

St Mary's Lanark

A Parish of the Diocese of Motherwell (founded 1859) Charity No - SC011041

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Parish Priest

Fr John-Paul McShane

frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk



St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings: 07300857616

Saint Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07565396878

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd February 2025

Origins of the Sacraments

When Jesus died on the Cross his disciples were confused, frightened and unsure of the future. In the days following the resurrection they gathered together for mutual support and to try to make sense of what had happened.

As they gathered together, Jesus came amongst them. He was different from the Jesus they were familiar with and yet they recognised him and knew him in his words and in his actions. In listening to his words they began to see more clearly and understand more fully who he was and what his message meant. His vision and his teaching about life, which he had shared with them when he was with them before his crucifixion, were now in sharp focus. As they listened to his words they recognised him as the Son of God; they knew indeed he was the Christ.

In witnessing his actions in the resurrection, in the breaking of bread and in the sharing of himself, they came to share the reality of his faith, his unity with his heavenly Father and an understanding of his responsibility and love for all men and women. The disciples experienced the action and the power of the Holy Spirit in and through this unity with Jesus Christ and with each other. As a result of this they gained in confidence and courage to move out from that frightened, nervous group, hiding away in a "safe" meeting place. They moved out into the world to share in turn what they had received: mutual support, the Word of God and the experience of the Spirit of Jesus in transforming and renewing life.

This pattern has remained essentially the same in the life and work of the Body of Christ - the Church - from the earliest days until now. At the heart of the life of the Church, the believers, are the Sacraments which constantly renew and reconcile the Church to God. And the celebration of every Sacrament follows the original pattern experienced by that very first community of believers following the resurrection: 1) Christ's followers gather together as a community. 2) This community listens to the Word of God. 3) The community shares the experience of God's action. 4) They depart to serve others and bring them the Good News.

It is clear from this pattern that being a follower of Christ is not simply a private arrangement between God and the individual. The opposite is true. Being a follower of Christ means being part of a community, part of the Body of Christ here on earth, today. In becoming part of that body we don't lose our own individuality; rather we become more fully ourselves because we are accepted as free to be what God has created us to be. And we accept others on the same basis because in our baptism we are united in God and in his love and care for every person.

It is only when we are afraid to show our weaknesses, afraid of what others may do to us or afraid of being ignored, that we move into the false security of isolation. Jesus came to free every person from such isolation. He came to make us truly free and in his life he showed us the reality of what being a human really meant. Being truly human means being Christlike. Anything which prevents that make us less than a fully human being.

Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 23rd February *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Monday 24th February *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Tuesday 25th February

- 10.00am Holy Mass (St Catherine's)
- 11.30am Confessions until 11.55am
- 11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 12noon Angelus & Holy Mass

Wednesday 26th February

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 10.00am** Church Cleaning
- 7.00pm** Online Zoom Rosary (Meeting ID: 832 0468 2198 Passcode: 746256)

Thursday 27th February

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

Friday 28th February

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Saturday 1st March *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.00am Confessions until 9.25am
- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm
- 4.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 2nd March *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
- 11.15am** Coffee Morning (St Mary's Clubrooms)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)
- 12.35pm** Light Bite (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



Coffee Morning & Light Bite

On the first Sunday of each month our parish offers the opportunity for parishioners to gather for informal chatter and share a tea/coffee and some simple food together. The coffee mornings and light bites are great ways for our parishioners to stay connected, and also a great way to meet new parishioners. Thank you to those who provide the food for our gatherings and the hard work you do to make them successful.

If you haven't attended the coffee morning or light bite yet, why not come along next Sunday. All welcome!!

HCPT Group 138 Coffee Morning St Brigid's Newmains

As part of being a volunteer for HCPT you are tasked with fundraising to pay the children's fares (each child costs £1,200). This year Group 138 hope to take 12 children to Lourdes at Easter as part of the HCPT Pilgrimage.

In order to help with fundraising, a Coffee Moring is being held in St Brigid's Parish Centre Newmains on Sunday 9th march 2025 - tickets cost £10 and are available from Mary: 07903251723.

Project Wellspring Deanery Coordinator

As Project Wellspring – our Diocesan Renewal Programme – enters its second year, the Bishop has made some significant changes to how the programme runs. One of the most exciting changes is that it is now time for the Diocese to ask volunteers to come forward to help parishes get the most out of Wellspring Spiritually, Pastorally and Operationally.

The intention is that we try to secure the help of 6 individuals who will support the parishes in each of our 6 Deaneries (which are geographical groupings of 6 – 12 parishes). If you have a passion for supporting the clergy and their parishes and experience of managing change (ideally with facilitation skills) could you approach your parish priest to find out more?

Typical activities include co-ordinating, facilitating and leading meetings / discussions and sharing practices and outcomes with teams across the Diocese.

This role is expected to require say 7 hours a week and you would be part of a team from across the Diocese; full support and training will be given.



St Catherine's Job Opportunity

St Catherine's Residential Home is offering the opportunity for a Maintenance Person to join their team.

Working roughly 15 hours per week at £12.42 per hour. Candidates should offer some experience in general building maintenance and gardening.

Start date to be confirmed . For more information contact 01555 661671 or email office@stcol.co.uk

Journey Through Lent

Once again, this year, the parish prayer group will recommence for Lent. The group meets in St Catherine's on a Wednesday morning after 9.30am Mass.

The meetings focus on the Sunday Gospel, allowing space for meditation, prayer, and sharing. All are welcome.

The first meeting will be Ash Wednesday, 5th March.

St Andrew's Hospice Make a Will Month

Make or update your Will and support St Andrew's Hospice during the month of March. Several Lanarkshire Legal Firms have agreed to write a basic Will or update an existing Will and waive their legal fee, in return for a donation to St Andrew's Hospice. For further information please contact Lorna McCafferty, Trusts, Legacy and Individual Giving Manager at St Andrew's Hospice on 01236 772087 or email lorna.mccafferty@standrews.scot.nhs.uk or visit the Hospice website :-www.standrews-hospice.com for details of the Solicitors taking part.

Parish Disco - 22nd March

The next social event for St Mary's Parish is a Disco on Saturday 22nd March. Tickets are only £7, which includes entry and nibbles. The bar will be opened from 7.30 til late. For tickets, please contact any of the girls on the social committee.



New Readers Required

We have so many dedicated readers in the parish, but as a growing parish we are always looking to encourage others to join the team. If you are someone who used to be a reader at Mass and would like to go back on the rota, or if you have never read at Mass before but would like to, please email Fr John-Paul.

NO experience is needed and training will be given.

Deanery Appeal Second Collection

Thank you for your generosity to the Deanery Appeal last weekend, supporting the work of the Comboni Missionary Sisters.

A total of **£550** was raised, and has been sent direct to the Sisters to be used in their work in service of others.

World Day of Prayer

This year World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday 7th march at 10.30am in St Nicholas Parish Church.

"I made you wonderful"

Written by Christian Women
of the Cook Islands



Please Pray For The Following



Recently Dead: Maureen Lynch; Pat Kane (Carluke); Pat Hand (London); Vena Kelly;

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Jock Craig; Marion Renton; Eleonora De-Schuster; John Francis Feenan; Lisa Geddes; Luca Gunning; Rosina Baird; Patrick Grant; Beverley & Alan Milliken; Margaret Scott; Robert Jeffrey;

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him
should not perish but have eternal life.*

Beginning Experience

The loss of a loved one through Separation, Divorce or Death, is one of Life's most traumatic experience. It Can result in unbearable feelings or grief and loneliness.

The Beginning Experience, Scotland Team would like to help.

A weekend away for a lifetime of change to be held at Conforti Centre, Coatbridge, 4th-6th April 2025.

A time of heal by experiencing God's love through others. An opportunity to begin again. For further details phone Louise on 07926571004 or email louise398@gmail.com

Alpha Course Date & Time Decided

The numbers are in and we are delighted to announce that over 25 people have signed up for Alpha. What an incredible number!

As a result of the consultation process we will offer two sessions in St Mary's Clubrooms. The first session will start on **Monday 3rd March at 12:45pm - 2.30pm**. The second session will be run in the evening during the autumn. This first session will run for the full of Lent.

Alpha will provide an opportunity to deepen our individual faith, to grow spiritually as a parish and will provide an enriching Lenten journey. We have some hot drinks and a snack and then watch a short video on an aspect of the Christian faith. There are some discussion points from the video and we can share our views. The course is open to all parishioners, and some parishioners who have already completed the course will be on hand to support and look after you.



Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations: £ 1,446.00
Standing Orders: £ 186.00
Votives: £ 170.00
Stall: £ 70.00

St Marys Mission RCDM
80-17-02 00265809

Thank you *for your*
continued generosity

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

22nd/23rd February

5.00pm R. McConnell
10.30am R. Colpitts
5.00pm S. Casserly

8th/9th March

5.00pm C. Jackson
10.30am P. Roberts
5.00pm M. Davis

1st/2nd March

5.00pm A. Haetzman
10.30am A. Servers
5.00pm S. Casserly

15th/16th March

5.00pm F. Chung
10.30am M. McCusker
5.00pm N. Donnelly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

22nd/23rd February

5.00pm C. Scott
S. Callaghan
10.30am V. Hilland
M. Thompson
B. Farrell

8th/9th March

5.00pm M. Keenan
C. Callaghan
10.30am K. Lawrence
J. McFarlane
M. Russell

1st/2nd March

5.00pm K. Bryce
A. McGowan
10.30am C. Duddy
D. McFarlane
I. Maxfield

15th/16th March

5.00pm F. McBride
R. Sinton
10.30am G. Duddy
A. Gillespie
M. Keenan