

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

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
26TH SEPTEMBER 2021

St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

THE NINE HOSTS OF ANGELS

SERAPHIM

These are the highest order or choir of angels. They are the angels who are attendants or guardians before God's throne. They praise God, calling, "Holy Holy Holy is the Lord of Hosts". The only Bible reference is Isaiah 6:1-7. One of them touched Isaiah's lips with a burning coal from the altar, cleansing him from sin. Seraphim have six wings.

CHERUBIM

Cherubim rank after the seraphim and are the second highest in the nine hierarchies or choirs of angels. The Old Testament does not reveal any evidence that the Jews considered them as intercessors or helpers of God. They were closely linked in God's glory. Catholic tradition describes them as angels who have an intimate knowledge of God and continually praise Him.

THRONES

Thrones are the Angels of pure humility, peace and submission. They reside in the area of the cosmos where material form begins to take shape. The lower Choir of Angels need the Thrones to access God.

DOMINIONS

Dominions are Angels of Leadership. They regulate the duties of the angels, making known the commands of God.

VIRTUES

Virtues are known as the Spirits of Motion and control the elements. They are sometimes referred to as "the shining ones." They govern all nature. They are also in charge of miracles and provide courage, grace, and valour.

POWERS

Powers are Warrior Angels against evil, defending the cosmos and humans. They are known as potentates. They fight against evil spirits who attempt to wreak chaos through human beings.

ARCHANGELS

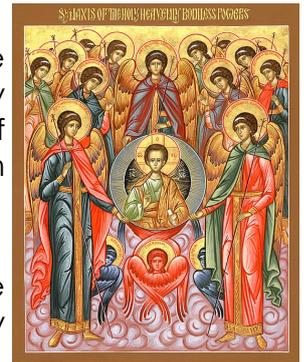
Archangels are generally taken to mean "chief or leading angel", they are the most frequently mentioned throughout the Bible. They may be of this or other hierarchies as St. Michael Archangel, who is a princely Seraph. The Archangels have a unique role as God's messenger to the people at critical times in history and salvation as in The Annunciation and Apocalypse.

PRINCIPALITIES

In the New Testament Principalities refers to one type of spiritual (metaphysical) being which are now quite hostile to God and human beings. Along with the principalities are the powers; and cosmological powers; Dominions and thrones.

ANGELS

These angels are closest to the material world and human beings. They deliver prayers to God and God's answers and other messages to humans. They are the most caring and social to assist those who ask for help.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Sunday 26th September

- 10.00am** Holy Mass for the Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
1.00pm Baptism (St Mary's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)

Monday 27th September

- 11.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Vincent de Paul (St Mary's)

Tuesday 28th September

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

Wednesday 29th September

- 9.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
9.30am Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
9.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass for the Feast of the Archangels (St Mary's)
6.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary (Our Lady & St John's)
7.00pm Holy Mass for the Feast of the Archangels (Our Lady & St John's)

Thursday 30th September

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

Friday 1st October

- 10.00am Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Therese of Lisieux with St Mary's Primary (St Mary's)
7.00pm Holy Mass with the Rite of Initiation into the Catholic Church (St Mary's)

Saturday 2nd October

- 10.00am **NO MORNING MASS IN ST MARY'S**
4.45pm Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm Vigil Mass for the Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 3rd October

- 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)
1.00pm Baptisms (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Our Lady & St John's)
6.30pm October Devotions concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)

MASS WITH RITE OF INITIATION INTO THE CHURCH

On Friday of this week we will have the joy of welcoming four new converts to the Catholic faith in our parish. Please keep Carole, Mark, Harvey & Jack in your prayers as they prepare to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

On Friday evening at 7.00pm in St Mary's there will be a special Mass where they will receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along to this Mass to pray for them and to pray with them.

This is a joy for the parish to be blessed with four new converts so let us give thanks to God for such a blessing and also gather together to celebrate afterwards.

At the conclusion of the Mass everyone is welcome to attend a special function in Our Lady & St John's Parish Hall. This will probably begin around 8.30pm.

A buffet will be provided with prosecco and orange juice on arrival with the bar also being opened. For those who signed up for the bus last weekend, the bus will take you from Larkhall to Blackwood and return to Larkhall at the conclusion of the function.

MASS ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

5.30pm - 84

10.00am - 111

12noon - 51

5.00pm - 54

Total - 300

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

27th September - Memoria of St Vincent de Paul - St Vincent de Paul was born in Gascony, France in 1581 and ordained a priest at the early age of twenty. Legend says he endured a period of captivity in Tunis; at any rate, after being falsely accused of theft, he dedicated himself to evangelising the poor, the unfortunate and the suffering. He founded the Congregation of Priests of the Mission (Lazarists) and, together with St Louise de Marillac, the Daughters of Charity. These congregations, together with the well-known Society of St Vincent de Paul, continue his charitable work today. St Vincent died in 1660 and is the patron of charitable societies.

29th September - Feast of the Archangels - This Feast day celebrates the three archangels named in Sacred Scripture, reminding us of the angelic world and of their constant ministrations to the world.

St Michael (meaning 'Who is like God') is venerated as captain of the heavenly army, victor over Satan, protector of the Church and helper of the sick and dying. This feast originated as that of the dedication of a Roman basilica in his honour. He is the patron of the police and the military.

St Gabriel (meaning 'Strength of God') announced both the birth of St John the Baptist (to Zechariah) and of Jesus Christ (to the Blessed Virgin Mary). His greeting at the Annunciation, 'Hail, full of grace', has become one of the most familiar prayers. He is the patron of messengers, those who work for broadcasting and telecommunications such as radio and television, postal workers, clerics, diplomats, and stamp collectors.

St Raphael (meaning 'God heals') took care of Tobias on his journey, as described in the book of Tobit. He is a patron of the blind, travellers and physicians and nurses.

30th September - Memoria of St Jerome - St Jerome (Hieronymus) was born in Strido, now in Croatia, around 342, and went on to study for the priesthood in Rome, where he was baptised. He retired for a while to Syria to live as a hermit and learnt Hebrew from a rabbi. Between 382 and 385 he was in Rome as secretary to Pope Damasus, who commissioned him to revise the Latin version of the Bible. He went to Bethlehem to concentrate on this work, together with the writing of Scriptural commentaries and theological works. He died in 420. He is the patron of librarians and libraries as well as archivists, translators and encyclopedists.

1st October - Memoria of St Therese of Lisieux - St Therese Martin was born at Alencon in 1873, at the age of fifteen she entered the Carmel of Lisieux, thus joining two of her sisters. Although she died of tuberculosis at the age of twenty four, such was the influence of her spiritual writings and her 'little way' that she was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope John Paul II in 1997. She is also patron of the Missions and co-patron of France.

2nd October - Memoria of the Holy Guardian Angels - The Church sets today to celebrate those angels, who, according to Scripture and tradition, guard and assist us at every moment. Each person has such a Guardian Angel and we rightly rejoice in their company.

MOVING TABLES & CHAIRS

If you are able bodied and free to give a hand moving the tables and chairs for the Parish Hall from the garage it would be a great help if you could come along on Wednesday of this week after the 7.00pm Mass. If we have a good number of volunteers this should not take long and means we can set up the hall quickly.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£845.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£60.00
Donations for Flowers & Candles:	£325.00
Votive Candles:	£185.00
Stall:	£40.00
TOTAL:	£1,455.00
Many thanks for your very generous support	

CLEANING OUR PARISH HALL

Our Parish Hall is in need of a deep clean before it opens for our first parish function on Friday 1st October. We would be very grateful for any help to Hoover, dust, brush, mop, clean etc. to get the hall looking back to its old self. This will take place on Wednesday 29th September at 7.30pm, after the 7.00pm Mass.

PARISH PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

The proposed date of the next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Planning Team is Tuesday 5th October at 7.00pm at St Mary's. The members of the Parish Pastoral Planning Team (PPPT) are: Russell McAllister, Suzanne Sherry, Scott Smith, Ciaran Reilly, Suzanne McCaughey & Laura Kennedy.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - Paul Fleming, James Ferguson, Bunty McDonald, Murray Brown, Alice Cumming, Alice Goodwin, Rory Quigley, Janet McIntosh, David Hillhouse, Annette Thomson, Liz Rees OCV, Kathleen Brannigan, Mandy Murray McVie, Gerard Lyons, John Gowans, Kevin Feeney

RIP - Helen Moran (Paisley)

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Tam & Rena Mooney, Jimmy Laverty, Ella Laverty

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

SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL FOODBANK

Today we take up our monthly collection for the Foodbank. Donations of food can be left at the back of the church and monetary donations can be placed in the Offertory bags in an envelope clearly marked 'FOODBANK'. Many thanks to those who support our parish efforts to assist the local foodbank in their work.

BENCHES FOR OUR LADY STATUE

Two new benches will be delivered this week to be placed in front of the statue of Our Lady at St Mary's. Many thanks to the generous donors who have purchased these benches to allow parishioners a space of quiet for prayer and reflection before the statue of Our Lady. May God reward your kindness. Parishioners are welcome to spend some time in prayer before the statue at any point during the day.

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

On the Sundays of October we will have our traditional October Devotions. The Devotions will be split over the two churches throughout the month. Details are below:

St Mary's: **3rd October, 10th October at 6.30pm**

OLSJ: **17th October, 31st October at 6.00pm**

NO OCTOBER DEVOTIONS ON 24TH OCTOBER.

NOVENA TO OUR LADY

We will begin our parish Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in preparation for Christmas. This Novena will begin on Tuesday 26th October in St Mary's and continue for each of the successive nine Tuesdays. At the conclusion of the Novena we will have Benediction. The Novena will begin on Wednesday 27th October at 6.30pm in Our Lady & St John's and continue for each of the successive nine Wednesdays.

COLDER WEATHER

As we notice the temperature beginning to fall please remember that the doors of the church are to remain wide open during Masses and other liturgies for ventilation purposes. Although the heating will be turned on in the church over the next few weeks, please bear in mind that it could be quite cold owing to the doors remaining open. Parishioners who feel the cold are asked to come to Mass with this in mind over the next few months.

PARISH FINANCE MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Finance Committee will take place on Tuesday 12th October at 2.30pm in St Mary's. The members of the Finance Committee are: Patricia, Weir, Gerry McCaughey, Mary McDermott and Irene McGoldrick.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy will resume in Our Lady & St John's after the October break. A meeting will take place for the leaders over the next few weeks. Anyone willing to lead the Children's Liturgy in St Mary's is asked to speak to Fr Wyllie as soon as possible.

PARISH HALL BAR

As we look forward to re-opening our Parish Hall we are in need of volunteers to help with bar duties. If you are willing to help out with working behind the bar at functions in our Hall could you please contact Angela Stewart on 07733440351. The hope is to have a bank of around 8-12 volunteers who can assist with the various functions.