

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

Saint Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07565396878

Solemnity of Christ the Universal King

23rd November 2025

Christ Eternal and High King

In the Liturgical Calendar of the Church, this Sunday is celebrated as the last Sunday of Ordinary Time, dedicated to Christ the King. Next Sunday a new Liturgical Year begins with the First Sunday of Advent, leading up to Christmas and the celebrations surrounding the mystery of God becoming man that we might share in divine life for eternity.

"The Lord is King, with majesty enrobed," proclaims Psalm 93, today's Responsorial Psalm. In our times we are much more familiar with democracies than kingdoms, although we are part of the United Kingdom. In fact, in many ways the Prime Minister can seem more powerful than any Monarch. The most important characteristics of Jesus' Kingdom include the notions that his Kingdom or Reign is eternal and universal, that it is true and life-giving, bestowing on believers holiness, grace, justice, love and peace. Could there be a more attractive description of the essential elements in our multi-faceted relationship with the living and eternal God?



We must never lose sight of what is promised us in belonging completely to Christ. Furthermore, our life in Christ is not reserved to some future date, but is experienced here and now, though brought to completion and perfection in the life to come. The Lord himself has told us, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). It is Christ the King who strengthens the weary, who lifts up those who are falling down or broken. Christ consoles the afflicted, cures the sick and gives food to the hungry. We have to see this help as extending beyond the material and physical, to a deeper reality, rooted in the spiritual and eternal Kingdom that will never end.

We all need the daily bread of food and drink in order to survive. For this we labour as well as receive it from others. Even more, though, we need the bread of heaven, the Holy Eucharist, spiritual sustenance, which only God can give. The Solemnity of Christ the King is a way of reminding us of this reality and tries to get our attention focused on that which endures forever. A point will come when we no longer need the food and drink this world offers, but we'll always need divine assistance.

As we worship our God in this Sunday's celebration of Christ the King, we recognise our worth as human beings, redeemed in the Blood of Christ, who suffered and died on the Cross, that we might live, through the power of the Lord's Resurrection. The Eucharist, Holy Mass, is our Church's principal means of bestowing the needed grace for us to go to God. We rejoice with holy joy in our call to become for the world signs of God's goodness and love. God who cannot be outdone in generosity invites to the banquet of the Kingdom.

Abbot Christian Leisy, OSB

Weekly Parish Schedule

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

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

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King (St Mary's)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King (Holy Trinity)
- 2.00pm** **St Mary's Cemetery Service & Blessing of Graves**
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King (St Mary's)

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

- 9.00am** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am
- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass & Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Tuesday 25th November

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

Wednesday 26th November

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass
- 10.15am** **Advent Prayer Circle (St Catherine's)**

Thursday 27th November

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass
- 7.00pm** **Annual Requiem Mass**

Friday 28th November

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

Saturday 29th November *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.00am** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am
- 9.00am** Confessions until 9.25am
- 9.30am** Holy Mass & Rite of Reception
- 4.30pm** Confessions until 4.50pm
- 4.30am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 5.00pm** **Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)**

Sunday 30th November *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday of Advent (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday of Advent (St Mary's)

St Mary's Prayer Group

The Advent Prayer Circle will meet each Wednesday at 10.15am in St Catherine's, starting Wednesday 26th November.

This is a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas and share your faith in a friendly and welcoming space.

All are welcome!



St Mary's Cemetery Service

Fr John-Paul will lead a Cemetery Service in St Mary's Cemetery on **Sunday 23rd November at 2pm**. The service will last around 45 mins, and will include recitation of the Holy Rosary, prayers for those buried in St Mary's Cemetery and general Blessing of Graves.

It would be lovely to see parishioners there, especially those who have family buried in St Mary's Cemetery. Time permitting, individual blessing of graves will be available for those who wish.

Annual Requiem Mass

Our Annual Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Thursday 27th November at 7pm**. Please make a special effort to come along and pray for all those who have died from our parish this last year. In a special way we will remember:

Patricia Brien

Wendy Kennedy

Elizabeth-Ann Wilson

Pat Drain

Sr Joan Conroy DC

Elizabeth Dailey

Andrew Sharkey

Tony Murphy

Ian McCulloch

Mary Norbury

Jim Mallon

Ronnie Reilly

Maureen Lynch

Davie Flynn

Peter Harrower

Jean Dow

Frank Gunning

Oliver James Noble

Eleanor Douglas

Ruby Monteith

Jane Dalglish

Johanna Cleary-Bamford

Kate McCrossan

Betty Woods



Clydesdale Foodbank Collection

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

Thank you for your continued support and generosity towards helping those in need.

Over 60% of all donations to Clydesdale Foodbank are reissued in the Lanark area.



Coffee Morning/Christmas Raffle

The next coffee morning will take place on **Sunday 21st December** after 10.30 Mass. The Christmas Raffle Draw will also take place at this event.

Raffle tickets will be available from weekend 15th/16th November.

Donations for raffle prizes
will be gratefully received.

Thank you for your continued support!!

Mass with Sacrament of the Sick

St Mary's St Vincent de Paul Society have arranged for Mass to be celebrated with the Sacrament of the Sick. The Mass will be celebrated on Monday 8th December at 12noon. This day is also the Immaculate Conception, the day we celebrate Our Lady being conceived without original sin.

All are welcome to attend this Mass and those who are sick or housebound are encouraged to attend and receive the Sacrament of the Sick, and be supported, and uplifted, by the prayers of our community.

***If you know of anyone who would like to attend this Mass and has no transport,
please speak to a Member of the St Vincent de Paul or contact 07565396878.***

Justice & Peace Scotland

***St Andrew's Day Dignity Not Detention Solidarity
Gathering – Dungavel IRC, Strathaven, ML10 6RF –
Sunday 30th, November, 1pm***

The UK is the only country in Europe that does not have a statutory time limit on detention, meaning people can be held in prison-like conditions indefinitely with no idea when they will be released.

Donations

Fr John-Paul would like to thank all those who have given donations to St Mary's over the last few months. Your continued generosity has been reinvested in the church building.

Donations received over the last few months have helped cover part of the cost of the new radiator covers that have been installed in the narthex and sanctuary. Constructed from MDF they retain heat and look good.

300 Club: October Winners

Week 5th Oct: 6

Week 12th Oct: 55

Week 19th Oct: 120

Week 26th Oct: 25

St Mary's Lanark 80-12-97 10246763

If you would like to join the 300 Club you can set up a Standing Order using the details above and email Kathleen who will then supply you with a lucky number: stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk



Please Pray For The Following



Recently Dead: Patricia Kelly Tinto Court
Waltraud Nowomiejski Douglas

Willie Higgins (Carfin); John Kerr; Dorothy Jackson; Owen Cunning; Clare Haughian; Charles Lynn; Margaret Adams;

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Andrew Sharkey; Kate Campbell; John Donnelly; Anne Elder; Karen Murray; Harry Freel;

Funeral Arrangements: Patricia Kelly Requiem Mass: Monday 1st December, 9.30am
Waltraud Nowomiejski Rite of Committal: Thursday 4th December, 10.30am, Douglas

Catholic Education Collection

Celebrating the importance of Catholic Education will run for two weeks this year, from Sunday 16th November—Sunday 30th November. The Diocesan Education Mass will take place on Monday 24th November at 7pm in the Cathedral.

A Special Collection will be taken up at all Masses on 29th/30th November to support the work of the Scottish Catholic Education Service (SCES).

Liturgical Calendar

Monday 24th November, St Andrew Dung Lac and Companions, Martyrs - Andrew (1795-1839), baptised at the age of fifteen, worked first as a lay missionary and then as a diocesan presbyter before being beheaded at Hanoi (Vietnam). Listed among 117 canonised martyrs who died in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862:ninety-six Vietnamese, eleven Spanish Dominicans, and ten presbyters from the Paris Foreign Mission Society. Honoured as representatives of the thousands of Christians tortured and martyred in Vietnam between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries: bishops, presbyters, religious, and lay people, both children and adults.

Tuesday 25th November, St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr - She died in Alexandria (Egypt) perhaps in the early 4th century. Nothing is known about her. The famous tenth-century legend depicts her as a well-educated noblewoman, confronting the Emperor, confounding the philosophers in debate, and collapsing the wheel upon which she was to be executed. Honoured as a heroine of the Middle Ages.

Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations: £ 1,232.00
Standing Orders: £ 456.50
Votives: £ 215.00
Stall: £ 100.00

St Marys Mission RCDM
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Thank you *for your*
continued generosity

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

22nd/23rd November	6th/7th December
5.00pm C. Jackson	5.00pm J. McBride
10.30am P. Roberts	10.30am A. Servers
5.00pm N. Donnelly	5.00pm S. Casserly
29th/30th November	13th/14th December
5.00pm G. Abernethy	5.00pm F. Chung
10.30am E. McCabe	10.30am M. McCusker
5.00pm M. Davis	5.00pm N. Donnelly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

22nd/23rd November	6th/7th December
5.00pm F. McBride	5.00pm C. Scott
R. Sinton	S. Callaghan
10.30am G. Duddy	10.30am J. Littlejohn
A. Gillespie	A. O'Neill
M. Keenan	N. Keenan
29th/30th November	13th/14th December
5.00pm A. Dempsey	5.00pm K. Bryce
J. McBride	A. McGowan
10.30am J. Littlejohn	10.30am V. Hilland
A. O'Neill	M. Thompson
N. Keenan	B. Farrell