



St Mary's, Lanark

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Parish Priest – *Fr. Thomas W. Doyle*



The Armorial Bearings of the Parish Priest of St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Lanark.

Sunday the 16th August 2020–The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Times

Saturday Evening Vigil Mass :	5.00pm
Sunday Morning Mass :	10.30am
Weekday Masses on Monday, Wednesday & Friday:	9.30am

(Sunday Mass will also be available from 10.30am on Sunday mornings on our Facebook page)

** To book weekend Mass please call 01555 662234 or 07936306344 between the following times:*

Booking Times: Thursday: 9am–12pm

Friday: 9am –12pm

(For more details on booking Mass, please see the Updates & News Section of the website.)

** There is no need to book for weekday morning Masses, however we will require you to give details on arrival and continue with our current guidelines. We are also still under the Governments current restriction of a maximum of 50 attendees.*

Feast Days This Week:

Thursday – St Bernard

Friday – St Pope Pius X

Saturday – The Queenship of Mary



The obligation to attend Sunday Mass has currently been suspended, however we welcome our Parishioners back to St Mary's with the increasing number of Masses we are now holding (please see above for days and times).

We also take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for making these Masses possible.

If you have symptoms of coronavirus or have been in contact with someone who has Coronavirus please do not attend Church.

For those who cannot currently make it to Mass, please be assured we always remember you, our Brothers and Sisters, in our prayers.

Anniversaries & Recent Deaths

Please remember in your prayers the following whose anniversaries occur around now: Bridget & Seamus Rafferty and Kathleen Grieve.

The Assumption: On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: “We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory.” The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the sixth century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However by the 13th century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names—Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption—from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

Scripture does not give an account of Mary’s Assumption into heaven. Nevertheless, Revelation 12 speaks of a woman who is caught up in the battle between good and evil. Many see this woman as God’s people. Since Mary best embodies the people of both Old and New Testaments, her Assumption can be seen as an exemplification of the woman’s victory.

Furthermore, in 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul speaks of Christ’s resurrection as the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Since Mary is closely associated with all the mysteries of Jesus’ life, it is not surprising that the Holy Spirit has led the Church to believe in Mary’s share in his glorification. So close was she to Jesus on earth, she must be with him body and soul in heaven.

St Bernard: Man of the century! Woman of the century! You see such terms applied to so many today — “golfer of the century,” “composer of the century,” “right tackle of the century” — that the line no longer has any punch. But Western Europe’s “man of the twelfth century,” without doubt or controversy, had to be Bernard of Clairvaux. Adviser of popes, preacher of the Second Crusade, defender of the faith, healer of a schism, reformer of a monastic Order, Scripture scholar, theologian, and eloquent preacher: any one of these titles would distinguish an ordinary man. Yet Bernard was all of these—and he still retained a burning desire to return to the hidden monastic life of his younger days.

In the year 1111, at the age of 20, Bernard left his home to join the monastic community of Citeaux. His five brothers, two uncles, and some 30 young friends followed him into the monastery. Within four years, a dying community had recovered enough vitality to establish a new house in the nearby valley of Wormwoods, with Bernard as abbot. The zealous young man was quite demanding, though more on himself than others. A slight breakdown of health taught him to be more patient and understanding. The valley was soon renamed Clairvaux, the valley of light.

His ability as arbitrator and counselor became widely known. More and more he was lured away from the monastery to settle long-standing disputes. On several of these occasions, he apparently stepped on some sensitive toes in Rome. Bernard was completely dedicated to the primacy of the Roman See. But to a letter of warning from Rome, he replied that the good fathers in Rome had enough to do to keep the Church in one piece. If any matters arose that warranted their interest, he would be the first to let them know.



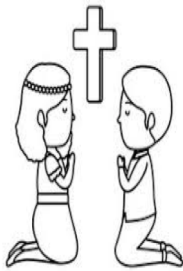
QUEENSHIP OF MARY

August 22nd

Queenship of Mary

*“O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of God and Mother of Humanity,
we believe with all the fervour of our faith in your
triumphal Assumption
both in body and in soul into heaven where you are
acclaimed as Queen by all the choirs of angels and
all the legions of saints;
we unite with them to praise and bless the Lord
who has exalted you above all other pure creatures
and to offer you the tribute of our devotion and our
love.” (Prayers of Pope Pius XII to Mary)*

This week we celebrate the Feast of St. Pope Pius X, who is especially remembered for encouraging devotion and reception of Holy Communion. He reduced the age of the reception of Holy Communion to allow younger children to receive Holy Communion. As so many children await to receive the sacraments in their young lives because of current restrictions we ask the intercession of Pius X for the children. I assure parents that we will celebrate these sacraments as soon as it is safe and possible to do, worthily and fittingly.



St Pope Pius X is perhaps best remembered for his encouragement of the frequent reception of Holy Communion, especially by children.

The second of 10 children in a poor Italian family, Joseph Sarto became Pius X at age 68. He was one of the 20th century's greatest popes.

Ever mindful of his humble origin, Pope Pius stated, "I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor." He was embarrassed by some of the pomp of the papal court. "Look how they have dressed me up," he said in tears to an old friend. To another, "It is a penance to be forced to accept all these practices. They lead me around surrounded by soldiers like Jesus when he was seized in Gethsemani."

Interested in politics, Pope Pius encouraged Italian Catholics to become more politically involved. One of his first papal acts was to end the supposed right of governments to interfere by veto in papal elections—a practice that reduced the freedom of the 1903 conclave which had elected him.

In 1905, when France renounced its agreement with the Holy See and threatened confiscation of Church property if governmental control of Church affairs were not granted, Pius X courageously rejected the demand.

While he did not author a famous social encyclical as his predecessor had done, he denounced the ill treatment of indigenous peoples on the plantations of Peru, sent a relief commission to Messina after an earthquake, and sheltered refugees at his own expense.

On the 11th anniversary of his election as pope, Europe was plunged into World War I. Pius had foreseen it, but it killed him. "This is the last affliction the Lord will visit on me. I would gladly give my life to save my poor children from this ghastly scourge." He died a few weeks after the war began, and was canonized in 1954.

Pope Francis General Audience 12 August 2020 The pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and interconnected everyone is. If we do not take care of one another, starting with the least, with those who are most impacted, including creation, we cannot heal the world...This renewed awareness of the dignity of every human being has serious social, economic and political implications. Looking at our brother and sister and the whole of creation as a gift received from the love of the Father inspires attentive behaviour, care and wonder. In this way the believer, contemplating his or her neighbour as a brother or sister, and not as a stranger, looks at him or her compassionately and empathetically, not contemptuously or with hostility. Contemplating the world in the light of faith, with the help of grace, we strive to develop our creativity and enthusiasm in order to resolve the ordeals of the past. We understand and develop our abilities as responsibilities that arise from this faith, as gifts from God to be placed at the service of humanity and of creation.

While we all work for a cure for a virus that strikes everyone without distinction, faith exhorts us to commit ourselves seriously and actively to combat indifference in the face of violations of human dignity. This culture of indifference that accompanies the throwaway culture: things that do not affect me, do not interest me. Faith always requires that we let ourselves be healed and converted from our individualism, whether personal or collective; party individualism, for example.

May the Lord "restore our sight" so as to rediscover what it means to be members of the human family. And may this sight be translated into concrete actions of compassion and respect for every person and of care and safeguarding of our common home.

Liturgical Guidelines for Holy Mass

Recognising that the virus is predominantly contagious through the breathing in of air droplets, these guidelines are based on the need to reduce the length of time when parishioners are together. These are tentative steps for returning to Mass and may be reviewed at any time:

- Singing of Mass parts and hymns may be omitted.
- Both the Gloria and the Creed may be omitted.
- At Sunday Mass the second reading may be omitted.
- The sermon should be brief.
- In place of the words "Body of Christ" for each communicant, before the Celebrant receives Holy Communion, he may say the words ***May the Body and Blood of Christ keep us all safe to eternal life***, to which the congregation responds ***Amen***.
- In accordance with the national protocol on Infection Control, it is recommended that Holy Communion be received in the hand for the duration of the pandemic.
- The communicant should extend his/her hands to receive the host and then step two paces to the side in order to place the host on the tongue.
- Holy Communion may be distributed after the Final Prayer. Parishioners may be directed to leave the Church immediately after receiving Holy Communion.



In keeping with the current government advice and wishing to protect our brothers and sisters we wish to remind you of the current guidelines:

- Wear a **face covering** in the Church.
- Observe **social distancing**.
- **Sanitise your hands** at sanitising units in Church
- **Enter and exit the Church using the door you have been given at weekend Masses or using the one way system during weekday Masses.**

Please be assured we have done everything we can to create a safe environment for you, when you arrive a pass-keeper will meet you and guide you to a your seat and will be on hand to look after you during your visit. These guidelines have been set by the Scottish Government and are for your wellbeing as well as that of your brothers and sisters in the parish.

Current Masses include: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5pm, Sunday morning Mass at 10.30am and Weekday Masses on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30am.

Due to current Government guidelines allowing a maximum of 50 Parishioners to each Mass we continue to use our booking system for Weekend Mass, please see Mass Times section on the first page for more details.



PLEASE NOTE: *Could any items for the Bulletin please be sent to us no later than Thursday 5pm, anything received after this will go in the following weeks Bulletin. You can email, phone or put a note through the Parish House door.*
Many thanks

Keeping In Touch

If you or anyone you know, requires help or information, or you would like to offer help within our Parish, please get in touch on **01555 662234** or email us at stmarylanark@rcdom.or.uk
To keep up to date with any Parish news or updates please visit:

Facebook page - St Mary's RC Church
Website - www.stmaryslanark.org.uk