fellowship and evangelisation in an informal environment allowing parishioners to come together one evening a month to learn about an aspect of the Catholic Faith while enjoying a few beverages and coming together in an informal setting to learn more about our faith. The first talk will be held on **Thursday 14th November** with the evening beginning at 6.30pm and talk beginning at 7.00pm. The talk will be given by **Fr Stephen Reilly, Episcopal Vicar for Youth** in the diocese. The theme of the talk is still to be finalised with Fr Reilly. Sign up sheets will be available at the back of the church at the end of the month.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Rita Blair, Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Gary Biggar, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Kathleen Brannigan, Aaron Mulligan, Bill Sidzworth, Stephen Fleming, Marion Bryson, John Rimmer, William Young

RIP - Patricia Grace (Receiving Thursday 17th October 6.00pm; Requiem Mass Friday 16th October at 10.00am), Joseph & Helen Thomas, Linda McFarlane

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE - Jane McMurray, John McMurray, Mary Griffiths, Chrissie Lynch

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

PARISH FRIDAY DRINKS



The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER

2.00pm until 7.00pm



HALLOWEEN FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

7.00pm

£2.00 per person

Pizza, Bar, Raffle, Games & Prize for best costume



FOODBANK COLLECTION

The next collection for the foodbank will take place on the weekend of 26th/27th October. This month the foodbank are in particular need of tinned custard, jam, noodles, tinned pasta (e.g spaghetti hoops, ravioli and macaroni cheese), shampoos, washing up liquid, & laundry pods.

CHRISTMAS CARDS & CRIBS

Two types of beautiful cribs are available from our parish stall. The more modern design three piece set consists of an Angel, Mary & Joseph, and the baby Jesus, three separate statues beautiful designed to either stand together or separately, these are priced at £20.00. The one piece set is traditional and made of resin, these are priced at £12.00. There is also a wide range of boxed cards, gift wallets, packs of cards, Mass Bouquet cards and individual cards.

INTERIOR PORCH DOORS

The interior porch doors leading into both churches should be closed at all times, except for Sunday Masses to allow parishioners to exit the church easily. The doors should not be wedged open after weekday Masses (excluding for Requiem & School Masses). Fr Wyllie asks parishioners not to wedge these doors open, the pass-keepers will attend to this task when necessary.

ROSARY WRIST BANDS

Each year Fr Wyllie has gifted the children of both our primary schools rosary beads from the parish to encourage them to pray the rosary at home and in school. This year he has gifted all the children a rubber rosary wrist band which they can wear on their wrists. Please encourage and invite our young people to pray and learn more about the rosary in this month of October. Some of these are available to buy in the stall priced at £1.00.

ST MARY'S ST VINCENT DE PAUL

St Mary's St Vincent de Paul will not be holding their annual St Andrew's Lunch this year. Instead, it is hoped that there will be a Burns Day Lunch in January, date to be announced.