

# 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

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**St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings:** 07300857616

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## Feast of The Baptism of The Lord

**12th January 2025**

### New Evangelisation

The Jubilee has always been an event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church. Ever since 1300, when Boniface VIII instituted the first Holy Year – initially celebrated every hundred years, then, following its biblical precedent, every fifty years, and finally every twenty-five years – God's holy and faithful people has experienced this celebration as a special gift of grace, characterised by the forgiveness of sins and in particular by the indulgence, which is a full expression of the mercy of God. The faithful, frequently at the conclusion of a lengthy pilgrimage, draw from the spiritual treasury of the Church by passing through the Holy Door and venerating the relics of the Apostles Peter and Paul preserved in Roman basilicas. Down the centuries, millions upon millions of pilgrims have journeyed to these sacred places, bearing living witness to the faith professed in every age.

The Great Jubilee of the year 2000 ushered the Church into the third millennium of her history. Saint John Paul II had long awaited and greatly looked forward to that event, in the hope that all Christians, putting behind their historical divisions, could celebrate together the two thousandth anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of humanity. Now, as the first twenty-five years of the new century draw to a close, we are called to enter into a season of preparation that can enable the Christian people to experience the Holy Year in all its pastoral richness. A significant step on this journey was already taken with the celebration of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, which allowed us to appreciate anew all the power and tenderness of the Father's merciful love, in order to become, in our turn, its witnesses.

We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, *Pilgrims of Hope*. This will indeed be the case if we are capable of recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to turn a blind eye to the tragedy of rampant poverty that prevents millions of men, women, young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity. As the Bible teaches, "The sabbath of the land shall provide food for you, for yourself and for your male and female slaves and for your hired servant and the sojourner who lives with you; for your cattle also, and for the beasts that are in your land, all its yield shall be for food" (Lev 25:6-7).

The Dicastery charged with promoting the new evangelisation can help make this season of grace a significant stimulus to the pastoral outreach of the particular Churches, both Latin and Eastern, which are called in these years to intensify their commitment to synodality. It will be important to foster a renewed awareness of the demands of the universal call to responsible participation by enhancing the charisms and ministries that the Holy Spirit never ceases to bestow for the building up of the one Church. The four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, together with the Magisterium of these recent decades, will continue to provide direction and guidance to God's holy people, so that it can press forward in its mission of bringing the joyful proclamation of the Gospel to everyone.

**Pope Francis**



## Weekly Parish Schedule

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

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

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the Feast of The Baptism of The Lord (St Mary's)  
**12noon** Holy Mass for the Feast of The Baptism of The Lord (Holy Trinity)  
**5.00pm** Holy Mass for the Feast of The Baptism of The Lord (St Mary's)

**Monday 13th January** *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 14th December**

- 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 15th January**

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

**Thursday 16th January**

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary  
**9.30am Requiem Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Mary Norbury**

**Friday 17th January**

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

**Saturday 18th January** *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 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)**

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

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)**  
**12noon Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)**  
**5.00pm Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)**



## St Mary's Social Committee Suggestions

The Social Committee are looking for suggestions from parishioners of what fundraising events they would like to see us host. We will consider every suggestion and potentially plan for future dates. We are really keen to attract as many parishioners to events as possible to raise funds for the benefit of all. There is a suggestion box at the back of the church and slips at the side just pop it in the box.

*Once again, Fr John-Paul would like to thank the Social Committee, along with all their helpers, for the incredible work they do each year, not just for raising necessary funds for our parish, but also help create a sense of community within our parish.*

## St Isidore's Light Bite Charity Efforts

For many years now the money raised at the monthly light bite in St Isidore's has went to a variety of charities that mean something to the parishioners. Last year, 2024, a phenomenal £1,041.52 was raised and used to support: Mary's Meals, Medicin sans Frontieres, St Andrew's Hospice, SCIAF, The Rock Trust & The Wayside Club. Thank you for your continued support and generous contributions.

2025 will see us support: Clydesdale Foodbank, Columban Missionaries Britain, Aid to Church in Need, SCIAF, Fresh Start, Children's Hospices Across Scotland, HALO Trust, Healthy Valleys, Prostate Cancer UK, Dementia UK, St Andrew's Hospice & The Rock Trust.

## Liturgical Calendar

**Monday 13th January, Feats of St Kentigern (Mungo), Bishop** - St Kentigern was born in 518, his mother, St Enoch, a princess from Lothian who became pregnant because she was raped. Her father had her cast off into the Firth of Forth in a coracle (a small fishing boat). She landed on the opposite shore at St Serf's monastic school at Culross. It was he who nicknamed Kentigern "Mungo". Mungo was the 1st Bishop of Glasgow. He was forced out by pagan opponents and spent some time in England and Wales. He returned to spend many more years preaching the Word and praising God until his death in 603. He is honoured as the Patron Saint of Glasgow.

The 1st church in Lanark, which is now in ruin in the old cemetery, is dedicated to St Kentigern and dates back to around 1180. The building itself stands on the site of a much earlier church, possibly founded by St Kentigern himself in 603AD. The church itself was known as the 'oot church' as it lay just outside the town boundary. St Kentigern's Church is part of the 'Footsteps of William Wallace' walking leaflet. It's thought that Wallace may have worshipped at this church, and wed his sweetheart Marion Braidfute within the walls of this now ruined building. To visit St Kentigern's Church, it is advised to park in the nearby 'Braidfute Retail Park' and cross the road to access the driveway which leads to the ruins.

**Friday 17th January, Memoria of St Antony of Egypt, Abbot** - Born in 251 in upper Egypt; died in 356. At an early age he gave away his possessions and sought the austere life and solitude in the desert. Yet he remained involved in the theological controversies of his day, defending the divinity of Christ. He attracted disciples who formed communities of hermits. The account of his life by Saint Athanasius (2 May) was extremely influential in the development and spread of monasticism. Honoured as the father of western monasticism.

## St Kentigern Pilgrimage

To mark the Feast of St Kentigern, and acknowledge the first church in Lanark, a walking pilgrimage will take place on Monday 13th January after 9.30am Mass. It takes roughly 5 mins to walk from St Mary's to St Kentigern's; if you are unable to walk, please feel free to drive to Braidfute Retail Park and walk across the road. We will begin prayers at 10.30am, praying the Rosary and Collect of St Kentigern. In this Jubilee Year we are asked to be Pilgrims of Hope, and to go on pilgrimage, so please join us if you can.

### Advent Tree

For Advent the idea of an 'Advent Tree' was proposed with parishioners invited to place their prayers/wishes on the tree and then their prayers/wishes being moved to the Crib for the Christmas Season. It was lovely to see so many parishioners use the Advent Tree and also give so generously to support the wonderful work of St Andrew's Hospice. A total of £357 was raised and forwarded to the Hospice.

### Crib Donations

As per previous years, all donations to the Crib this year will go to support the work of St Margaret's Adoption Society, helping them in the wonderful work they do in providing loving and stable homes for vulnerable children. Thank you to those who have donated to the Crib box, which is located to the right of the Crib. This is the last weekend for donations, so far £160 has been donated.

## Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

On the Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, Bishop Toal has invited the religious communities of the diocese to join him for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Evening Prayer in Our Lady of Good of Good Cathedral, Motherwell at 3pm on Sunday 2nd February. All are welcome to join in prayer for the religious of our diocese and pray for vocations to religious life.

### Annual Returns & Pastoral Report

Fr John-Paul has now completed the annual Financial Returns for 2024, and they have been submitted to the Diocese. Fr John-Paul will now prepare his annual Pastoral Report which he hopes to share with the parish in the coming weeks.

The Parish Finance and General Purpose Committee will meet later this month to discuss the Financial Returns for year 2024 and plan for 2025.

### Foodbank Volunteer

For many years now St Mary's has supported Clydesdale Foodbank with our monthly collection. In this time Kevan has liaised with the foodbank and has done a sterling job in offering support; we thank Kevan for his wonderful work in this area.

In order to maintain this relationship we are looking for someone to assist Kevan in liaising with the foodbank and taking the monthly collection to Carlisle. If you are interested please speak to Fr John-Paul.



## Please Pray For The Following



**Recently Dead:** Mary Norbury Main Street Forth

Robert Meahan; Veronica Qual (Co Down); Evelyn Ringer (Wishaw); Betty Gardner (Carnwath); Bernadette McMurray; Monri Naquib;

**Months Minds & Anniversaries:** John McShane; Marion Doyle; Gerry McGarrigle; Karen Reilly; Betty Hutchison; James O'Leary; Jimmy Littlejohn; Matt Reilly Snr; Matt Reilly Jnr; Elizabeth Gilchrist; Sarah Donnachie;

**Funeral Arrangements:** Mary Norbury Reception & Requiem Mass: Thursday 16th January 9.30am.

## Justice & Peace Collection

Thank you for your generosity to last weekend's retiral collection for Justice & Peace. A total of £380 was donated, and has been sent to the Bishops' Conference to help with their work with promoting justice and peace on our behalf.

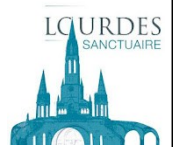


## St Mary's Primary School Notices

- The Sacramental Enrolment Mass will take place on Sunday 2nd February 2025 at 10.30am. All parents presenting their children for the Sacraments in 2025 must attend this Mass with their children and receive their Sacramental Passport.
- P1 enrolment - Children who are age 5 between 1st March 2025 and the end of February 2026 are required to register their child for starting school in August 2025 by completing an online registration form which will be available from Monday 6 January 2025. The registration form is available on the SLC website Enrolling your child for school - South Lanarkshire Council

## Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 14th- 21st July 2025

Bishop Toal invites pilgrims to join him on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2025, departing from Prestwick Airport on Monday 14th July and returning Monday 21st July. This year we will travel with JOE WALSH TOURS. Pilgrims will be staying at the adjoining hotels Alba and Mediterranee, with prices starting from £939pp, based on a full board package. If anyone is interested please put your contact details on the sign-up sheet at the stall. Names must be in for end of January.



*With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope*

## Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£ 1,360.00
Standing Orders:	£ 865.30
Votives:	£ 135.00
Stall:	£ 60.00

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

Thank you *for your*  
*continued generosity*

## St Mary's Ministry Rota

### Readers:

<u>11th/12th January</u>		<u>25th/26th January</u>	
5.00pm	C. Jackson	5.00pm	R. McConnell
10.30am	T. Coia	10.30am	R. Colpitts
5.00pm	M. Davis	5.00pm	M. Davis
<u>18th/19th January</u>			
5.00pm	F. Chung		
10.30am	M. McCusker		
5.00pm	S. Casserly		

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<u>11th/12th January</u>		<u>25th/26th January</u>	
5.00pm	A. Dempsey	5.00pm	K. Bryce
	J. McBride		A. McGowan
10.30am	J. Littlejohn	10.30am	C. Duddy
	A. O'Neill		D. McFarlane
	N. Keenan		I. Maxfield
<u>18th/19th January</u>			
5.00pm	C. Scott		
	S. Callaghan		
10.30am	V. Hilland		
	M. Thomson		
	B. Farrell		