



Saint Mary's Parish Lanark & Saint Isidore's Parish Biggar

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
19th November 2023



Care Not Killing

The BBC has commissioned a documentary (working title "Better Off Dead?"), written and presented by actor and disability rights activist Liz Carr. Liz has been disabled since the age of 7, owing to a condition known as arthrogryposis multiplex congenita (AMC), where joint contracture is present in two or more areas of the body.



A wheelchair user since 15, Liz opposed Lord Falconer's 2014-15 Assisted Dying Bill, stating: "I fear we've so devalued certain groups of people - ill people, disabled people, older people - that I don't think it's in their best interests to enshrine in law the right of doctors to kill certain people."

With a heavy bias in the mainstream media favouring our opponents, the BBC is to be congratulated on spotlighting the concerns of many disabled people in Britain who fear what lies in store for them should the law change.

Those concerns are well-grounded: Liz Carr revealed that people have told her "You're remarkable because if I was like you, I'd rather be dead". She added: "That flippant comment becomes dangerous when it becomes culturally acceptable to think, because then that does impact on policy. When you start valuing people's lives as less than, you can see why that group of people become more disposable."

That "flippant" attitude towards people with disabilities appears to be entrenched where assisted suicide / euthanasia is lawful. Take Belgium. Tikvar Roosemont, 23, was born with a significant brain condition. Her father Lionel Roosemont stated that: "...If today you go through Belgium, you will not see many young children that have a handicap, because they were not left to be alive."

Mr Roosemont, explains what would sometimes happen to him when out in public with Tikvar in Belgium: "We were walking with our child in a wheelchair and we would have people that we do not know, and they would come towards us and they would ask us, 'Why don't you have euthanasia with that child?' 'Our [other] children were there when the people were telling us to have euthanasia with her (Tikvah). And [another] daughter who was thirteen at the time, she said: 'They do not have the right to say that!'" She was very angry. But she was right. [Tikvar] is a joy for every one of our family members. We cannot imagine her being gone. It's impossible."

Through her BBC documentary, Liz Carr hopes to show why she is unconvinced that any type of 'assisted dying' is the answer. She commented: "Too many disabled people will have had the experience of someone, often a complete stranger, telling them, 'if I was like you, I'd rather be dead'."

Putting such low value on our lives has been reported in medical settings when disabled and older people have 'do not resuscitate' orders placed on their medical notes without their consent. This documentary is about challenging the assumptions behind these actions and shining a light on the many grey areas in this often-one-sided debate."

In Scotland, Liam McArthur's proposed Bill for people with a terminal illness is defined so broadly that even Scots with chronic disabilities – who could live for decades - would fall within its scope and qualify for an assisted death. If the Covid pandemic has shown us one thing, it is that every human being is of equal value and should receive the best possible care when facing illness, old age or disability. Yet campaigners for 'State-assisted dying' are calling for a change in the law to allow assisted suicide in Scotland, citing examples of other countries where it has been legalised.

More information at: www.carenotkilling.scot

Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 19th November *St Mary's Church will close after 5pm Mass*

10.30am Holy Mass for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Monday 20th November *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 4pm*

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (St Mary's)

Tuesday 21st November

10.00am Holy Mass (St Catherine's)

11.30am Confessions until 11.55am (St Mary's)

11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

12noon Angelus, Holy Mass & Novena to St Anthony (St Mary's)

Wednesday 22nd November

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

10.00am Church Cleaning (St Mary's)

7.00pm Online Zoom Rosary (Meeting ID: 832 0468 2198 Passcode: 746256)

Thursday 23rd November

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to St Joseph (St Mary's)

7.30pm The Choir of St Mary's Rehearsal (St Mary's Clubrooms)

Friday 24th November

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 25th November

9.00am Confessions until 9.25am (St Mary's)

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)

4.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King (St Mary's)

Sunday 26th November *St Mary's Church will close after 5pm Mass*

10.30am Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King (Holy Trinity)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the King (St Mary's)

Parish Finances

	St Mary's
Offertory Collection:	£ 1,275.00
Standing Orders:	£ 385.50

St Marys Mission RCDM
80-17-02 00265809

	St Isidore's
Offertory Collection:	£ 68.50
Standing Orders:	£ 45.00

Parish of St Isidore's
83-16-11 00235026

St Mary's Social Committee

St Mary's Social Committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Afternoon Tea last Sunday. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with food, fun and fizz!! A special thank you to everyone who came along to the tea, those who donated raffle prizes, our helpers on the day and our talented bakers! We are blessed to have so many parishioners contributing to make the event such a success. A magnificent sum of **£1017** was raised from ticket sales and raffle.

Fr John-Paul would like to take this opportunity to thank the Social Committee for their wonderful efforts throughout the year in building up our parish. The time and energy of the girls is incredible, and our parish would not be the same without them. Thank you girls for all you do!!

Bishop Toal Parish Visit

We are delighted to announce that Bishop Toal will be visiting our parishes on Sunday 3rd December to formally discuss the amalgamation of St Isidore's, Biggar, and St Mary's, Lanark.

Bishop Toal will celebrate Mass in Lanark at 10.30am, and will bless our new statues of St Isidore and St Mary Magdalene, which will be enshrined in the porch of St Mary's, with plaques, to remember the history of both churches and the people from our parish who once worshipped there.

Bishop Toal will also celebrate Mass in Holy Trinity Chapel at 12noon, and present the Benemerenti Medal to Andrew. After Mass in Lamington, around 12.40pm, Bishop Toal will hold a meeting to discuss the amalgamation of both parishes and confirm our future as one parish with two churches, St Mary's and Holy Trinity Chapel. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the meeting, including parishioners from St Mary's.

Donation

Thank you most sincerely to the anonymous donor who donated £1,000 toward the restoration of St Mary's floor tiles. Many people often comment on how lucky we are to have such a beautiful church, but we are also blessed with wonderful parishioners. Without your weekly contributions and donations we would not be able to maintain, let alone advance, this beautiful church! Thank you for all for your continued support and generosity towards St Mary's.

Cargill Concert

The Cargill Club are having a Concert in St Mary's Clubrooms on **Friday 24th November**
2pm until 4pm.

Tickets are priced at **£5** - tea/coffee and cake will be served; and excellent company enjoyed.

Tickets are selling quick so if you are interested tickets are available from the
Cargill Cafe in Memorial Hall Complex.

St Mary Magdalene Statue

Several months ago, Fr John-Paul commissioned a statue of St Mary Magdalene for St Mary's Church, as a visible reminder to all of the Mass Centre in Forth. Once the statue has been blessed by Bishop Toal, it will be rehomed in the porch of St Mary's Church, along with a statue of St Isidore. It is important those who attend St Mary's from the communities of Forth and Biggar feel part of our parish, and we hope this act will show how much they are valued in St Mary's.

Parish Pilgrimage to Fatima & Lisbon 2nd-9th July 2024

All completed booking forms, along with deposits, should be returned to Fr John-Paul on/before Sunday 26th November. Deposits (£400) can be paid in cash or cheque made payable to: **Alba Tours Ltd.** Once numbers are confirmed we will have a meeting to discuss final arrangements.

The 8 day/ 7 nights pilgrimage to Fatima & Lisbon will take place from Tuesday 2nd July until Tuesday 9th July 2024. The price of the pilgrimage is around £699 excluding flights; this includes return transfers here in Scotland, transfers from Lisbon to Fatima, half day visit to Valinhos and Aljustrel, day visit to Batalha Monastery and the fishing town of Escorial, and for the four star hotel in Fatima. The deposit of £400 will be required with the booking form, with another £100 10 weeks after the first deposit, with the final balance due to be paid 12 weeks prior to departure. The flights will be priced once released, in January, and will be around £400 in total. If you do not want to share a room, a single room supplement is required.



Holy Trinity Chapel
Lamington
Biggar
ML12 6HW



Parish Priest
Father John-Paul McShane
St Mary's Church
70 Bannatyne Street
Lanark ML11 7JS
01555 662234
frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk



St Mary's
70 Bannatyne Street
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stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk
Charity No - SC011041



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Jackie Lynch; James McClafferty; Vincent Winters.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Nettie Hynds; Karen Murray; John Donnelly; Richard Christopher Alcock; Theresa Casagrande; Anne Elder; Harry Freel; Kate Campbell; All Names Contained in our November Lists.

*There Is One Thing I Ask Of The Lord;
That He Grant Me My Heartfelt Desire.
To Dwell In The Courts Of Our God
Every Day Of My Life In His Presence.*

Annual Requiem Mass - Thursday 30th November 7pm

Please join us on Thursday 30th November at 7pm as we gather to celebrate our Annual Requiem Mass; remembering all those who have died in our parish over the past twelve months. This is an important event in the life of our parish, please come along and pray for all our departed loved ones. In a special way we remember this year:

Bill Quinn
Marion Doyle
Margaret McGinnis
Rosina Baird
Jack Laverty
Teresa McArdle
Ena McGurk

Annette Wells
Margaret Duncan
Sandy Abernethy
John Murray
Jim Beveridge
Kathleen Caulfield
Jean McGuinness

Arthur Kane
Pat Kelly
Grace Ritchie
Jim White
Tommy Boyle
Jackie Lynch

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

18th/19th November
5.00pm R. Kane
10.30am E. McCabe
5.00pm N. Donnelly

2nd/3rd December
5.00pm G. Abernethy
10.30am J. Russell
5.00pm M. Davis

25th/26th November
5.00pm R. McConnell
10.30am P. Roberts
5.00pm S. Casserly

9th/10th December
5.00pm A. Haetzman
10.30am M. McCusker
5.00pm N. Donnelly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

18th/19th November
5.00pm M. Keenan
P. Stewart
10.30am G. Duddy
T. Mullen

2nd/3rd December
5.00pm J. McClafferty
J. McAlavey
10.30am J. Wilson
A. O'Neil

25th/26th November
5.00pm T. Mullen
C. McClafferty
10.30am C. Duddy
V. Hilland

9th/10th December
5.00pm A. Dempsey
C. Scott
10.30am G. Duddy
T. Mullen