



St Mary's Lanark St Isidore's Biggar



St Isidore's

6 Coulter Road

Biggar

ML12 6EP

stisidore@rcdom.org.uk

Charity No - SC011041

Parish Priest

Father John-Paul McShane

St Mary's Church

70 Bannatyne Street

Lanark ML11 7JS

01555 662234

frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk

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70 Bannatyne Street

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ML11 7JS

01555 662234

stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk

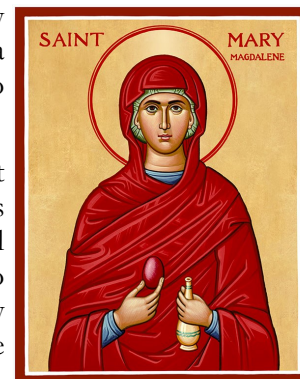
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4th Sunday in Lent (*Laetare Sunday*) 27th March 2022

St Mary Magdalene's Forth

Today, Sunday 27th March 2022, Bishop Toal will celebrate the final Mass in St Mary Magdalene's Mass Centre, Forth. For over 50 years St Mary Magdalene's has stood as a Catholic presence in the small village of Forth, and has been a place of worship for so many.

Today, we come with heavy hearts as we gather in St Mary Magdalene's one last time, but we come with thankful hearts to the Lord for the prayers offered in St Mary Magdalene's over the years, and for the graces received. We come in thanksgiving, remembering all those who have worshiped in St Mary Magdalene's over its 50 years, especially those who have returned home to the Lord, and all those who have had a connect with St Mary Magdalene's and now moved away. For so many, St Mary Magdalene's has been the centre of their faith journey, and for this we are extremely thankful.



Although the Mass Centre will close today, a Catholic presence will still be prominent in Forth by the people who still live there. Through the lives of those still present in Forth, of that small community of believers who gathered every Sunday, faith will still be present in the community, through their actions and prayers. The Church is much more than a building, as Pope Francis reminds us, people are the Church: "Families are the domestic Church, where Jesus grows; he grows in the love of spouses, he grows in the lives of children. That is why the enemy so often attacks the family. The devil does not want the family; he tries to destroy it, to make sure that there is no love there. Families are this domestic Church."

Of course, we require the Church to receive the Sacraments and a building to gather in prayer, and the parishioners of St Mary Magdalene's will still do this by joining the people of St Mary's, Lanark, to celebrate Mass and to unite in our praise of God. This practice of both communities joining together has now been happening for several months, and it has been lovely to see the parishioners of St Mary Magdalene's being incorporated into the life and worship of St Mary's, and fulfilling ministries within the parish.

It is important that we do not forget St Mary Magdalene's and all the history, and all the goodness that has taken place in Forth over the last 50 years. Therefore, the icon of St Mary Magdalene, that is currently in the Mass Centre, will be rehoused in St Mary's, next to the Lady Altar, with a small plaque underneath, commemorating St Mary Magdalene's and all those who worshiped there. The Stations of the Cross from St Mary Magdalene's will be rehoused in St Mary's Primary School as a lasting sign of the link between St Mary Magdalene's Mass Centre and all the Forth children who attended St Mary's Primary School.

O God, whose Only Begotten Son entrusted Mary Magdalene before all others with announcing the great joy of the Resurrection, grant, we pray, that through her intercession and example we may proclaim the living Christ and come to see him reigning in your glory. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

St Mary Magdalene pray for us.

Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 1,230.00
Standing Orders: £ 293.50

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ 107.00
Standing Orders: £ 97.00
(Including St Mary Magdalene's)

St Mary Magdalene's

Offertory Collection: £ 155.00

St Mary's Social Committee

The next Coffee Morning 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.

SCIAF Marathon

Mark Daly, a parishioner of St Mary's, is running the Edinburgh Marathon, on Sunday 29th May, 2022, in aid of SCIAF. If you would like to sponsor Mark, you can donate through his fundraising page https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mark-daly2207?utm_source=sms&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=mark-daly2207&utm_campaign=pfp-sms&utm_term=65e509225b614498b65e8633944d5ca0

SCIAF Collection

This 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.

300 Club: February Winners

Week 6th March: **226**

Week 20th March: **268**

Week 13th March: **263**

Week 27th February: **242**

I Halloran

Congratulations to all our winners!!

300 Club subscriptions and winnings can now be paid through bank transfer. If you would like to find out more please email theclubrooms@outlook.com

The Synod In Our Parish

AUTHORITY AND PARTICIPATION:

A synodal Church is a Church where everyone participates and everyone shares responsibility.

How well do we identify our goals and how to reach them?

What good examples do we have of governance, teamwork and shared responsibility?

How do we promote lay ministries and the responsibility of lay people?

What fruitful experiences can we share of lay leadership?

How can we develop fruitful participation and leadership?

<https://youtu.be/Toun6STImPg>

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

Synod Questionnaire should be returned this weekend.

St Mary's Church Cleaners

A special thank you to St Mary's Church Cleaners, who keep our church looking so pristine. The Cleaners volunteer every second Wednesday after Mass to tidy and clean the church. This is an important role and one that many people take for granted. The Cleaners are always looking for new volunteers, if you are free on Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass why not join them for 30mins??? Thank you!

Clydesdale Foodbank

This 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.

Caritas Award

Congratulations to Niamh who has now completed the Caritas Award. Niamh has been a great asset to St Mary's, through volunteering her time and talents, and we are sure she will continue to help. Well done Niamh!



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Paul Caddle; Paul Donnachie; Rowan Stanley.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Father Joseph Brannigan; The Monteith Family; Thomas Bowie; Jim McShane; John Dempsey; Frances Kelly; Rita Herces; Christopher Norbury; Dan McPhail; Clare O'Leary; Tommy Oliver; Harry Duddy; William Kay; Marion Renton.

Renton Family: The Family of the late Marion Renton wish to thank everyone for their kind sympathies and prayers at the death of Marion, especially the Choir of St Mary's, and the Monday Club. Holy Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Gift Aid Appeal

As we begin to enter a new Financial Year, it is appropriate that the Parish offers everyone the opportunity to join the Gift Aid Scheme. If you are not already a member of the Gift Aid Scheme, and you pay tax on your pension or any earnings, we strongly encourage you to consider joining the Scheme. It takes minutes to join, your weekly donations can stay the same, and it is 100% confidential. For every £1 donated through Gift Aid, the Parish claims back 25%, at NO cost to you, it is claimed from the Government. Each Gift Aid user is issued a number, to keep all details confidential, and no matter how little or how large your offering, we can claim back 25% at the end of the Tax Year. If you would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme you can either, speak to Fr John-Paul, or fill out a Gift Aid Declaration Form and hand it in next week. If it is easier you can pop completed forms into the collection bag with your weekly offering and Fr John-Paul will deal with it from there. Last year St Mary's reclaimed £16,525.27 and St Isidore's £7,218.50. We are extremely grateful to those who support the church through Gift Aid, and with the rising cost of bills, we strongly encourage other tax payers to consider using the Scheme, and maximising your donations.

Many thanks to all those who use the Weekly Envelopes for their offering. As you will see from your current box of envelopes, they are due to be renewed in the coming weeks. Please collect your new book from the table in the narthex. If you see a box there that belongs to a neighbour, why not pop it through their door...

Thank you for your continued financial generosity to our parish Fr John-Paul

St Mary's Cemetery

Once again, we are able to inform you that the Community Payback Scheme have very kindly agreed to maintain the cemetery this season. We are very grateful to the many volunteers who cut the grass, edged the paths and kept the cemetery looking so good last season. Can we kindly ask for any ornaments or wreathes/floral tributes that are on the graves to be removed, as the workers will be cutting the grass soon.

The Scottish Catholic

Please find in the Stall copies of the Scottish Catholic magazine, which is priced at £2. The Scottish Catholic is produced fortnightly, and this edition features an article on St Mary's Church.

Please support the Scottish Catholic and the great media work they carry out to promote the faith.

Extra copied have been ordered for this edition, however, future editions will be limited to 20 copies, but we can increase that at any time.

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

26th/ 27th March

5.00pm J. Moynagh

10.30am J. Russell

5.00pm S. Casserly

9th/10th April

5.00pm G. Abernethy

10.30am P. Roberts

5.00pm S. Casserly

2nd/3rd April

5.00pm R. McConnell

10.30am R. Colpitts

5.00pm M. Davis

16th/17th April

5.00pm A. Haetzman

10.30am S. Watson

5.00pm M. Davis

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

26th/27th March

5.00pm M. Keenan

P. Stewart

10.30am J. McAlavey

M. Keenan

9th/10th April

5.00pm J. McClafferty

M. Davis

10.30am P. Cunningham

A. Cruickshank

2nd/3rd April

5.00pm T. Mullen

C. McClafferty

10.30am J. Wilson

C. Duddy

16th/17th April

5.00pm A. Dempsey

C. Scott

10.30am J. McAlavey

M. Keenan

Weekly Parish Schedule

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)

Monday 28th March - St Mary's opened from 9am until 7.30pm.

- 9.00am 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)
- 6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)
- 6.30pm Confessions until 6.55pm (St Mary's)
- 7.00pm Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Tuesday 29th March

- 8.30am Holy Mass St Mary's Primary School (Children Only)
- 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)

Wednesday 30th March

- 9.10am Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)
- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
- 10.00am **Church Cleaning (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 31st 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 1st April

- 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 2nd April 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)
- 4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)
- 5.00pm **Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)**

Sunday 3rd April St Mary's opened from 9.45am until 6.30pm

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
- 1.00pm Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday in Lent (Biggar Kirk)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
- 6.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)

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

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