

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

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

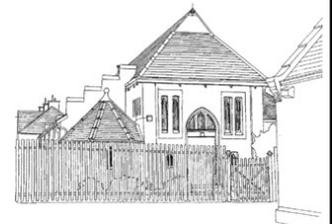
Scottish Charity Number - SC011041

Telephone - 01698 884017

Email - ourladyoffatima@rcdom.org.uk

Website - parishofourladyoffatima.com

Parish Priest - Reverend Father Seán G. Wyllie



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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
20TH JUNE 2021

St Mary's
Raploch Road
Larkhall, ML9 1AN

THE SANCTUS BELL

During the Eucharistic Prayer we hear the sound of bells ringing at pivotal points in the Mass. Although, very sadly, it is no longer a universal practice in the Catholic Church, it points to an ancient historical practice that awakens our senses during the liturgy.

In describing the vestments worn by the priests of Israel like Aaron, God explained to Moses how bells should be sewn on them (Exodus 28:33-35).

Bells were an integral part of divine worship, both to sound a joyful noise before the Lord and to ward off evil spirits. This particular feature of bells is still preserved in the Roman Ritual blessing of bells where the priest prays, "At its sound let all evil spirits be driven afar."

As Christianity grew, bells were slowly added to the liturgy in various ways. At first bells were mounted in towers outside of churches to call people to worship, but soon enough handheld bells were used for similar purposes. For example, it is believed St. Patrick used such a handbell and "whenever Saint Patrick had set up a new Christian community or parish somewhere in Ireland, he would choose one of his disciples to lead it after he left, and present them with a bell to call the parishioners to prayer, and to use during religious ceremonies."

More in line with the Old Testament, small bells were adapted in Eastern Churches in various ways, such as bells that were attached to the thurible that carried incense used at divine worship.

In the Roman Rite handbells were eventually used by altar servers to mark important moments during the Mass. It currently remains an option, as it is noted in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, "A little before the Consecration, if appropriate, a minister rings a small bell as a signal to the faithful. The minister also rings the small bell at each elevation by the Priest, according to local custom" (No. 150).

Sadly, in the aftermath of the Second Vatican Council, many priests disbanded the use of the Sanctus Bell at Mass. By 1972 the Vatican intervened and stated the following:

" . . . From a long and attentive catechesis and education in liturgy, a particular liturgical assembly may be able to take part in the Mass with such attention and awareness that it has no need of this signal at the central part of the Mass. This may easily be the case, for example, with religious communities or with particular or small groups. The opposite may be presumed in a parish or public church, where there is a different level of liturgical and religious education and where often people who are visitors or are not regular churchgoers take part. In these cases the bell as a signal is entirely appropriate and is sometimes necessary. To conclude: usually a signal with the bell should be given, at least at the two elevations, in order to elicit joy and attention".

The bells have great spiritual power and alert our senses to what is unfolding before us. They not only provoke our attention, but are also a "joyous noise" at the pivotal moments in the Mass when God comes down from Heaven and takes the appearance of bread and wine. When we hear those bells ring, we should be completely focussed on the great mystery taking place before us on the altar.



THIS WEEK IN OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Sunday 20th June

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

NO PUBLIC MASS IN THE PARISH UNTIL 26TH JUNE AT 5.30PM

Saturday 26th June

5.30pm	Vigil Mass for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
--------	---

Sunday 27th June

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

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY - PETER'S PENCE

"The offerings of the faithful [toward the Peter's Pence Collection] are intended to support the activities of the Holy Father for the whole Universal Church. These activities are carried out by the Holy See. The Pope, as Pastor of the universal Church, is concerned both with the needs of evangelisation (spiritual, educational, justice, communication, political charity, diplomatic activity, etc.) and with the material needs of poor dioceses, religious institutes and faithful in serious difficulties (the poor, children, the elderly, the marginalised, victims of wars and natural disasters; special aid to Bishops or Dioceses in need, Catholic education, aid to refugees and migrants, etc.).

Every service provided by the Holy See is possible, thanks to Peter's Pence. In fact, it guarantees the activity of the Dicasteries that assist the Pope every day in the exercise of his ministry."

The Special Collection box will be available throughout the month of July for us to assist the Holy Father in his ministry. Please give generously.



FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

21st June - Memoria of St Aloysius Gonzaga - St Aloysius Gonzaga was born in 1568 to one of the great Italian noble families and served as a page at several princely courts. At the age of eighteen he embraced a life of poverty and obedience by joining the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). He showed great piety and died as a result of his heroic nursing of the plague stricken in 1591. He has been declared protector of students and patron of Christian youth.

22nd June - Memoria of St John Fisher & St Thomas More - St John Fisher was born in 1469 at Beverly (Yorkshire) and studied at the University of Cambridge, which he eventually served as Chancellor. In 1504 he became bishop of Rochester and proved to be a model bishop; indeed, St Charles Borromeo hung his portrait in his apartment with that of St Ambrose. Imprisoned after refusing to take the Oath of Supremacy which declared that the King was head of the Catholic Church in England rather than the Pope, Pope Paul III created him a Cardinal. King Henry VIII ordered him to be executed by beheading on Tower Hill, London on 22nd June 1535.

St Thomas More was born in London in 1477. He was a well respected lawyer and humanist scholar and served as Chancellor of England. He was devoted to his family and managed to maintain his life of prayer amid his many duties. St Thomas retired from public life as King Henry VIII attempted to annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon to marry Anne Boleyn. He was eventually beheaded by order of King Henry VIII on Tower Hill on 6th July 1535. Pope John Paul II declared him the patron of politicians in 2000.

24th June - Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist - Born six months before Our Lord, St John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth. He was the last and greatest of the prophets and, as the forerunner of the Saviour, he prepared for the coming of Christ. The celebration of his earthly birthday marks the coming of the new law in Christ.

At Masses this weekend we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance for those from our parish who are currently on the RCIA programme. We keep them in our prayers.

MOTHERWELL LOURDES HOSPITALITE

The annual Motherwell Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalite Day at Carfin Grotto will take place next Sunday, 20th June, with Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Toal at 3.00pm. During the Mass there will be the opportunity for a special blessing of the sick to replace the normal Sacrament of the Sick which would customarily be administered at this special Mass. All parishioners are very welcome to attend the Mass in Carfin to pray for the work of the Motherwell Lourdes Hospitalite and to join with them at the shrine in Carfin.



BISHOP TOAL

On Wednesday of this week we mark the seventh anniversary of the installation of Bishop Toal as the fifth Bishop of Motherwell. We pray for His Lordship Bishop Toal as he marks this anniversary praying that Christ the High Priest will bestow upon him the graces he needs to guide and shepherd our diocese.

PARISH FINANCES

Collection & Donations:	£467.15
Stall:	£25.50
Standing Orders & Bank Transfers:	£430.00
TOTAL:	£922.65

Many thanks for your very generous support

SCHOOL MASSES THIS WEEK

As the young people and staff in our schools look forward to a well deserved holiday we will finish the term with Masses in each of the schools. We wish all those who learn and work in our schools the safest and happiest of holidays.

St John's Primary School will have Mass celebrated on Tuesday 22nd June at 11.30am and St Mary's Primary School will have Mass celebrated on Wednesday 23rd June at 11.00am.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Fr Wyllie wishes all parishioners who may be getting away for a few days a very happy and restful break. If you are on holiday from work, have the children and young people on holiday from school or are retired or unemployed why not consider joining us for weekday Mass over the next few weeks. It would be lovely to have our young people join us for the celebration of Holy Mass to instil in them the graces that come from attending weekday Mass.

VOTIVE CANDLES

We now have new votive candles in both churches priced at £1.50. They are red and blue, traditionally red for the Sacred Heart and blue for Our Lady. The normal votive candles are still available priced at 50p. Just let the steward know what candles you would like lit and they will be happy to oblige.

SINGING AT MASS

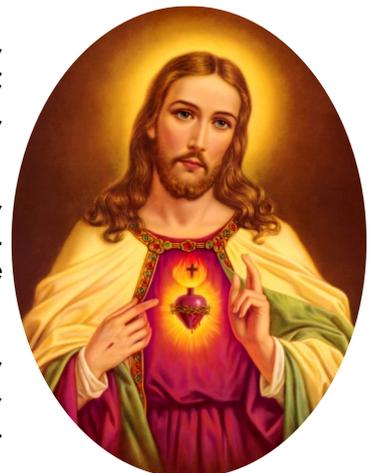
Until we are placed in Level 1 restrictions we are unable to permit congregational singing at Mass or other devotions. As soon as we are placed in Level 1 we will have hymn sheets at each Mass which you will be free to take home with you as we are unable to reuse them. Until such times please do not sing at Mass.

PRAYER TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

O sacred heart of Jesus, I place my trust in thee, Whatever may befall me, Lord, though dark the hour may be; In all my woes, in all my joys, though nought but grief I see, O sacred heart of Jesus, I place my trust in thee.

When those I loved have passed away, and I am sore distressed, O sacred heart of Jesus, I fly to thee for rest. In all my trials, great or small, my confidence shall be Unshaken as I cry, dear Lord, I place my trust in thee.

This is my one sweet prayer, dear Lord, my faith, my trust, my love, But most of all in that last hour, when death points up above, O sweet Saviour, may thy face smile on my soul all free. Oh may I cry with rapturous love, I've placed my trust in thee.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

SICK - 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 - John Peter Smith

MONTHS MINDS & ANNIVERSARIES - Mary Dow

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

“MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER”

Over the past few weeks the noise levels in both our churches before Sunday Mass has been quite considerable. The church is of course a meeting place for us to gather as a community but it is primarily a place of prayer. As a sign of our reverence and respect for the Lord present in the tabernacle, when we come into the church, whenever that may be, our voices should not be at a normal conversational volume, we should have a quiet voice for necessary conversation.

Any furniture to be moved or jobs around the church which have to be carried out should be done so with as little noise as possible. Please be considerate of people in the church trying to say their prayers. A sacred silence should be maintained at **all** times.

As the weather is so nice outside at the moment, it might be a nice idea to have our conversations before entering the church porch or waiting until we leave the church. The stewards could also greet parishioners at the front of the church to minimise the noise in the porch area in St Mary's or the back of the church in Our Lady & St John's.



**SILENCE
PLEASE**

SSVP

Even though last year was a very different year for all of us, the St Vincent de Paul Society in our parish were still assisting those less fortunate than ourselves. In order for them to continue with this corporal work of mercy we must give them our prayerful and financial support. As you leave the church over the next few weeks please place a donation, no matter how small, in the SSVP box to help with the great work that the SSVP do on our behalf for the most needy.

PARISH FORTY HOURS

It is planned to have the parish Forty Hours of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament from Sunday 5th September until Tuesday 7th September in preparation for the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 8th September in St Mary's. It is hoped that some of the stricter restrictions placed on us at present will be relaxed by that time. More info to follow over the next few weeks as we know more about the plan ahead and the lifting of restrictions.

PARISH STALL

Our parish stalls have a wide selection of cards for a variety of occasions:

Baptism, First Confession, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Mass cards, Mass Bouquet cards, Book of Remembrance Mass cards, Wedding Anniversary, Thank You, Get Well, Get Well Mass Bouquet, Passing your Exams and other cards as well as other little gifts and keepsakes.

The stall generates much needed funds for the parish so please have a look if you are in need of some items. If you cannot find what you're looking for please speak to Fr Wyllie and he will endeavour to order the items for you. Your support of the parish stall is greatly appreciated.

ALTAR SERVERS

It has been wonderful to welcome our young people back to the ministry of serving at the altar over the past few weeks and many parishioners have commented on how good it is to see the return of the altar servers at Mass. The majority of our servers are currently at secondary school - this is very encouraging. Fr Wyllie is looking to recruit new servers for our Sunday Masses. During the summer months Fr Wyllie will have the opportunity to take the new servers for rehearsals to ensure that they are well prepared before serving at Mass. Any new server must have made their First Communion. More details will follow soon regarding a meeting for new servers.