

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
1ST AUGUST 2021

St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

It is a very hopeful sign of the new "springtime of holiness" for the Church that, in ever more places, the faithful are participating in regular adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Very early in his pontificate, St John Paul II established adoration chapels in the major patriarchal basilicas in Rome, realising that the holy Eucharist is the source and summit of life in the Church. When there is faith, devotion and reverence for the Eucharist, the faithful grow in charity and holiness, and the community is blessed with a variety of vocations that serve the Church and all souls with joy and simplicity. The Eucharist is the source of life for the Church.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament has been a pious custom in the Church since time immemorial. During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait", we remain "silent" in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist... By worshipping the Eucharistic Jesus, we become what God wants us to be! Like a magnet, the Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us.

In its fullest essence... Eucharistic Adoration is "God and Man reaching out for each other, at the same time!" The Eucharist is: Jesus truly present - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity! At the moment of Consecration, during the Mass, the "gifts" of bread and wine are transformed (transubstantiated) into the actual Body and Blood of Christ, at the Altar. This means that they are not only spiritually transformed, but rather are actually (substantially) transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. The elements retain the appearance of bread and wine, but are indeed the actual Body and Blood of Christ. This is what is meant by Real Presence: the actual, physical presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Christ instituted this Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist in order to remain with mankind until the end of time (John 14:18). The Blessed Sacrament serves as a focal point of devotion. Because, as Catholics, we believe that Christ is truly and substantially present in the Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament is given the same adoration and devotion that is accorded to Christ. At the beginning of the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a priest or deacon removes the sacred host from the tabernacle and places it in the Monstrance on the Altar for adoration by the faithful. "Monstrance" is the vessel used in the Church to display the consecrated Eucharistic Host, during Eucharistic adoration or benediction. The word monstrance comes from the Latin word *monstrare*, meaning "to expose". It resembles the bursting of sunrays coming from Christ.

When the Monstrance contains the Sacred Host, the priest does not touch it with his bare hands, but instead, holds it with a humeral veil, a wide band of cloth that covers his shoulders (humera) and has pleats on the inside in which he places his hands. At all other times, the reserved Sacrament is kept locked in the Tabernacle, so that the faithful may pray in the presence of the Sacrament. Eucharistic exposition and benediction are no longer considered devotions, but rather are a part of the Church's official liturgy. This liturgy is designed to "acknowledge Christ's marvellous presence in the Sacrament and invites us to the spiritual union with Him that culminates in sacramental communion." "Could you not watch one hour with Me?" Jesus waits for us in the Blessed Sacrament. He waits for our little Acts of faith, adoration, love, thanksgiving, repentance, reparation and charity that we can offer Him as we contemplate.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Sunday 1st 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)
6.30pm	Reception of Mary Goodwin to the Church (St Mary's)

Monday 2nd August

12noon	Requiem Mass for Mary Goodwin (St Mary's)
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Tuesday 3rd August

9.30am	Holy Mass for Tuesday of the Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
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Wednesday 4th August

	No Adoration and Confession this morning
10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St John Vianney (St Mary's)
	No Evening Mass in Our Lady & St John's

Thursday 5th August

	No Adoration and Confessions this morning.
9.30am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of the Dedication of St Mary Major (Our Lady & St John's)

Friday 6th August

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord (St Mary's)
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Saturday 7th August

10.00am	Holy Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)
4.45pm	Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm	Vigil Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 8th 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 (Our Lady & St John's)
1.00pm	Baptism (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

4th August - Memoria of St John Vianney - St John Mary Vianney was born in 1786 at Dardilly, near Lyons, France and, despite finding his seminary studies difficult, was ordained a priest and spent forty-two years as parish priest of Ars. Despite encountering much opposition, he reformed the parish, spent hours in the confessional and centred his life on the Holy Eucharist. He died in 1859. Pope Pius XI declared him patron of parish clergy. Please pray for your priests today.

5th August - Memoria of the Dedication of St Mary Major Basilica - In 431AD the Council of Ephesus declared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the 'Mother of God' (Theotokos) and shortly afterwards Pope Sixtus III dedicated the restored Basilica of St Mary Major in Rome in her honour. According to tradition its location had originally been indicated by a miraculous shower of snow on 5th August, in the middle of the sweltering Roman summer, hence the title 'Our Lady of the Snows'. The basilica is considered the most important church dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the festival of its dedication renews our links with the city of Rome and the Pope.

6th August - Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord - The Transfiguration of the Lord on Mount Tabor came to strengthen the faith of the disciples, for trying times lay ahead: the Son of Man would be put to death and all that the human eye could see was weakness, humiliation and suffering. Beyond the shame of the cross, however, is the light and glory of Easter, and it is this that the Transfiguration reveals. It shows the disciples, and us, Christ's divinity - he who is Light from light - and anticipates the glory of heaven.

WELCOME

Fr Wyllie will be in St Mary's College, Oscott from Tuesday to Saturday of this coming week. Fr Brian Lamb and Fr Kevin Lawrie, the parish priest and curate of St Joseph's Blantyre and St John Ogilvie, High Blantyre, will celebrate Masses while Fr Wyllie is away. Fr Lawrie will take up his new appointment as parish priest of St Teresa's, Newarthill mid-September, so we keep him and his new parish in our prayers. Please note the changes to the Mass schedule for this week.

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

As August is the month dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and our parish is under the patronage of Our Lady of Fatima, we will begin the First Saturday devotions after the 10.00am Mass **beginning from September**. Our Blessed Lady promised to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all who, as an act of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, on the first five Saturdays of consecutive months: Go to confession, Receive Holy Communion, Say five decades of the rosary, Keep Mary company for fifteen minutes meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the rosary. The sacramental confession can be received within eight days either before or after the reception of Communion, provided the communicant is in a state of grace for Communion. Reception of Holy Communion must take place within twenty-four hours of the first Saturday. Please make a special effort to come along.



GARDEN AT OUR LADY & ST JOHN'S

Plans are in place to do some work on the front lawn of the garden at Our Lady & St John's. The rose bushes at the memorial are going to be taken out. Some years ago parishioners donated these bushes in memory of a loved one. If you, or someone you know donated these bushes please speak to Bert Lynch if you would like to take it for your own garden.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£703.44
Stall:	£15.00
Votive Candles:	£127.60
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£210.00
TOTAL:	£1,056.04
Many thanks for your very generous support	
Peter's Pence:	£703.18

AUGUST - SECOND COLLECTION

At the Parish Finance Committee Meeting before lockdown it was agreed that several times a year we would take up a second collection to raise funds for works which need done to the fabric of our buildings. As there is no official collection to be taken up during August we ask that you contribute to the ongoing upkeep and maintenance of our parish buildings. Many of you will notice from your own bills at home that things are getting more and more expensive, this is the case for the parish too. We do our very best to use the money you donate wisely and prudently. Please be as generous as you always are.

LIVE-STREAMING MASSES

We have ceased the live-streaming of the Saturday Vigil Mass from last weekend. The only Masses which will be live-streamed over the next few weeks will be the Sunday 10.00am Mass from St Mary's. The Sunday 12noon Mass will be available on live-stream only when we need to open the Parish Hall for the overspill of parishioners who cannot fit in the church. It is very important that we try to get away from relying on live-streaming and encourage parishioners, especially young people and families to return to the celebration of Holy Mass in the church, where we receive the Lord sacramentally and come together as a family.

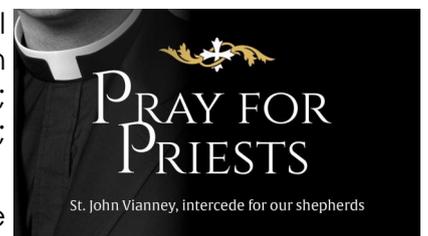
PRAYER FOR PRIESTS ON THE MEMORIA OF ST JOHN VIANNEY

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests; for your unfaithful and tepid priests; for your priests labouring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for your tempted priests; for your lonely and desolate priests; for your young priests; for your dying priests; for the souls of your priests in purgatory.

But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me: the priest who baptised me; the priests who absolved me from my sins; the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me your Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priests who taught and instructed me; all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way (especially...).

O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.

*Our Lady, Queen of the clergy, pray for them.
St John Vianney, pray for them.*



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - Murray Brown, Alice Cumming, Alice Goodwin, Rory Quigley, Janet McIntosh, David Hillhouse, Annette Thomson, Liz Rees OCV, Kathleen Brannigan, Jerry Hillsinger, Mandy Murray McVie, Gerard Lyons, John Gowans, Kevin Feeney

RIP - Mary Goodwin (**Reception of Body to the church on Sunday 1st August at 6.30pm, Requiem Mass Monday 2nd August at 12noon**), John Boyle, Michael Weir, Davy Ralston, Connor Shuel

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - John & Jane McMurray, Alice Weir, Rita Lyons, Peggy Craigens, Marion Houston

Please remember to have your deceased loved ones prayed for on their anniversaries & months mind

PARISH STALL

The Parish Stalls will be opened from next weekend before and after each Sunday Mass. Please have a look at the various items which are on sale. Both stalls have a wide selection of cards and other religious items for you to purchase. The stall offers a service to parishioners but also generates much needed funds for the parish too. Many thanks to those parishioners who support both of our parish stalls. If you haven't had a chance to have a little look at the items available please do so over the next few weeks.

CARFIN GROTTTO - TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION

Carfin Grotto holds a very special place in all our hearts as a place of pilgrimage, reflection and prayer. Over the past year and a half, like so many other places, Carfin has been curtailed in the various Masses, Liturgies and Processions which would normally form part of the pilgrimage season. It would be wonderful to have as many people from throughout the diocese to gather together as a community of faith on the beautiful Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven.



There will be a special Torchlight Procession at the Grotto on Sunday 15th August beginning at 8.00pm and making its way through the Grotto. The Torchlight Procession is to give thanks to God and his Holy Mother for bringing us through these tumultuous times as well as giving us all an opportunity to pray for the repose of the souls of all those whose lives were cut short due to coronavirus. Please support this special event.

MONTHS MIND MASS FOR MICHAEL WEIR

His Lordship Bishop Toal has invited the whole diocese to a special Months Mind Mass for Michael Weir at Carfin Grotto on Sunday 15th August, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at 3.00pm. This will allow those who were unable to attend Michael's Requiem Mass on Friday 23rd July in St Mary's to gather together and pray for the repose of his soul and to give thanks for all he did in the service of the Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalite. All parishioners are invited to attend this Mass.

RCIA PROGRAMME

The RCIA Programme will resume after the summer break on Monday 16th August at 7.00pm. The four candidates who are currently on the programme should, God-willing, be received into full communion with the Catholic Church on Friday 1st October at a special Mass in St Mary's at 7.00pm followed by a parish reception in Our Lady & St John's Parish Hall.

Both parish stalls have cards which can be given to those being received into the Church in October. The 'Welcome to the Church' cards are available from this weekend.

Please keep Jack, Harvey, Carole & Mark in your prayers over the coming months as they step up their preparations to receive the Sacraments. We thank them for answering the Lord's call and for taking this step in their journey of faith. We assure them of our prayerful support over the coming weeks.