



**ST MARY'S LANARK
ST ISIDORE'S BIGGAR
ST MARY MAGDALENE'S FORTH**



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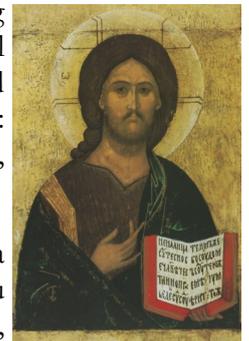
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**24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
12th September 2021**

Seminary Formation

'A seminary is more than a building, it is a community of formation.' That is the starting point for the Catholic Church's understanding of seminaries. The Diocese of Motherwell uses two seminaries to train our future priests, St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham, and The Pontifical Scots College, Rome, Italy. Formation takes place in many different ways: but for the sake of convenience it is divided into four main strands. They are human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral.



The focus of human formation is a lifelong commitment to personal growth. This is a process of change towards becoming the person, in the light of faith, that God created you to be. This requires that "Human Formation, being the foundation of all priestly formation, promotes the integral growth of the person and allows the integration of all its dimensions" (*The Gift of the Priestly Vocation*, 94), human, spiritual, pastoral and intellectual. It is what Pope Francis speaks of in our call to holiness when 'you will become what the Father had in mind when he created you, and you will be faithful to your deepest self.' (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, 32) The priest is called to be a living image of Jesus Christ and so should try to "reflect in himself, as far as is possible, the human perfection which shines forth in the incarnate Son of God" (*Pastores Dabo Vobis*, 43).

Spiritual formation is at the core of formation for the priesthood and is central to the future priest's identity and mission. Because it is chiefly the work of the Holy Spirit in cooperation with human freedom, the responsibility for spiritual growth and formation lies principally with the student. The aim of the Spiritual Formation Programme is thus to help the student learn the life-long habit of living in intimate union with Jesus Christ, constantly seeking his friendship.

The Intellectual Programme cannot be isolated from the other areas of formation. In the initial formation-period of a seminary, however, study will naturally absorb much time and energy. Study is essential to human, Christian and vocational growth, because through it "the future priest assents to the Word of God, grows in his spiritual life and prepares himself to fulfil his pastoral ministry" (*PDV n. 51*). In an era in which many distrust the ability of human reason to reach objective truth, and in which science and contemporary culture are raising profound and challenging questions, a high level of intellectual formation is required, if priests are to be effective evangelisers, able joyfully to proclaim the unchanging gospel of Christ.



The aim of pastoral formation is to offer an integrated experience of Christian ministry which gradually focuses on the ministry appropriate to the ordained. It is designed to enable students to experience a wide range of pastoral situations and to encourage reflection on that experience in the light of their developing theological understanding and personal growth.

October Devotions & Rosary

During the month of October we will have Devotions to Our Blessed Lady. The Devotions will take two forms: on the Tuesday's of October Fr John-Paul will go between our three churches and livestream the Rosary via St Mary's Facebook Page. On Sunday evenings people will be welcome to attend St Mary's at 6pm for Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (this will also be livestreamed). Also during the month of October the Rosary will be recited 20 minutes before weekday Mass, this will be parishioner led and a sign-up sheet will be available each week for those who would wish to lead the Rosary.

Sr Clare Reynolds

The Daughters of Charity of St Catherine's and Gavel Lane would like to thank Fr McShane and Fr Paul Roche for concelebrating Mass on the demise of Sr Clare Reynolds. Our shock at Sr Clare's sudden and unexpected death was greatly cushioned by the prayers, Masses, flowers and thoughts of so many parishioners and friends. A particular thank you is extended to the choir and organist who organised the Mass. Clare would have been proud of "her choir". Holy Mass will be offered for your intentions.

St Mary's Volunteer Forms

Many thanks to those who have very kindly filled out a volunteers form and handed it in. Completed forms can be handed into the sacristy, posted through the chapel house door, or placed in the weekly offering basket as you enter or exit the church. We hope to have all forms returned within the next few weeks and then begin moving forward as we continue to "rebuild" our wonderful parish.



Coffee Morning

What a wonderful response to the Coffee Morning last weekend! It was tremendous to see so many people in the Clubrooms. A special thank you to the Social Committee and to all those who handed in home baking or helped in any way, without your help this would not have been possible. Perhaps as the weather changes we will introduce some hot food to keep us warm...



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Thank you to those who very kindly accepted Fr John-Paul's invitation to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. **There will be a short training session (roughly 15mins) after weekend Masses next weekend,** so if you could stay on after Mass that would be great. We hope a rota will commence very soon once our new Extraordinary Ministers have been commissioned.

Liturgical Calendar

Monday 13th September St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church - Born in Antioch about 347; died in exile in Comana (Turkey) on 14 September 407. After some years as a hermit, he was a priest at Antioch, where his brilliant preaching and catechesis earned him the sobriquet "Chrysostom" (golden-mouthed). Appointed patriarch of Constantinople in 397. His reforms, preaching, and ascetic life led to opposition from court and clergy and eventual banishment. Noted for his simplicity of life, his care of the poor, the courage of his witness, and his effective preaching of the Scriptures.

Tuesday 14th September Exaltation of the Cross - Originally this day commemorated the dedication of Constantine's Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in the fourth century; after the celebration, the wood of the cross was venerated. The feast spread in the West after the recovery of the relics of the cross from Persia in the seventh century. A feast of the Lord, it celebrates the "lifting up" of the Son of Man on the cross, into glory, and the paradox of the cross as a sign of humiliation and death, yet the source of victory for all people.

Wednesday 15th September Our Lady of Sorrows - This commemoration originated in the medieval devotion to the seven sorrows of Mary. Approved for the Servite order in the seventeenth century, it was extended to the whole Western Church in 1814 by Pius VII in thanksgiving for his release from captivity under Napoleon. In the light of Simeon's prophecy about a sword piercing Mary's soul (Luke 2:35), the feast celebrates Mary, first disciple and first to share in the pain and triumph of the cross.

Thursday 16th September St Ninian - He was born in Cumbria and was ordained bishop in Rome in 394. He landed in Whithorn in Galloway in 397 and built a white-painted stone church there which was called Candida Casa, "White House." From this centre he preached the Gospel in Scotland.

Weekly Parish Schedule

Sunday 12th September

- 8.30am Rosary for Vocations to the Priesthood (St Mary Magdalene's)
9.00am Holy Mass for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary Magdalene's)
10.30am Holy Mass for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Isidore's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Monday 13th September

- 9.30am Holy Mass & St Therese Novena - Week 7 (St Mary's)

Tuesday 14th September

- 10.00am Holy Rosary (St Mary Magdalene's)
10.30am Holy Mass (St Mary Magdalene's)
12noon Angelus & Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Wednesday 15th September

- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
10.00am Church Cleaning (St Mary's)
7.00pm Weekly Rosary Group (Zoom: ID 828 0546 0960 Passcode 638016)

Thursday 16th September

- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
10.30am Holy Mass (St Isidore's)

Friday 17th September

- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 18th September

- 9.10am Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
5.00pm Vigil Mass for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 19th September

- 8.30am Rosary for Vocations to the Priesthood (St Mary Magdalene's)
9.00am Holy Mass for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary Magdalene's)
10.30am Holy Mass for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Isidore's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



RCIA - St Mary's

Thank you to those who have volunteered to be part of the RCIA programme. If you would still like to volunteer to help in the process of bringing people into full communion with the Church please contact Fr John-Paul this week (frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk). We aim to have the group established, with meetings organised within the next two weeks.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is designed to help adults who are looking to come into full communion with the Church. RCIA is not a faith sharing group or a 'top-up' course, but will specifically be designed for those looking to join the Catholic Church.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the RCIA programme and entering into full communion with the Church, please speak to Fr John-Paul directly. If you know of anyone who would like to join, again, please ask them to speak to Fr John-Paul. Once numbers have been confirmed and Fr John-Paul has met with all those interested RCIA will begin on a weekly basis.

