




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



**ST ISIDORE'S BIGGAR &
ST MARY MAGDALENE'S
FORTH (ML11 8BB)**
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Charity No - SC011041


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3RD SUNDAY IN LENT
20th March 2022

Will Fear Keep You Away

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be a powerful experience. But too often, we have different reasons that keep us from Confession. Recently on Morning Air, listeners shared their stories of Confession with Morning Air hosts John Harper, Glen Lewerenz, and guest Fr. James Kubicki.

As the person who is often on the other side of the confessional, Fr. Kubicki shared the experiences that are most powerful for him, saying: For me what comes to mind is just the experience of being on the other side of the screen. Being a priest who can be an instrument of God's mercy. And some of the most profound experiences I've had have been where somebody has come in saying, 'Father, I've never said this to anyone, I've been too embarrassed to confess this, I've held this back all these years.' Or 'I've been away for 40 years, and I'm not sure how to do this. How do I go to Confession? I don't think I can remember.' And to help that person unburden the load, to get rid of the things that have been weighing on their conscience some for decades, that they feel so ashamed of. For that person to go away relieved and at peace, knowing they have been forgiven, that for me is a great experience of being a priest.



If you get nervous about going to Confession and put it off, take the advice of Chris in New Jersey, who has made it a habit of going to Confession every month. Even though he gets nervous, he said it's always worth it. Chris said: I try to do the First Saturday devotion. It gives me a discipline to get to Confession every month. And, you know, every month I get filled with fear, trepidation, that kind of thing. But it's come to a point where it's like almost every confession is transformative. It's the experience of God's grace, His mercy, and His love. Just to confess that I'm a sinner and I've failed and I haven't loved my wife and my children as I should have. It's just a great gift to be able to do that as a discipline, doing the First Saturday devotions.

Many Catholics have been away from Confession, or away from the Church, for many years. Often a barrier to going to Confession after so long is fear that they will be reprimanded or yelled at. That was the case for Karen in Rhode Island who shared her experience of Confession after many years. She said: I was away for many years, under the misunderstanding that in the beginning of Mass the priest cleanses you of your sins. But when I came back after many years, during the Lenten mission, I had a friend who encouraged me to go and all the priest said was, 'Welcome home.' And it was a wonderful feeling. I left the confessional and I don't think I was even walking on the ground, I was floating. I had been so fearful that every year it got worse. I got nervous and thought, you know, it's been a long time and he's gonna be so upset, he's gonna yell, he's gonna be difficult and make it worse to go. But all he said was, 'Welcome home.' And it was just marvellous.

Please be assured that when you come to Confession that if you forget the words, if you feel embarrassed, if you don't know what to do - it doesn't matter. The priest will help you.

If you think you don't need confession as you don't sin - you're wrong! We all sin.

If you think it's been too long and you can't come back - don't let that hold you back. Many people come to Confession after 15, 20, 30, 40 and 50+ years and always feel much better for it.

If you don't know where to start with examining your conscience - there's sheets to help you at the back of the church this weekend.

Article from Our Lady of Fatima Bulletin, Larkhall.

Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 915.00
Standing Orders: £ 637.00

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ 165.27
Standing Orders: £ 95.00
(Including St Mary Magdalene's)

St Mary Magdalene's

Offertory Collection: £ 80.00

St Mary's Social Committee

The next Coffee Moring will take place on **Sunday 17th April** (Easter Sunday), after the 10.30am Mass. The much anticipated Easter Raffle will also take place at this event!! The girls will start selling the Easter Raffle tickets at Masses from Sat/Sun 19th/20th March. We look forward to seeing you there. Thank you so much for your continued support to helping the Social Committee in their fantastic fundraising endeavours.

Clydesdale Foodbank

Next weekend will be our Monthly Foodbank Collection to help support Clydesdale Foodbank. Bags of shopping can be handed to any pass-keeper, or left in the sacristy. Monetary donations can be placed in the basket with your weekly offering. Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the Foodbank.

SCIAF Collection

Next weekend, at all Masses, we will have our annual SCIAF collection. This year SCIAF are supporting the people of Malawi as the country struggles with the effects of climate change. A letter from Bishop Toal will also be available next weekend. In advance, thank you for your support, prayers and generosity.

Ukraine Collection

A huge thank you to all those who contributed so generously to last weekend's second collection, to help support SCIAF and their efforts to support the people of Ukraine. We are also very grateful to those who donated paracetamol, sleeping bags, clothing, and essential non-perishable foods. All our donations were handed into St Patrick's, Shieldmuir, on Monday afternoon, and Fr Krystof, along with his wonderful team of volunteers, will send it to Poland to help those in most need.

We are aware that many parishioners sent cheques / donations direct to SCIAF, so the figures below only account for the money donated through our second collections.

St Mary Magdalene's £130.00 St Isidore's £400.00 St Mary's £4,080.00

As a parish community we are also looking into the possibility of using both St Isidore's, and St Mary's to house refugee families.

On behalf of SCIAF, and our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, thank you for your outstanding generosity!!

The Synod In Our Parish

ECUMENISM:

The dialogue between different Christian groups has a special place in the synodal journey.

What relationships do we have with members of other Christian traditions or denominations?

What are the benefits and difficulties?

How can we take the next step in walking forward with each other?

<https://youtu.be/ACs7pa69sh4>

Our Parish Coordinators are: Gillean McCluskey 07854012277 & Frances Spence 07796388240.

Synod Questionnaire can be returned this weekend, or next weekend at the latest.

St Isidore's Parish Consultation With Bishop Toal

Thank you very much to the parishioners who attended the Parish Consultation last weekend with Bishop Toal, and for those who sent items to be included on the agenda. Minutes from the meeting are available on request from Fr John-Paul. The minutes have been forwarded to Bishop Toal, and he will now consult with his Diocesan Advisors. Bishop Toal will then inform us of his plan for the future.

Livestream

Lenten Devotions, 10.30am Sunday Mass & weekday Masses from St Mary's are Livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

The 1pm Sunday Mass from Biggar Kirk is also Livestreamed on St Isidore's parish YouTube Channel.



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Paul Caddle Smyllum Road
 Paul Donnachie Bankhead Terrace
 Eileen Mooney (Glasgow); Dok Mitchell.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: William Finlay; John & Bessie McCulloch & Family; Louise Di Placito Brown; Allan Milliken.

Funeral Arrangements: Paul Caddle Funeral Service: Tuesday 22nd March, 2pm, St Mary's



St Mary's Lanark Development Opportunity

Over the last 12 months Fr John-Paul has been having discussions with the Diocese, as well as an architect, in how best to use the land at St Mary's. This all came about after original plans were uncovered whilst tidying out a room; the plans were those of Fr Joe. The plans are dated as 2006, and many of the building regulations have changed, as well as the interest in the land where the old hall was sited. After a series of talks with DTA Architects of East Kilbride, and the Diocese of Motherwell, it was agreed that we would look at the 2006 plans and see if anyone would be interested in developing the land. After an initial conversation with South Lanarkshire Council Planning Department, it was deemed that developing the land would be a possibility. DTA contacted various agents, and after serious discussions, it was decided that West of Scotland Housing Association would offer us the best deal. At present, negotiations are underway as we enter into a contract with West of Scotland Housing Association, and we hope that, very soon, we will be able to give you more details regarding plans and the receipt we will receive for the land sale. We hope this will be a very substantial figure, which will go to servicing our debt to the Diocese. More details to follow very soon!!

St Mary's Cemetery Development Opportunity

Along with the thought of developing the land where St Mary's Hall used to stand, we are also very close to confirming planning permission for a parcel of land at the Cemetery. The land in question has containers on it just now and is used as a yard area for the Community Payback Users. The land belongs to the Cemetery, and in turn we have submitted detailed planning for three dwellings. Planning permission is in the process of being granted, and we are now looking to market the site. The funds raised from the sale of the land will be collected by the Diocese as part of the debt repayment plan, but some funds will remain as we continue to develop St Mary's Cemetery, making it more welcoming upgrading the road and pathways. Once we are happy everything is in order, and all relevant documents and checks have been completed, marketing will begin. We hope very soon to update you with good news regarding the sale of this site.

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

<u>19th/20th March</u>		<u>2nd/3rd April</u>	
5.00pm	E. Haetzman	5.00pm	R. McConnell
10.30am	S. Watson	10.30am	R. Colpitts
5.00pm	M. Davis	5.00pm	M. Davis
<u>26th/ 27th March</u>		<u>9th/10th April</u>	
5.00pm	J. Moynagh	5.00pm	G. Abernethy
10.30am	J. Russell	10.30am	P. Roberts
5.00pm	S. Casserly	5.00pm	S. Casserly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<u>19th/20th March</u>		<u>2nd/3rd April</u>	
5.00pm	P. Freel	5.00pm	T. Mullen
	J. McEwan		C. McClafferty
10.30am	P. Cunningham	10.30am	J. Wilson
	A. Cruickshank		C. Duddy
<u>26th/27th March</u>		<u>9th/10th April</u>	
5.00pm	M. Keenan	5.00pm	J. McClafferty
	P. Stewart		M. Davis
10.30am	J. McAlavey	10.30am	P. Cunningham
	M. Keenan		A. Cruickshank

Weekly Parish Schedule

Sunday 20th March **St Mary's opened from 9.45am until 6.30pm**

- 8.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 9.00am Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday in Lent (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
- 1.00pm Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday in Lent (Biggar Kirk)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)

Monday 21st March - **St Mary's opened from 9am until 5pm.**

- 9.10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 12noon Angelus & Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)

NO ADORATION, CONFESSIONS, OR MASS THIS EVENING

Tuesday 22nd March

- 8.30am Holy Mass St Mary's Primary School (Children Only)
- 10.00am Stations of the Cross (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 10.30am Holy Mass (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 11.30am Confessions until 11.55am (St Mary's)
- 11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
- 12noon Angelus & Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 1.00pm **Funeral Service for Paul Caddle (St Mary's)**

Wednesday 23rd March

- 9.10am Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 10.15am Around the Lenten Circle - Faith Sharing Group (Cargill Club)
- 7.00pm Stations of the Cross (Livestream Only)
- 7.00pm Weekly Rosary Group (Zoom: ID 828 0546 0960 Passcode 638016)**

Thursday 24th March

- 8.30am Holy Mass St Mary's Primary School (Children Only)
- 9.10am Morning Prayer of the Church (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 10.00am Holy Mass St Catherine's (Sisters Only)
- 7.30pm Choir Rehearsal (St Mary's Clubrooms)**

Friday 25th March

- 9.00am Confession until 9.25am (St Mary's)
- 9.10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Divine Mercy Chaplet (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 26th March **St Mary's opened from 9am until 6.30pm**

- 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)
- 4.15pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)**

Sunday 27th March **St Mary's opened from 9.45am until 6.30pm**

- 8.30am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 9.00am Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday in Lent (St Mary Magdalene's)
- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
- 1.00pm Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday in Lent (Biggar Kirk)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)