

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

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St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings: 07300857616

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2nd Sunday of Advent

8th December 2024

Second Advent Candle: Peace

The lighting of the second Advent candle, representing peace, holds profound significance as it continues the spiritual journey towards Christmas. As the gentle flame of the second candle is kindled, it serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring quest for inner tranquility and the universal longing for harmony in a world often marred by discord and unrest.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, the second Advent candle beckons individuals to pause and reflect on the timeless virtue of peace. It serves as a gentle yet powerful symbol of the inner serenity that transcends the chaos of daily life, inviting believers to embrace a sense of calm and equilibrium as they prepare their hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The concept of peace, embodied by the second Advent candle, extends beyond the absence of conflict and turmoil. It encompasses a profound state of spiritual well-being, fostering a sense of harmony and unity within oneself and with the world at large. The flickering flame serves as a beacon of hope, illuminating the path towards reconciliation, forgiveness, and understanding, inspiring individuals to seek solace in the embrace of divine tranquility.

Moreover, the second Advent candle serves as a poignant reminder of the transformative power of peace in fostering a sense of connectedness and empathy. It encourages individuals to extend goodwill and compassion to others, nurturing a spirit of reconciliation and unity within their communities and beyond. As the radiant glow of the candle permeates the surroundings, it evokes a sense of collective harmony, inspiring individuals to strive for peaceful coexistence and understanding in a world often fraught with division and discord.

The act of lighting the second Advent candle becomes a sacred ritual, inviting individuals to cultivate a sense of inner peace and tranquility within their hearts. It serves as a gentle reminder of the timeless message of peace heralded by the birth of Jesus Christ, encouraging believers to embody the virtues of compassion, forgiveness, and empathy as they prepare to welcome the joyous occasion of Christmas.

In essence, the second Advent candle, with its gentle yet radiant flame symbolising peace, serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring quest for inner tranquility and the universal longing for harmony. It invites individuals to embrace the transformative power of peace, fostering a sense of connectedness and empathy as they prepare their hearts for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

The lighting of the second Advent candle, with its profound symbolism of peace, sets the stage for a season of spiritual contemplation and renewal, inviting individuals to embark on a journey illuminated by the timeless virtues of hope, peace, joy, and love.





Please Pray For The Following



Recently Dead: Andrew Sharkey Bellfield
May McCulloch; Patrician Brien; Sister Clare O'Driscoll DC.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Cathy Gallagher; Michael Reilly; Sadie Littlejohn; Margaret Greechan; Florence Kennedy; Joe McGarrigle; James & Mary McCrossan; Rosina & Baby Luca Gunning; Agnes McQuade; Nora & John Byers.

Funeral Arrangements: Andrew Sharkey Rosary: Thursday 19th December 7pm, St Mary's Church
Requiem Mass: Saturday 21st December 9.30am, Motherwell Cathedral

Christmas Remembrance Masses: If you would like Holy Mass offered for your beloved dead and their names recorded in the Christmas Bulletin, please hand in their names before **FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER**. Names can be handed into the sacristy, posted through the chapel house door or placed in the basket with your weekly collection, but please write on the envelope **CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE**, and please print the names clearly to avoid typing errors.

Vocations Evening

A meeting will take place on **Tuesday 17th December at 7.00pm in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral** for those in our diocese who feel called to the priesthood. This informal evening will begin with a short time of prayer and provide an opportunity for anyone considering a vocation to the priesthood to ask questions, come together and learn a bit more about priesthood and the discernment process. If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood but can't make it along to the meeting on 17th December, please email Fr Sean Wyllie, Diocesan Vocations Promoter: frwyllie@rcdom.org.uk

Advent Prayer Tree

You will find our Advent Prayer Tree in the narthex of St Mary's. The tree is used to place prayers/wishes on the branches during Advent, in preparation for welcoming Jesus into our world. The prayers/wishes can be anonymous or have your name on them, and can be for family (living or dead), friends, peace, yourself, or whatever intention you have. Christmas Mass will be celebrated for all the prayers/wishes hanging on our tree. Prayer cards can be found on the Christmas table next to the tree. Any donations received will be given to St Andrew's Hospice.

Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations: £ 1,475.00
Standing Orders: £ 233.50
Votives: £ 230.00
Stall: £ 235.00

St Marys Mission RCDM
80-17-02 00265809

Thank you *for your*
continued generosity



St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

<u>7th/8th December</u>		<u>21st/22nd December</u>	
5.00pm	A. Haetzman	5.00pm	G. Abernethy
10.30am	E. McCabe	10.30am	R. Colpitts
5.00pm	S. Casserly	5.00pm	S. Casserly
<u>14th/15th December</u>		<u>24th/25th December</u>	
5.00pm	C. Jackson	<i>Christmas Rota</i>	
10.30am	M. McCusker		
5.00pm	M. Davis		

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<u>7th/8th December</u>		<u>21st/22nd December</u>	
5.00pm	A. Dempsey	5.00pm	K. Bryce
	J. McBride		A. McGown
10.30am	J. Littlejohn	10.30am	C. Duddy
	A. O'Neill		D. McFarlane
	N. Keenan		I. Maxfield
<u>14th/15th December</u>		<u>24th/25th December</u>	
5.00pm	C. Scott	<i>Christmas Rota</i>	
	S. Callaghan		
10.30am	V. Hilland		
	M. Thompson		
	B. Farrell		

St Mary's Coffee Morning & Christmas Raffle

The next Coffee Morning will take place on **Sunday 8th December** after 10.30 Mass. The Christmas Raffle Draw will also take place at this event.

Donations for raffle prizes will be gratefully received.

Thank you for your continued support.



Christmas Show

The Choir of St Mary's invite you to *An Afternoon of Christmas Joy* in St Mary's Clubrooms on **Sunday 15th December at 3pm.**

Tickets are available from choir members and are priced at £7 each. All monies raised will go to the Wayside Club in Glasgow - supporting those who are homeless this Christmas.

The bar will be open and raffles will be drawn...

Diocesan Choir Carol Concert

The Motherwell Diocesan Choir will be in our parish for a Carol Service with popular carols, choral pieces and readings on **Sunday 15th December at 7.30pm.**

Fr John-Paul encourages all parishioners to make a special effort to come along for this special event. The concert lasts roughly 1 hour and will be publicised throughout the Wishaw Deanery.

Mince pies and mulled wine will be served in the Clubrooms afterwards.

Journey Through Advent 2024

The Advent Prayer Group will once again meet this year to journey through the holy season of Advent. The group is small, and they meet in St Catherine's on a Wednesday after 9.30am Mass to reflect on the Sunday readings. Everyone is welcome to come along and join.

'There's a Welcome in the Mat and a Cuppa in the Pot'

Keeping Christ in Christmas

Our stall has a wide range of Christmas cards, cribs and other seasonal items for you to have a look at and purchase. The beautiful cribs would be a perfect gift for those friends and family members who might need reminded to keep Christ in Christmas, for relatives who have recently moved into a new house, or for parishioners who may not have a crib at home.

Thank you to our Stall Assistants for all their hard work and commitment.

Diocesan News

Bishop Toal is delighted to announce:

- Christopher Igwe will be ordained to the order of Deacon in St Mary's College, Oscott, on Saturday 14th December 2024 by Archbishop Bernard Longley.
- Stephan Nevans, a student for the Permanent Diaconate, received Admission to Candidacy on 3rd November 2024 in St Benedict's Church, Easterhouse.
- Matthew O'Neill, a seminarian in the Scots College, Rome, received Admission to Candidacy at the College on 27th November 2024.

We keep Christopher, Stephen and Matthew, in our prayers as they proceed on their vocational journey.

St Mary's Primary School Notices

- The Sacramental Enrolment Mass will take place on Sunday 2nd February 2025 at 10.30am. All parents presenting their children for the Sacraments in 2025 must attend this Mass with their children and receive their Sacramental Passport.
- P1 enrolment - Children who are age 5 between 1st March 2025 and the end of February 2026 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2025 by completing an online registration form which will be available from Monday 6 January 2025. The registration form is available on the SLC website Enrolling your child for school - South Lanarkshire Council

Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 8th December *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)
- 11.15am Christmas Coffee Morning (St Mary's Clubrooms)
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday of Advent (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)

Monday 9th December *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Tuesday 10th December

- 10.00am Holy Mass (St Catherine's)
- 11.30am Confessions until 11.55am
- 11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 12noon Angelus & Holy Mass

Wednesday 11th December

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 10.00am Advent Prayer Group (St Catherine's)
- 7.00pm [Online Zoom Rosary \(Meeting ID: 832 0468 2198 Passcode: 746256\)](#)
- 6.30pm **St Mary's Primary School Christmas Concert in St Mary's Church**

Thursday 12th December

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 7.30pm **The Choir of St Mary's Weekly Rehearsal (St Mary's Clubrooms)**

Friday 13th December

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Saturday 14th December *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.00am Confessions until 9.25am
- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 4.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)

Sunday 15th December *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Advent (Holy Trinity)
- 3.00pm **St Mary's Choir Christmas Concert (St Mary's Clubrooms)**
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)
- 7.30pm **Diocesan Carol Service with St Mary's Primary School (St Mary's)**



Christmas Mass Times 2024

Tuesday 24th December - Christmas Eve

- 5.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas (Children's Choir)
- 7.30pm Carol Service (The Choir of St Mary's)
- 8.00pm Midnight Mass of Christmas

Wednesday 25th December - Christmas Day

- 10.30am Day Mass of Christmas
- 12noon Day Mass of Christmas (Holy Trinity)

