

# 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

**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM**  
**15TH AUGUST 2021**

St Mary's  
Raploch Road  
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

## OUR LADY ASSUMED INTO HEAVEN

Today, Catholics and many other Christians celebrate the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This significant feast day recalls the spiritual and physical departure of the mother of Jesus Christ from the earth, when both her soul and her body were taken into the presence of God.

Venerable Pope Pius XII confirmed this belief about the Virgin Mary as the perennial teaching of the Church when he defined it formally as a dogma of Catholic faith in 1950, invoking papal infallibility to proclaim, "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."



His Apostolic Constitution "Munificentissimus Deus" (Most Bountiful God), which defined the dogma, contained the Pontiff's accounts of many longstanding traditions by which the Church has celebrated the Assumption throughout its history.

The constitution also cited testimonies from the early Church fathers on the subject, and described the history of theological reflection on many Biblical passages which are seen as indicating that Mary was assumed into heaven following her death. Although the bodily assumption of Mary is not explicitly recorded in Scripture, Catholic tradition identifies her with the "woman clothed with the sun" who is described in the 12th chapter of the Book of Revelation.

The passage calls that woman's appearance "a great sign" which "appeared in heaven," indicating that she is the mother of the Jewish Messiah and has "the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." Accordingly, Catholic iconography of the Western tradition often depicts the Virgin Mary's assumption into heaven in this manner.

Eastern Christians have also traditionally held Mary's assumption into heaven as an essential component of their faith. Pius XII cited several early Byzantine liturgical texts, as well as the eighth century Arab Christian theologian St. John of Damascus, in his own authoritative definition of her assumption. "It was fitting," St. John of Damascus wrote in a sermon on the assumption, "that she, who had kept her virginity intact in childbirth, should keep her own body free from all corruption even after death," and "that she, who had carried the creator as a child at her breast, should dwell in the divine tabernacles."

In Eastern Christian tradition, the same feast is celebrated on the same calendar date, although typically known as the Dormition (falling asleep) of Mary. Eastern Catholic celebration of the Dormition is preceded by a two-week period of fasting which is similar to Lent. Pius XII, in "Munificentissimus Deus," mentioned this same fasting period as belonging to the traditional patrimony of Western Christians as well.

The feast of the Assumption is always a Holy Day of Obligation for both Roman and Eastern-rite Catholics, on which they are obliged to attend Mass or Divine Liturgy. Throughout Europe and other parts of the world today there will be many festivals, processions and pageants to celebrate this most special and wonderful Solemnity. **In Carfin Grotto this evening there will be a special Torchlight Procession at 8.00pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.**

# THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

## Sunday 15th August

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the BVM (St Mary's)
12noon	Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the BVM (Our Lady & St John's)
2.30pm	Baptism (St Mary's)
5.00pm	Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the BVM (Our Lady & St John's)

## Monday 16th August

12noon	Holy Mass for Monday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
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## Tuesday 17th August

9.30am	Holy Mass for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood (Our Lady & St John's)
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## Wednesday 18th August

9.30am	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.55am (St Mary's)
9.30am	Confessions until 9.50am (St Mary's)
10.00am	Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
7.00pm	Holy Mass for Wednesday of the Twentieth Week in Ordinary Time ( Our Lady & St John's)

## Thursday 19th August

9.30am	Requiem Mass for Maureen Whitefield (Our Lady & St John's)
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## Friday 20th August

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Bernard (St Mary's)
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## Saturday 21st August

10.00am	Holy Mass for the Memoria of St Pius X with blessing with his relic (St Mary's)
4.45pm	Confessions until 5.15pm (St Mary's)
5.30pm	<b>Vigil Mass for the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (St Mary's)

## Sunday 22nd August

10.00am	<b>Holy Mass for the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (St Mary's)
12noon	<b>Holy Mass for the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Our Lady & St John's)
5.00pm	<b>Holy Mass for the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Our Lady & St John's)

## FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

**20th August - Memoria of St Bernard** - St Bernard was born around 1090 into a noble family at Fontaines, near Dijon, France. In 1113 he joined the new monastery at Citeaux and went on to found the Cistercian house at Clairvaux. St Bernard became known as a talented theologian, preacher and controversialist, enjoying a correspondence with monarchs and popes. He managed to combine a life of action with one of mystical contemplation, as revealed in his writings. He died in 1153 and was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1830. He is the patron of skiing, snowboarding, hiking, backpacking, mountaineering.

**21st August - Memoria of St Pius X** - St Pius X was born in Riese, near Venice, Italy in 1835, the son of the village postman. Ordained in 1858, he is one of the few popes to have spent a substantial period in parish ministry. After serving as Bishop of Mantua and Patriarch of Venice, he succeeded Pope Leo XIII as Pope in 1903. He defended Catholic doctrine against modernism, described as the 'synthesis of all heresies', and also promoted the dignified celebration of the liturgy. Aiming to 'restore all things in Christ', he extended the practice of frequent communion. He is the patron of First Communicants and pilgrims.

## LIVESTREAMING & ATTENDING MASSES IN OUR PARISH

Livestreaming of Masses was a lifeline for so many of us during the lockdowns over the past year and a half. Now that we are able to gather for Mass unhindered by restrictions we are ceasing all livestreaming of our parish Masses from this weekend. There is plenty of space for all those who wish to come along to Mass in our parish, so please feel free to come along to whatever Mass suits you best. Watching Mass through livestream is no substitute for attending Mass in person to be present at the Holy Sacrifice and to gather as a community of believers to worship the Lord.

## ANNUAL DIOCESAN VOCATIONS MASS

Bishop Toal invites the whole Diocese to gather in Motherwell Cathedral on Thursday 26th August at 7.00pm for the annual Vocations Mass to pray for more vocations to the priesthood.

## KEYHOLDERS FOR PARISH PROPERTIES

After the devastating fire which completely destroyed St Simon's in Partick we have to assess the safety of our parish properties (churches, houses, hall). If any incident were to take place in any of our properties one of the first questions asked would be who has keys for our premises. As things stand at the moment, Fr Wyllie does not have a complete list of those with access to our buildings. If you have a key for any of our parish properties could you please drop a little note through the chapel house door or email with the following information:

1. Your name
2. Your telephone number
3. The doors you have keys for (e.g. front door, side door, house, sacristy, hall etc)

**Please have this information with Fr Wyllie by 22nd August.**

### MONTHS MIND MASS

Bishop Toal will celebrate a Months Mind Mass for the late Michael Weir this afternoon at 3.00pm in Carfin Grotto. All parishioners, family members and friends of Michael are warmly invited to join with the Bishop and the whole Diocesan community in praying for the repose of his soul. Unfortunately, Fr Wyllie will be unable to attend due to another commitment.

### PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£532.40
Stall:	£10.00
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£260.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£802.40</b>

**Many thanks for your very generous support**

**Thanks to those who are signed up to Giffaid we received £11,045.46 from the Government.**

### RETURN TO SCHOOL

The school bags will be packed, the uniforms ironed and hung up as the young people make their way to school tomorrow morning to begin another school year. We wish all the teachers, pupils and school staff our prayerful best wishes as they embark on another academic year. After the difficulties of the last academic year and the challenges it posed to all those in our schools we look forward to a year which is a bit more normal. It will be wonderful to have the young people and their teachers and support staff join us for the celebrations of Mass, other devotions and liturgies throughout the school year.

### MEMORIA OF ST PIUS X

On the Memoria of St Pius X there will be an opportunity to venerate a first class relic of the saint after the morning Mass. As the tradition would normally be to reverence the relic with a kiss we will just bow our heads while we are blessed with the relic. We ask Pope Pius X's intercession for the Church in the world today, that we may never lose sight of our traditions and heritage while at the same time living out our faith in a dynamic and fruitful way. May we make Pope Pius X's motto, 'To restore all things in Christ' our own as we endeavour to live out and hand on our Catholic Faith in our world today.

### RCIA

The RCIA programme will resume this Monday evening at 7.00pm in St Mary's after a short break for the summer holidays. In these final few weeks of preparation we very much keep Harvey, Mark, Jack and Carole in our prayers. All going well, we should welcome the four of them into full communion with the Catholic Church at a special Mass in St Mary's on Friday 1st October at 7.00pm followed by a function in Our Lady & St John's Parish Hall to which everyone is invited.

### PARISH BUILDING FUND

**The Second Collection for the month of August is the Parish Building Fund which will help offset costs on essential and remedial work to our parish buildings. We have been handed on a wonderful legacy from the generations which have gone before us, so please give as generously as you can to this worthwhile cause. Last year in St Mary's we repaired the various leaks in the church roof, the damp, the casing around the windows, replaced the defunct heating system, cleaned the guttering and other marks on the walls and fitted new external lighting; In Our Lady & St John's we fitted new doors, cleaned the guttering and the PVC as well as new external lighting.**

### RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

You are free to receive Communion standing or kneeling, on the tongue or in the hand.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**SICK** - Bunty McDonald, 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** - Maureen Whitefield, Cathie Freel (Airdrie), Mary Brown, Rose Campbell

**MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Ian Quinn, Robert Maguire, Jimmy Weir, Marjory & Frank Flannigan

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

## PARISH FORTY HOURS

If all continues to go well with the relaxation of restrictions we will be able to celebrate the Parish Forty Hours of Adoration before the Lord in the Most Blessed Sacrament in September. There will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all day on the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. There will be sheets available at the back of the church to ensure that there is someone watching before the Blessed Sacrament all the way through the forty hours. The Forty Hours this year will take place in St Mary's but everyone in our parish is asked to come along and spend some time before the Lord, so please give your support and allow the Lord's heart to speak to our hearts.

Below is the proposed programme for the Forty Hours. This maybe subject to change.

### Sunday 5th September

**10.00am** Holy Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until  
**3.00pm** Blessed Sacrament Procession  
3.30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until  
**6.30pm** Solemn Evening Prayer followed by Benediction

### Monday 6th September

8.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.00am  
9.00am Confessions  
9.30am Holy Rosary  
**10.00am** Holy Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until  
**1.00pm** Holy Mass with Anointing of the Sick  
2.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8.00pm  
6.00pm Confessions until 6.50pm  
**7.00pm** Holy Hour concluding with Solemn Benediction

### Tuesday 7th September

8.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10.00am  
9.00am Confessions  
9.30am Holy Rosary  
**10.00am** Holy Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 7.00pm  
12noon Prayers for the parish followed by simple Benediction  
6.00pm Confessions until 6.45pm  
**7.00pm** Holy Mass\*



\* This Holy Mass is a parish Mass with a special invitation to all those who perform any ministry or job in our parish community (both churches) - Altar Servers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers, Cleaners, Stewards, members of Committees, Societies or Groups which function in our parish.

## WATCHING LISTS

The Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar should never be left unaccompanied. To ensure that there is someone with the Blessed Sacrament at all times there will be sign up sheets for half hour slots throughout the Forty Hours. Please try and be generous with your time and commit to spending some private or family time with the Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist.

Lists will be available from Saturday 21st August on the notice boards in St Mary's.