

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
4TH AUGUST 2024

THEOLOGY IN 15 SECONDS

When I was a boy, my mother, led me and my siblings in a series of nighttime prayers, which she repeated at our bedside each night, year after year. I can still remember the routine. She would enter the bedroom, sit on the edge of the bed, and recite the same string of phrases, prayerful sound-bytes that contained powerful truths. Sometimes we would say them together. Other nights, when the sand in my eyes was drawing me fast into slumber, she would say them for us both. It's been a good thirty years since the last time we prayed like this, but I can still hear her voice reciting the set-list of invocations:



I have loved you with an everlasting love – you are mine, says the Lord.

Mother Mary, I belong to you. Keep me and guard me as your property and possession.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I give you my heart and my soul; Jesus, Mary and Joseph, assist me in my last agony; Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may I breathe forth my soul in peace with thee, amen.

There were a few more like that. Comforting, Christian prayers. Now I was not particularly pious by nature but these soothing words, even if it was just something that mum did, informed my faith in ways I can only recognize properly with hindsight. These prayers (and my mother's voice) imaged God for me in a most formative way.

Among these was one particular prayer that stayed with me over the years. Mum had me learn it by rote, so it was one I could do by myself each morning. It was the simple words of the Morning Offering. In later years, it was a fall-back prayer whenever I found myself in times of dryness and distance, times when I had dropped the habit of prayer. It only took fifteen seconds to say, so it was easy, but I started noticing that the days in which I prayed it tended to be "good days", compared to days in which I did not pray. I am still struck by its power, and how it contains an entire spiritual theology in distilled form. The classic version of this prayer is this:

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day. In union with the holy sacrifice of the Mass offered throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of your most Sacred Heart. And for the Holy Father's intentions for this month, I pray. Amen.

I'm going to boldly assert that every child, male or female, age seven or seventy-seven, should learn the Morning Offering and pray it. It only takes a few seconds to recite, but it contains a world of meaning, and therefore could be one of the most valuable spiritual investments an individual makes. If the only prayer you make is the Morning Offering, by virtue of the elements it contains, it will be a sustaining force in your faith life. Although short, you are praying the key aspects of a relationship with the living God: the reality of Christ's love for you.

John O'Brien S.J



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



THIS WEEK & NEXT WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

Sunday 4th August

- 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)

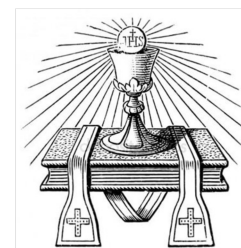
Monday 5th August - Saturday 10th August - No weekday Masses

Saturday 10th August

- 5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 11th August

- 10.00am Holy Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)



Monday 12th August

- 11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for Monday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Tuesday 13th August

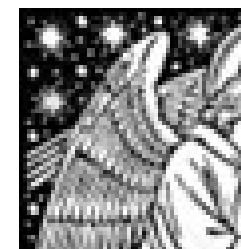
- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time (OLSJ)

Wednesday 14th August

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Maximilian Kolbe (St Mary's)

Thursday 15th August HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

- 9.00am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
9.30am Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption (Our Lady & St John's)
6.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
7.00pm Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption (St Mary's)



Friday 16th August

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
10.00am Holy Mass for Friday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday 17th August

- 4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 18th August

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

Monday 19th August

- 11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for Monday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time

Tuesday 20th August

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

Wednesday 21st August

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Pius X (St Mary's)

Thursday 22nd August

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

Friday 23rd August

- 9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Rose of Lima



Saturday 24th August

- 4.15pm Confessions until 4.45pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

CLEARING UP WEEDS AT ST MARY'S - SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST. PLEASE COME ALONG

PARISH FINANCES

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£815.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£1,242.00
Votives:	£502.00
Stall:	£20.00
Total:	£2,579.00

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**



SUMMER SUPPLY PRIESTS

While Fr Wyllie is on holiday the Masses in our parish will be celebrated by the Holy Ghost Fathers on the weekend of 10th & 11th August and then Fr Bernardine from Monday 12th August until Wednesday 21st August. Unfortunately there are no spare priests to supply the Masses from 5th - 10th August. This is a timely reminder of the need to pray for more vocations to the priesthood.

HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holyday of Obligation, is celebrated on 15th August. Times of Masses - 9.30am in Blackwood & 7.00pm in Larkhall.

ST MARY'S SSVP SENIOR CITIZENS OUTING

The above outing will take place on Wednesday 4th September leaving after the 10.00am Mass. The trip is going to Moffat this year. Anyone interested please place your name on the list at the back of the church. Spaces limited due to mini bus hire.

ST JOHN'S SSVP STUDENT GRANTS

The St Vincent de Paul Society have small grants available for students who are about to undertake or continue further/higher education. If you are interested and would like to take advantage of this offer please speak to one of the SSVP at the back of church over the next few weekends. The members of the SSVP are: Betty McGonagle, Russell, McAllister, Veronica Dunn, Margaret Corrigan, Ronnie Lynch and Maureen Martin.

PARISH BARBEQUE

The Parish Hall

SATURDAY 24TH AUGUST

6.30pm until Late

NAMES ON LIST AT BACK OF CHURCH



PARISH INTERNATIONAL NIGHT

The Parish Hall

FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

6.30pm - International Mass

7.30pm - International Meal

NAMES ON LIST AT BACK OF CHURCH



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

SICK - Rita Blair, Pat Whalin, Declan McDonald, Gary Biggar, Paul McMurray, Annette Thomson, Margaret Craig, Kathleen Brannigan, Aaron Mulligan, Margaret McLaughlin, Noel Bennetts

RIP - Alex Campbell, Philip Newall, Margaret Matthews, James Brady (New Jersey), Jane Goodyear (Birmingham), Victims of the Southport Attack

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Alice Weir, Cathie & George Gibney, Catherine Ann Bews, John Creechan, Kennedy Family, Creechan Family, Sadie & Eddie Feeney, George & Nan Feeney, Anne Wilson, Rita Lyons, Marion Houston

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

VISIT OF THE PAPAL NUNCIO TO MOTHERWELL

The Pope's Ambassador to Great Britain, His Excellency Archbishop Buendia, will visit the Diocese of Motherwell from Friday 30th August until Sunday 1st September.

On Friday 30th August at 7.00pm, he will celebrate Holy Mass in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Bishop Toal extends an invitation to all parishioners throughout the diocese to this special Mass.

On Saturday 31st August at 10.00am there will be a special Mass for Project Wellspring in the Cathedral, to which all those who are involved in Project Wellspring are especially invited to attend. A presentation on Project Wellspring will take place after the Mass in St Bride's Hall.

On Sunday 1st September at 3.00pm the Papal Nuncio will preside at Mass at Carfin Grotto for the National Pilgrimage. A list is available at the back of the church for a bus from our parish.

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

Bishop Toal invites all parishioners to the Diocesan Vocations Mass on Thursday 22nd August at 7.00pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell to pray for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood. Please make a special effort to come together as a diocesan family to implore the Lord to send us good and holy priests to serve us into the future. Please pray every day!

PARISH FORTY HOURS ADORATION

Our annual period of Forty Hours Adoration will take place this year in St Mary's from Sunday 8th September until Tuesday 10th September. More details will be given at the end of August but the main parts of the timetable (maybe subject to change) will be:

SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

10.00am	Holy Mass & beginning of the Forty Hours
10.40am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.30pm
12noon	Recitation of the Holy Rosary
3.00pm	Recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet
3.00pm	Confessions until 3.45pm
6.30pm	Solemn Vespers with Benediction

MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am	Brief Mass followed by Adoration until 12noon
12noon	Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick
12.45pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Afternoon visits from the school children
6.00pm	Recitation of the Holy Rosary
6.30pm	Confessions until 7.45pm
7.00pm	Holy Hour concluding with Benediction

TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

8.00am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9.00am	Confessions until 9.50am
10.00am	Holy Mass followed by Adoration until 7.00pm
12noon	Angelus & Recitation of the Holy Rosary/ Afternoon visits from the school children
7.00pm	Closing Mass of the Forty Hours

