



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

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



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### **3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 24TH JANUARY 2021**

#### **Word of God Sunday**

The Sunday of the Word of God, instituted by Pope Francis and to be held every year on the third Sunday of Ordinary Time, reminds us, pastors and faithful alike, of the importance and value of Sacred Scripture for the Christian life, as well as the relationship between the word of God and the liturgy: "As Christians, we are one people, making our pilgrim way through history, sustained by the Lord, present in our midst, who speaks to us and nourishes us. A day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the Risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers. For this reason, we need to develop a closer relationship with Sacred Scripture; otherwise, our hearts will remain cold and our eyes shut, inflicted as we are by so many forms of blindness".



This Sunday, therefore, presents an ideal opportunity to reread some of the Church's documents and especially the *Praenotanda of the Ordo Lectionum Missae*, which present a synthesis of the theological, ritual and pastoral principles surrounding the word of God proclaimed at Mass, but which is also valid in every other liturgical celebration (Sacraments, Sacramentals, Liturgy of the Hours).

Through the proclaimed biblical readings in the liturgy, God speaks to his people and Christ himself proclaims his Gospel; Christ is the centre and fullness of all Scripture, both the Old and New Testaments. Listening to the Gospel, the high point of the Liturgy of the Word, is characterised by a special veneration, expressed not only by gestures and acclamations, but by the Book of the Gospels itself.

The arrangement of the biblical readings laid down by the Church in the Lectionary opens the way to understanding the entirety of God's word. It is therefore necessary to respect the readings indicated, without replacing or removing them, and using only versions of the Bible approved for liturgical use. The proclamation of the texts of the Lectionary constitutes a bond of unity between all the faithful who hear them. An understanding of the structure and purpose of the Liturgy of the Word helps the assembly to receive God's saving word.

Among the many Saints, all of whom witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Saint Jerome can be proposed as an example because of the great love he had for the word of God. As Pope Francis has recalled, he was a "tireless [...] scholar, translator and exegete. [He had a] profound knowledge of the Scriptures, [and] zeal for making their teaching known. [...] In his attentive listening to the Scriptures, Jerome came to know himself and to find the face of God and of his brothers and sisters. He was also confirmed in his attraction to community life".

In the light of the Sunday of the Word of God, an awareness of the importance of Sacred Scripture for our lives as believers, beginning with its resonance in the liturgy which places us in living and permanent dialogue with God. "God's word, listened to and celebrated, above all in the Eucharist, nourishes and inwardly strengthens Christians, enabling them to offer an authentic witness to the Gospel in daily life".

*Robert Cardinal Sarah*  
*Prefect for the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments*  
17th December 2020.

## Weekly Mass Schedule

### Sunday 24th January

10.30am Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday In Ordinary Time  
12noon Holy Mass for the 3rd Sunday In Ordinary Time  
5.00pm Sunday Evening Devotions

### Monday 25th January

9.30am Holy Mass  
6.00pm Angelus & Recitation of The Holy Rosary

### Tuesday 26th January

12noon Angelus & Holy Mass  
6.00pm Evening Prayer of The Church

### Wednesday 27th January

9.30am Holy Mass  
6.00pm Adoration and Benediction of The Most Blessed Sacrament (30mins)

### Thursday 28th January

9.30am Holy Mass  
6.00pm Novena in Honour of St Joseph - Week 2

### Friday 29th January

9.30am Holy Mass  
3.00pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

### Saturday 30th January

9.30am Holy Mass  
12noon Angelus and Recitation of The Holy Rosary

### Sunday 31st January

10.30am Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday In Ordinary Time  
12noon Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday In Ordinary Time  
5.00pm Sunday Evening Devotions

*All of the above will be Livestreamed through St Mary's Facebook Page,  
and shared on St Isidore's and St Mary Magdalene's Group Page.*

## A Prayer For Protection In Time Of Pandemic

O Mary, you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,  
you know what we need, and we are confident  
you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee.  
Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician,  
for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable,  
and for those who have died.  
Intercede also for those charged  
with protecting the health and safety of others  
and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows,  
so as to lead us, through the Cross,  
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.



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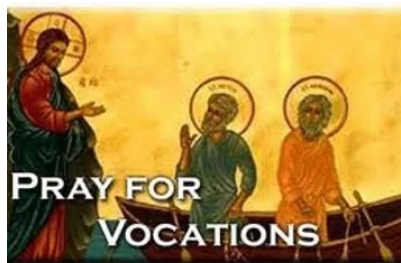
only have to look at our parish  
resident in St Mary's, and many  
it duty as Catholics to pray for

derate towards others,  
you.

grant that through it I  
business to others.

enter the priesthood or  
to answer your call,  
days find it.

en.



Next weekend would have been our Monthly Foodbank Collection, to help support the Clydesdale Foodbank Mission. As we are still in National Lockdown, and our church is closed, we are unable to hold our collection, however, if you would like to donate food to the Foodbank you can do so on Sunday or Monday 12noon - 1pm, when St Mary's church porch is opened for people to collect paper copies of the bulletin.

Each week during Lockdown there will be paper copies of the bulletin available for collection. Every **Sunday 12noon - 1pm & Monday 12noon - 1pm**, St Mary's church porch will be open for those, who on their daily exercise, would like to collect a copy.

It may also be worthwhile thinking of neighbours or others who cannot get out and do not have access to the internet, if they would benefit from a copy being posted through their door.

In his Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* (“With a Father’s heart”), His Holiness, Pope Francis has proclaimed a “Year of St Joseph”, starting from 8th December 2020 and ending 8th December 2021. The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX’s declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. In his Letter Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris Corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of “ordinary” people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, “the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence,” who nonetheless played “an incomparable role in the history of salvation.”

As a Parish Community we will pray a Novena to St Joseph, starting on Thursday 21st January, running through nine consecutive Thursdays, and ending on the 18th March, the eve of the Solemnity of St Joseph. This Novena will be offered for our parish and for our own private intentions, and will be Livestreamed every Thursday evening at 6pm. We hope you can join us.





## Please Pray For The Following:



**Recently Dead** - Roderick Welsh  
Gerry O'Hanlon

Sornfallow Cottage, Wiston  
Bothwell (Previously Lanark)

Archbishop Philip Tartaglia; Bishop Vincent Logan; Karen Reilly; Shirley Mortimer; John Renton.

**Months Minds & Anniversaries** - Irene Wallace; Joseph & Annie McCrossan; Patricia McCrossan Kelly; Josephine McCrossan Kelly; Cassie Sweeney; Mary Sweeney; Tommy & Brigid Flafferty; Sean Flafferty; Seamus Flafferty; Louise Keenan; Catherine Grant; Kathleen (Katie) Reilly; Kathleen (Katie) Reilly; Joe McAllister; Peter Mulligan; Peter Donnelly; Nora O'Callaghan; James Murray; Marion Douglas; John Donnelly.

*May the Lord support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen and the evening comes,  
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done.  
Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest and peace at the last.  
Amen*

### Parish Bank Details

God bless your continued generosity and support to our parishes, especially during these difficult times of Lockdown and uncertainty.

For those who are able, and would like to contribute to the parish through Bank Transfer or Standing Order, the details are as follows:

**St Marys Mission RCDM**  
**80-17-02 00265809**

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

### St Mary's Cemetery

After some reflection, and advice from others, Fr John-Paul would like to establish a Volunteer Group to help organise and promote St Mary's Cemetery. The idea of the Group would be to look at the cemetery and plan for the future with how we can make St Mary's Cemetery more usable for the wider community. The cemetery itself is looking slightly neglected, however, it would not take a lot of work to bring it up to standard. The work the Group will undertake is not too strenuous and is a planning group, but may involve some visits to the cemetery, and some light work to tidy the cemetery up. If you are interested in joining the Group or have any comments on the cemetery or its future, please contact Fr John-Paul. We hope that the Group will be established and meet before April, Lockdown permitting.

### 2021 Weddings

If you have booked a wedding in St Mary's, Lanark; St Mary Magdalene's, Forth; or St Isidore's, Biggar, for 2021, then please call or email Fr John-Paul as soon as possible to start the relevant paperwork.

If you would like to get married in one of our parishes this year, and have not yet reserved a date, please contact Fr John-Paul to start proceedings.

### 2021 Baptisms

If you have booked a baptism in St Mary's, Lanark; St Mary Magdalene's, Forth; or St Isidore's, Biggar, for 2021, then please call or email Fr John-Paul as soon as possible to confirm dates and details.

At present Baptisms are cancelled during Lockdown, however, the number of attendees is changing frequently.

### An Act Of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,  
I believe that You are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there  
and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

