

# St Mary's Lanark

*A Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell (founded 1859) Charity No - SC011041*

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**Parish Priest**

Fr John-Paul McShane

frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk



**St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings:** 07300857616

**Saint Vincent de Paul Helpline:** 07565396878

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

**27th April 2025**

## Easter Joy

People often ask me what I enjoy best about being a priest. Immediately my response is 'everything'. That is true. But there are some things I find more rewarding; and one of those things is seeing our churches well attended and people practicing their faith.

For me, I received so much joy this Easter, witnessing the church so full of parishioners and visitors. As always, our naturally beautiful church was looking majestic! The florists worked their magic, and the flowers were outstanding. But, there is so much more that goes on in the background to make these events so special, and to prepare our church so magnificently for our celebrations.

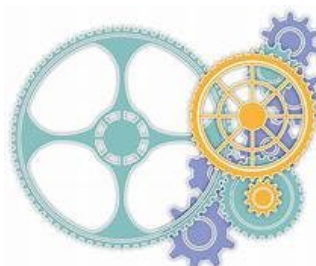
In our parish we certainly have the "full package". We all recognise how beautiful our church looks and the great work of the florists, but we also need to recognise the people who work silently in the background every day/week to keep our church so presentable, and also operational. When I think about the flowers, I of course think about the girls hard work, but I also think about the people who donate money regularly to the Flower Fund, and those who organise the Fund - the work going on in the background. I also think about the team of volunteers who clean our church every second Wednesday - working silently in the background. I also think of those who clean the floors ever week, or buff them once a month - working silently in the background. My mind is also drawn to the sacristans who prepare for Mass each day, to those who prepare the linens and keep them clean and worthy for use; the people who open and close St Mary's every day, allowing people the opportunity for private prayer - working silently in the background.

Thinking about the Liturgy, I think about the Parish Choir, and The Choir of St Mary's, along with our Organists, who volunteer so much of their time to enhance our music liturgy - working hard in the background. I think about the Passkeepers, Welcome Ministry and those who greet us as we enter St Mary's, making us feel at home - the face of St Mary's. I think of the Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who help us encounter God by their ministry, and take Jesus to the sick - humbly working in the background.

I also recognise the work of those volunteers who are "customer facing" - our gardeners who dedicate so much time to making our grounds look as good as our church, and welcome visitors with a smile and kind word. I particularly think of our wonderful Social Committee who work tirelessly to make the social life of our parish such a success - giving of their time to build up our parish community by their fundraising events and the countless hours of planning and preparation.

A great joy for me this year was to witness so many people attending Mass on Easter Sunday. 587 people attended in St Mary's, and 57 in Holy Trinity. It was heartwarming to see so many families celebrate Easter by coming to Mass and rejoicing in the Risen Christ!

It is evident our parish does not run smoothly because of one person, or one small group, but rather the dedication and commitment of many people and many groups - many cogs making the big wheel turn. To each and every little "cog", to all who play any part in our parish, small or great, thank you for your time, your dedication and your ministry - thank you for making my Easter joy complete.



*Fr John-Paul*

## Weekly Parish Schedule

*Daily Mass & Devotions from St Mary's are broadcast on the parish YouTube Channel.*

**Sunday 27th April** *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday (St Mary's)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for Divine Mercy Sunday (St Mary's)

**Monday 28th April** *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Morning Prayer of the Church

**Tuesday 29th April**

- 11.40am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 12noon** Regina Caeli & Morning Prayer of the Church

**Wednesday 30th April**

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Morning Prayer of the Church
- 10.00am** Church Cleaning
- 7.00pm** [Online Zoom Rosary \(Meeting ID: 832 0468 2198 Passcode: 746256\)](#)
- 7.30pm** [The Choir of St Mary's Weekly Rehearsal \(St Mary's Clubrooms\)](#)

**Thursday 1st May**

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Morning Prayer of the Church
- 7.00pm** Requiem Mass for Pope Francis (Motherwell Cathedral ML1 1PP)

**Friday 2nd May**

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Morning Prayer of the Church

**Saturday 3rd May** *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Morning Prayer of the Church
- 4.30am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

**Sunday 4th May** *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)
- 11.15am** [Monthly Coffee Morning \(St Mary's Clubrooms\)](#)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Easter (Holy Trinity)
- 12.35pm** [Light Bite \(Holy Trinity\)](#)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)



### St Mary's Ministry Rota

#### Readers:

**26th/27th April**

- 5.00pm** A. Haetzman
- 10.30am** E. Crossan
- 5.00pm** S. Casserly

**10th/11th May**

- 5.00pm** F. Chung
- 10.30am** M. McCusker
- 5.00pm** M. Davis

**3rd/4th May**

- 5.00pm** G. Abernethy
- 10.30am** A. Servers
- 5.00pm** T. Coia

**17th/18th May**

- 5.00pm** R. McConnell
- 10.30am** E. McCabe
- 5.00pm** N. Donnelly

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

**26th/27th April**

- 5.00pm** A. Dempsey
- J. McBride
- 10.30am** J. Littlejohn
- A. O'Neill
- N. Keenan

**10th/11th May**

- 5.00pm** K. Bryce
- A. McGowan
- 10.30am** V. Hilland
- M Thomson
- B. Farrell

**3rd/4th May**

- 5.00pm** C. Scott
- S. Callaghan
- 10.30am** J. Littlejohn
- A. O'Neill
- N. Keenan

**17th/18th May**

- 5.00pm** M. Keenan
- C. Callaghan
- 10.30am** C. Duddy
- D. McFarlane
- I. Maxfield

## St Mary's Social Committee

The Easter Coffee Morning and Raffle was a tremendous success. It was wonderful to see the Clubrooms filled to capacity - what a great atmosphere! The Social Committee would like to say a special thank you to all our helpers who assisted with flowers, baking and helping at our Easter event. Thank you to everyone who donated all the wonderful prizes. The raffle and guess the dog's name raised a magnificent **£1800!** In addition, coffee morning donations added a further **£1000** which means a total of **£2,800** will go towards assisting with the bell tower work and painting of porch. We are blessed to have amazing parishioners who support our wonderful parish. Thank you!

Fr John-Paul would just like to offer his thanks and appreciation to the Social Committee for their tremendous efforts throughout the year, planning and organising events to strengthen our parish connections and raising much needed funds to maintain and advance our beautiful church.

We are all indebted to the girls and their helpers for their wonderful efforts!!

### Clydesdale Foodbank Collection

Our Monthly Foodbank Collection will take place **this weekend**. Bags of groceries can be handed in to the sacristy or to a passkeeper, and any monetary donations can be placed in the collection basket in an enveloped cleared clearly marked 'FOODBANK'.



Thank you for your continued support and generosity towards the Foodbank; around 60% of all donations received by the Foodbank are returned to Lanark.

### St Mary's Quiz Night

St Mary's Social Committee are hosting a Quiz Night on **Friday 16th May 2025**. Clubrooms will open at 7pm with Quiz starting at 7.30pm.

If you are planning to enter a team, please can you let a member of the social committee know. Entry price is £2.00 per person. Maximum number in team is 6 people.



The Bar will be open for refreshments.

### Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£ 2,056.00
Standing Orders:	£ 185.50
Votives:	£ 171.00
Stall:	£ 135.00
Easter Envelopes:	£ 1,105.00
SCIAF Wee Boxes (Lanark):	£ 785.00
SCIAF Wee Boxes (Trinity):	£ 467.80

*Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish!*

### SCIAF Wee Box Appeal

Thank you to all those who returned SCIAF WEE BOXES to the parish. As per previous years, the WEE BOX return has been minimal with less than 50% of WEE BOXES distributed being returned.

If you still have your WEE BOX and wish to donate the contents to SCIAF, please transfer the money direct to SCIAF

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### Memorial Plaques

Many people have asked about ordering a memorial plaque for a loved one. The Memorial Wall still has limited space and will be first come first serve basis. Forms are now available in the stall and can be completed and returned direct to Fr John-Paul. The order will be submitted to Paterson's Memorials on Friday 30th May.



### Parish Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto

This year our parish pilgrimage to Carfin, organised by our wonderful SSVF, will take place on Monday 12th May. There is no charge for attending and there is a sheet at the stall for those who wish to attend.

Coach leaves St Mary's 11am, Angelus & Rosary at the Lourdes Shrine 12noon, Holy Mass 1pm, Afternoon Tea 2pm, Stations of the Cross 3pm, coach departs Carfin 4pm.

### His Holiness Pope Francis 17.12.1963 - 21.04.2025

Following the death of Pope Francis, Bishop Toal will celebrate a Requiem Mass on **Thursday 1st May at 7.00pm** in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, to which you are cordially invited.

The death of Pope Francis brings great sadness to so many around the world, both within the Catholic Church and in societies in general. A voice proclaiming the innate dignity of every human being, especially those who are poor or marginalised, is now silent. The legacy he leaves is one we must seek to carry forward and strengthen.

This Requiem Mass will give us the opportunity to unite locally and pray for the repose of his soul, that he may know in full measure, the merciful and loving embrace of the Father, of the one God whom he gave his life in unstinting service.



## Please Pray For The Following



**Recently Dead:** His Holiness Pope Francis, Tony Murphy; Sr Joan DC; Ann Callaghan (Hamilton); Georgia Rendle; Ann Rocks; Bridget Callaghan; Terry Kelly (Wishaw);

**Months Minds & Anniversaries:** James Kelly; Campbell Family; Brian McCardie; Martin Carway; Frank Brady; Nan Keenan;

### ***Easter Remembrances***

Bishop Frank Thomson; Bishop Joseph Devine; Father Joseph Brannigan; Father Paddy Hughes; All Deceased Members of The Vincentian Fathers; All Deceased Members of The Daughter's of Charity; Canon Willie Dunnachie; Father Damien Gilhooley; Fr John Breslin; Canon Giles Goward; Father David Mellor; Jim McShane; John & Mary McShane; Rosemary McShane MacIntyre; Charlie McShane; Frank McMahan; Annie & Arthur Lenagh; Hughie & Mary McShane; McShane Family; McGuire Family; Lenagh Family; McMahan Family; Kate & William Campbell; Bernie & Jim McEwan; Campbell Family; McCafferty Family; McEwan Family; James E. Reid; Gerry Wyllie; Wyllie Family; Deerin Family; Mary McFarlane; Therese Martin; John Skeffington; Joe & Betty McLeish; Peter Brannen; Edgar Family; Peter Skelly; Grace McGregor; Thomas & Helen Lamb; Thomas Lamb Jnr; Lamb Family; McGuigan Family; William & Sarah Dunnachie; Dunnachie Family; Michael Pavilonis; Paul & Cathie Millar; Paul & Nee Millar; Janice Millar; Cathy Gallagher; Emilio & Cesarina Coia; Guiseppe Molinaro; Hynds Family; Graham Family; Joe McAllister; Peter & Susan Mulligan; Annie Duffy; Briget Donnelly; Jack McGowan; Frank & Bridget Brady; Fr MacMorrow; Arthur Christie; John & Jessica Christie; Rena & Jimmy Travers; Mary & John Christie; Sarah & Joseph Quinn; Owen, Margaret & John Dempsey; Lisa Katherine McAlavey; John McAlavey; Blanche McAlavey; Gerard Mays Snr; Gerard Mays Jnr; Brian Mays; Susan Mays; John O'Neill; John Donnelly; Kate Hanlon; Edward Hanlon; Anne Lindsay; Archie Lindsay; Mary Sheely; Micheal Sheely; Kate Nevin & Brothers; Margaret & Denis Docherty; Annie & Archie McMillan; Margaret, John & Bobby Dykes; Rosina Baird; Baby Luca Gunning; Peter & Eleonora De-Shuster; Sarah Quinn; Jessica Christie; Arthur Kane; Mary & Jim McLaughlan; Mary, Bill & Stephen Murray; Anne & John Boyle; Michael McLaughlan; Lizanne Inglis; Marion & Dan O'Donnell; Mary & Charlie Binnie; Bette & Dave Haggerty; Helen & James Donnachie; Paul Donnachie; Donnachie Family; Alex & Sandy McLellan; Graham Munro; Leah & Albert Welsh; Vincent Morton; Morton Family; Sandy McLean; Mary McLean; Catherine McLean; Jessie Clark; Frank & Susan Mackie; Alys Scott; John Scott; Maisie Conlon; Veronica McKenna; Charles McKenna; Anne Power; Joanne Strain; Donald Liddell; Marion Doyle; John & Marion Renton; Hugh & Jean McNamara; Tony & Alison Filmer; Oliver Jones; Mary Jane & Jim Brennan; Agnes Jack; Anne Elder; Agnes & John Kennedy; Evelyn Grant Quinn; Thomas Cloonan; Cecelia Cloonan; Mark Cloonan; Cloonan Family (Liverpool); Rotherham Family; James Callaghan; Anna Marshall; Agnes & Alice Bamford; Callaghan Family (Sligo); Stephen Crawley; Thomas, Molly & James McKeown (Shotts); Barbara Gaffney; James McCardie; Sarah & Jimmy McEwan; Anne Pasiley; Andrew Sharkey; Paul Halloran; Halloran Families; Robert & Helen Dennis; Mayes Families; McMorran families; May & Veronica Quinn; Maureen Mathers; Patricia McGarrigle; Joe McGarrigle; Gerry McGarrigle; McGarrigle Family; Dean Family; Dowds Family; Noone Family; Farrell Family; Tadzick & Mary Elizabeth Fox; John Kerr; David Tinto; Cammie Murray; Ron Meldrum; Eileen Prior; Janette Irvine; Deceased Members of the Choir of St Mary's; Daniel & Catherine Stewart; McConville Family; Geoff Coyle; May Quinn; Rosemary McManus; Francis & Grace McManus; Francis McManus Jnr; Willie Connor; Ian Connor; Mark Stewart;

### **Bishop Toal's Easter Message**

As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year there can be no day more hope-filled than Easter Sunday as we celebrate with great joy the Lord's Resurrection. May the Risen Lord Jesus therefore renew our faith, fill us with great hope, and inspire further acts of Christian love and service.

A special word of welcome to those received into the Church this Easter. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you experience the power of the Lord's presence in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. May your participation in Christ and his Church sustain you constantly now in the pilgrimage of life.



As we continue to hear of the ravages of war and of the terror felt by many in our troubled world we pray earnestly for peace and justice, for forgiveness and healing, for a respite from fear and a glimmer of hope.

We pray that the Lord of New Life will keep us and our loved ones safe in his care and bring consolation to all in pain.

With my Easter blessing and good wishes,

**+ Joseph Toal**