



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



**7th Sunday of Sunday
12th May 2024**

The Art of Seeing

Recently I've been drawn (no pun intended) to pen and ink art. I'm colour blind and cannot trust myself with watercolour or oils, so plain black and white it is. To inspire my new artistic calling, I've been watching a variety of TV programmes about art, and one in particular has caught my attention. 'Painting Birds with Jim and Nancy Moir' follows prolific artist Jim and his wife Nancy as they explore some of Britain's best beauty spots. Jim's challenge is to create an original piece of bird art celebrating the unique species native to that region.

Some of you will know Jim Moir better as Vic Reeves, who in a comedic double-act with Bob Mortimer, dominated the TV schedules in the 1990s. Like most celebrities of a certain age, or so it seems, Moir is an artist of some standing and this series is an opportunity to share his talent with a wider audience. In the very first episode of *Painting Birds*, first aired in April 2023, while Moir was visiting the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, he made a remark that has stayed with me: "People don't look as much as they should. A good thing they should teach at school is looking... looking at things."

It strikes me that Moir is in good company in his desire to teach people to look. Aristotle considered sight to be 'the most highly developed sense'. St Thomas Aquinas thought likewise. The Bible frequently links sight and knowledge, with meaning of seeing often going beyond the mere physical notion of bodily sight to a deeper spiritual wisdom (e.g. Tobit, or Matt 6:22-23).

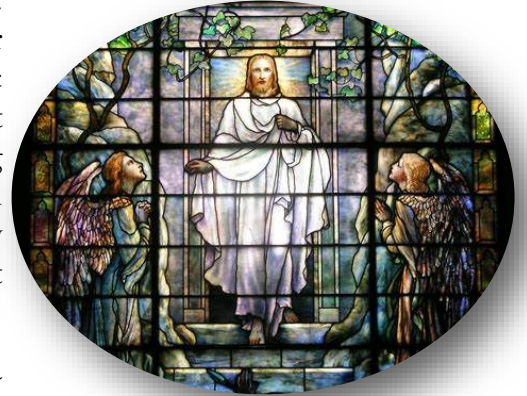
Flannery O'Connor, best known as a writer and novelist, but herself an artist, was convinced that the more one sees, the more one knows; therefore learning to see is a fundamental requirement of the artist. O'Connor held that painting helped her to see because painting made her look and stare and gaze at reality, which is how she thought one is able to come to know what-is. She spent time every afternoon intensely looking, seeing, and staring at the panoramic view from her front porch.

Aquinas, who's thought O'Connor was very familiar with, said God is in all things "by essence, presence, and power ... and most intimately so." A contemporary of Aquinas, St Bonaventure includes in his work 'The Journey of the Mind to God' a section on the practice of opening one's eyes and seeing the presence of God in the simplest physical objects: a flower, the grass, a bird winging by.

Both of these great Doctors of the Church knew that God should not be understood as a supreme being standing at a distant remove from the world but rather as a power implicated in every aspect of the creation, which he, at the same time transcends. Everything is saturated with the divine.

So to see, to observe, or as Moir put it, "looking at things", is to meditate on God and to pray. This is a huge comfort to me, especially when I struggle with prayer, knowing that just looking is in itself a prayer that moves me closer to the reality of God. Or to quote St Paul, "Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face" (1 Cor 13:12).

Ian Maxfield



Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 12th May *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday of Easter (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

Monday 13th May *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)
- 12noon **Wedding of Laura & Tom (St Mary's)**

Tuesday 14th May

- 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 **Requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Evelyn Quinn (St Mary's)**

Wednesday 15th May

- 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 16th May

- 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 17th May

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

Saturday 18th May *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 Pentecost Sunday (St Mary's)**

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

- 10.30am **Holy Mass for Pentecost Sunday (St Mary's)**
- 12noon **Holy Mass for Pentecost Sunday (Holy Trinity)**
- 5.00pm **Holy Mass for Pentecost Sunday (St Mary's)**

Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 1,200.00
Second Collection: £ 1,000.00

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ 55.00
Second Collection: £ 135.00

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish

St Marys Mission RCDM
80-17-02 00265809



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.



Bar Volunteers Urgently Required

Already this year we are seeing an increased use of the Clubrooms with various bar functions and regular bookings confirmed; however, we are in urgent need of more bar volunteers to help at functions. We have a great group of volunteers already giving of their time, and with the Clubrooms getting busier we now need more volunteers to help share the load.



No previous bar experience is required and full training will be provided. The more volunteers we have the more events we can accommodate, and less pressure on our current volunteers.

The Clubrooms is massive for the financial stability of our parish, especially after the current repair works required in the offices and house. Without the income from the Clubrooms the parish struggles to survive; so it is vital that we are able to offer this service for functions, but we can only do that because of the great volunteers the parish has!

Thank you very much to those who already volunteer in the Clubrooms, and if anyone else would like to help, please contact Heather on: **07300857616** or **theclubrooms@outlook.com**

St Mary's Bell Tower

In 2019 a report was carried out on the bell tower for the possibility of housing a carillon of bells, and it was noted that the steel girders are delaminating and water ingress has damaged the concrete and stone work of the tower. After an initial inspection on Tuesday by an engineer we can confirm that the bell tower requires an immediate investigation to assess its safety and also the condition of the steelwork and stonework.



On Monday an internal scaffold will be erected in the tower to allow for better access and the structural engineer will carry out a full assessment of the tower and bell. Whilst the scaffold is in place and during the assessment the main door of the church will not be in use for Mass, but rather the side door and Flower Room door will be open for people to access the church through the side altar.

We will keep you updated as the assessment is carried out and works progress.

Deanery Questionnaire

As part of Project Wellspring, the Wishaw Deanery has put together a questionnaire to be distributed in all parishes across the Deanery. It is important that each household takes a questionnaire, fills it in, and returns it no later than **Sunday 19th May**.



The questionnaire will allow the Deanery to plan for the future, and will give the clergy the relevant information to grow our parishes.

Questionnaires can be returned to the back of the church, the sacristy, or posted through the house letter box.

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

11th/12th May

5.00pm R. Kane
10.30am M. McCusker
5.00pm M. Davis

18th/19th May

5.00pm A. Haetzman
10.30am R. Colpitts
5.00pm S. Casserly

25th/26th May

5.00pm G. Abernethy
10.30am P. Roberts
5.00pm N. Donnelly

1st/2nd June

5.00pm C. Jackson
10.30am J. Russell
5.00pm M. Davis

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

11th/12th May

5.00pm M. Keenan
P. Stewart
10.30am J. Wilson
A. O'Neill
N. Keenan

18th/19th May

5.00pm J. McEwan
C. McClafferty
10.30am J. Wilson
T. Mullen
B. Farrell

25th/26th May

5.00pm J. McClafferty
K. Bryce
10.30am P. Cunningham
A. Cruikshank
J. McAlavey

1st/2nd June

5.00pm A. Dempsey
C. Scott
10.30am J. McAlavey
V. Hilland
D. McFarlane



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: Evelyn Quinn Auchlochlan Care Village
Brian McCardie; Kathleen Cassidy; Jamie Dunn; Patricia Murphy (Coltness); Thomas Morris (Liverpool); Dr Joe McKenna.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Hugh Starrs; Jim Beveridge; Pat McTaggart.

Funeral Arrangements: Evelyn Quinn Requiem Mass: Tuesday 14th May 12noon, St Mary's.

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 Casagranda, 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 Freel; 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.