



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



**4th Sunday of Sunday
21st April 2024**

Good Shepherd Sunday

One of the most important elements of the synodal process is learning to listen. We can see this in action in the 'conversations in the Spirit' which have taken place in the international Synod which took place in Rome last October. Bishops and other delegates from different parts of the world sat at round tables listening deeply to each other in an atmosphere of prayer, and often these diverse individuals were able to come to agreement on a way forward on matters which at the beginning of the process seemed impossible to resolve.

Listening deeply is at the heart of discerning our vocation in life. The way in which we listen is not to think of what we want to say; not to have pre-formed answers in mind and to await our turn to speak. In listening like this we become receptive to the Holy Spirit. We listen because we are called; every one of us is called to holiness. St John Paul II called this the universal call to holiness, and it applies to every single human person even if they are not Christian. But within this general vocation there are many other calls which we should listen to. One of our modern problems is that our world is very noisy, and it is often difficult to hear our own voices and thoughts in the surrounding din, let alone the words of others.

Today is Vocations Sunday, traditionally a day for asking young men and women if they are called to the priesthood and religious life. There is no doubt that the Church needs priests to celebrate the Eucharist and other sacraments, and Religious to offer a living witness to the values of the Kingdom of God. Without them, we would be a very impoverished Church. But how do we work out whether God is calling us to a particular vocation? One simple test is whether following a particular path in life gives us joy. If we are happy and content, or at least think we will be, then it is worth giving it a try.

Following a vocation is not an obstacle course that has to be overcome. There will be difficulties, but an inner state of contentment is important. This develops as our friendship with Jesus grows, and our sense of purpose becomes clear. Following a vocation does involve making a leap of faith but it is not a leap into the unknown. Just as there are risks in getting married no matter how much we prepare for it, so there are risks in offering yourself for priesthood and religious life. In all cases we have examples of happy and fulfilled people living their vocation.

If we listen deeply within our prayer, we may hear that call from God. But we may hear God speaking to us through our families or in our circle of friends. Usually, it is not a very clear call, just some hints and nudges, or a notion that keeps coming back. I would like to suggest to you two ways forward which apply to every Christian, but I think they have special meaning for someone who is discerning a particular vocation. Pope Francis at the end of the international Synod gave two directions of travel for the participants. The first was to spend time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This he said would free us in spirit so that we would avoid other attractions. Adoration is a special kind of prayer which helps us shirk off everything except that one person who is important to us – Jesus Christ. His second point was to steer us towards service of others. In serving others, giving ourselves to other people in response to different needs, we undoubtedly find Jesus.

In today's gospel reading Jesus says that he is the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. Becoming close to Jesus, through prayer and listening, through adoration and service will involve sacrifice there is no escaping that. But the word sacrifice means to make holy, and holiness is what we are all made for and that which we all should seek.

May God bless you as you seek to come closer to the Lord and deepen your understanding of what God is calling you to be.

*Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP
Archbishop of Liverpool*



Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 21st April *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

Monday 22nd April *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 5pm*

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Tuesday 23rd April

- 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 Regina Caeli & Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Wednesday 24th April

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 7.00pm** *Online Zoom Rosary (Meeting ID: 832 0468 2198 Passcode: 746256)*

Thursday 25th April

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

Friday 26th April

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 27th April *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.00am Confessions until 9.25am (St Mary's)
- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 4.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
- 4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

Sunday 28th April *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

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| <p><u>20th/21st April</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm A. Haetzman 10.30am P. Robertson 5.00pm M. Davis <p><u>27th/28th April</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm G. Abernethy 10.30am E. McCabe 5.00pm S. Casserly | <p><u>4th/5th May</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm C. Jackson 10.30am J. Russell 5.00pm N. Donnelly <p><u>11th/12th May</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm R. Kane 10.30am M. McCusker 5.00pm M. Davis |
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Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

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| <p><u>20th/21st April</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm J. McEwan C. McClafferty 10.30am M. Davis C. O'Brien J. McAlavey <p><u>27th/28th April</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm J. McClafferty K. Bryce 10.30am J. Wilson A. O'Neill N. Keenan | <p><u>4th/5th May</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm P. Freel K. Bryce 10.30am J. Littlejohn M. Keenan M. Keenan <p><u>11th/12 May</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.00pm M. Keenan P. Stewart 10.30am J. Wilson A. O'Neill N. Keenan |
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Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 1,195.00

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ 118.00



Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish

St Marys Mission RCDM

80-17-02 00265809

SCIAF WEE BOXES

If you are intending to return a WEE BOX for SCIAF please do so no later than **this weekend**. All WEE BOXES are paid directly into SCIAF's account and go towards helping those most vulnerable.

*To date, our WEE BOXES have brought in £1,061.62.
Thank you for your continued support and generosity.*

New Bank Details St Mary's 300 Club

As part of Project Wellspring the Diocese has transferred all our banking into one bank (The Bank of Scotland). The purpose of this is to maximise our diocesan interest rate and reduce any bank charges across the parishes. Please find below new Standing Order details for the **300 Club**. If you are a member of the 300 Club and pay Standing Order, please inform your bank of the new details. **Many thanks for your assistance and continued support.**

Account Name: St Mary's Lanark Account Number: 10246763 Sort Code: 80-12-97

Quiz Night - Friday 17th May 2024

St Mary's Social Committee are hosting a Quiz Night on **Friday 17th May 2024**. The Clubrooms will open at 7pm with the 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.



Good Shepherd Sunday

Today we observe Good Shepherd Sunday. This day affords us the opportunity, as the Universal Church, to pray for vocations to the priesthood, especially in our own diocese. If you think you are called to the priesthood, or know of someone who is thinking about priesthood, please contact our Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Charlie O'Farrell: frofarrell@rcdom.org.uk

Pray for more vocations... The Church needs you.

Parish Pilgrimage 2024

Our joint Parish Pilgrimage with Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Larkhall & Blackwood, will take place from Tuesday 2nd July - Tuesday 9th July to Our Lady's shrine at Fatima, and then to Lisbon. There will be another meeting before we travel, the date and time of which will be published in the bulletin over the next few weeks. The final instalment is to be paid by Wednesday 24th April directly to Alba Tours:

Account Name: **Alba Tours Ltd**

Account Number: **00898164**

Sort Code: **80-22-60**

Clydesdale Foodbank Collection



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

Lanark St Vincent de Paul Contact Number

If you are requiring some assistance, or if you know of a family who require assistance, please contact our SSVP on their new dedicated number: **07565396878**. The aim of the SSVP is to offer help to any families who are struggling within the geographical remit of our conference.

St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings

If you would like to book the Clubrooms for a function or are interested in using it on a regular basis, please contact Heather for more details:

07300857616 or theclubrooms@outlook.com



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
Lanark
ML11 7JS
stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk
Charity No - SC011041



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Fr Martin Chambers (Bishop-Elect of the Diocese of Dunkeld); Seamus Coll; Kevin Reilly; Bill Cuthbert; Elaine Rourke; Clare Nicolson (Bishopbriggs); Jessie McMillen.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Margaret Devine; Gordon James.

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; Canon Giles Goward; Father David Mellor; Jim McShane; John & Mary McShane; Rosemary McShane MacIntyre; 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; Valentie Family; Joseph & Betty McLeish; Hugh McLeish; Peter Brannen; Brannen Family; Edgar Family; Peter Skelly; Grace McGregor; James, Clare & Evelyn O'Leary; Jimmy & Sadie Littlejohn; Frances & Monica Cassidy; May Kelly; Arthur Kane; Irene & To Wallace; Madeline & Ken Highton; Sr Margaret Duncan; Mr & Mrs McCulloch (Lanark); McCulloch Family; Mr & Mrs McDade (Newkirk); McDade Family; Owen, Margaret & John Dempsey; Estelle Higgins; John Cunningham; James McCardie; Arthur Christie; Jessica & John Christie; John Christie Jnr; Sarah & Joseph Quinn; Rena & Jimmy Travers; John Kerr; Dan & Marion O'Donnell; Mary & Charlie Binnie; Davie & Bette Haggerty; Paul Donnachie; Donnachie Family; Sand & Alex McLellan; Paul Halloran; Helen & Robert Dennis; May & Veronica Quinn; Fr Joseph Brannigan; Fr Hughes; Maureen Mathers; Jimmy & Sarah McEwan; Anne Paisley; Anne Skeldon; John Donnelly; Martha & Tam Smith; William & Martin McPhail; Harry & Jean McPhail; James & Mary McCrossan; Jim & Theresa Casagrande, Dan McPhail; Sandy McLean; Mary Mclean; Catherine McLean; Jessie Clark; Susan Mackie; Frank Mackie; Leah & Albert Welsh; Morton Family; Matt & Peggy Reilly; Betty Thomson; Ann & Alasdair MacDonald; Bill & Annie Gebbie; Lisa Katherine McAlavey; John McAlavey; Blanche McAlavey; Gerard Mays Snr; Gerard Mays Jnr; Susan Mays; John O'Neill; John & Marion Renton; Mary, Jim & Michael McLaughlan; Mary, Bill & Stephen Murray; Anne & John Boyle; Margaret, John & Bobby Dykes; Charlie Lively; Lively Family; Lavery Family; Maher Family; Markie Higgins; Joe McAllister; Peter & Susan Mulligan; Bridget Donnelly; Kate Hanlon; Edward Hanlon; Anne Lindsay; Archie Lindsay; Michael Sheely; Mary Sheely; Kate Nevin; Kathleen & Bill Grieve; Frank Hilland; Martin Hilland; Joe & Frances Jackson; Phil & Anne Kinsella; Estelle Higgins; Josephine & Harry Frele; Helen & Donald Young; Skye Martin; Chrissy & Hugh Martin; Jacky Stewart; Ron Meldrum; Catherine & Daniel Stewart; Eileen Prior; Janette Irvine; Jean & Jimmy Meldrum; May Quinn; Meg McConville; McConville Family; Pat Tansey; Deceased Members of The Choir of St Mary's; Hugh & Jean McNamara; Tony & Alison Filmer; Helen & Alex Barrack; Oliver Jones; Nick Fish; Noone Family; Dowds Family; Farrell Family; Peggy & Denis Docherty; Annie & Archie McMillan; William O'Brien Snr; Christopher Campbell; Quinn Family; Mary Jane Brennan; Agnes Jack; Anne Elder; James & Evelyn Brennan; Josephine McGuire; Josephine & Willie Whitefield; Lisa Mary Geddes; Vera Livingstone; Thomas, Cecilia & Mark Cloonan; James (Jim) Callaghan; Anna Marshall; Agnes & Alice Bamford; Jack Knox (Redditch); Rotherham Family (Liverpool); Callaghan Family (Sligo); Cloonan Family (Liverpool); Clara Rotherham; Vincent Schmidt (USA); John Cloonan; Emilio & Cesarina Coia; Eleonora & Peter De-Schuster.

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.