



St Mary's Lanark St Isidore's Biggar



St Isidore's

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Charity No - SC011041

Parish Priest

Father John-Paul McShane

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St Mary's

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Corpus Christi Sunday 19th June 2022

This Is Our Faith

This Sunday we participate in the feast of Corpus Christi, which celebrates Christ's gift of the Eucharist and focuses on his presence under the form of bread and wine. This focus was shaped by disputes within the Church in the medieval period, when the feast began.

In Europe at the time, the religious beliefs of some groups called for deliverance from material things into the world of spirit. They dismissed Catholic sacraments, in which God was seen to work through material things

like water, bread, wine and oil. These groups were focused in local areas and were seen as a threat both to the rulers of Europe and to the Church. Crusades were launched against them with great savagery.



For Catholics, the presence of Christ in the transformation of bread and wine became a central emblem of true faith and a rallying call. They found support in miracles where the Eucharist was seen to be turned into Christ's human flesh and human blood.

The feast itself was first celebrated in the thirteenth century, inspired originally by the mission of Julien of Liege, a religious sister. The great theologian Thomas Aquinas, whose hymns on the Eucharist are still sung, lent support to the campaign. The feast began locally, and the Pope of the time made it available for the whole Church. It encouraged reverence in church, where the consecrated host was preserved in a prominent place for worship and for ceremonies like Benediction, where it was the focus of attention. It also became a proud statement of Catholic identity. Processions of the Blessed Sacraments took place in towns where Catholics were a majority, and more recently huge public celebrations during the eucharistic festivals have showcased the universality of the Church.

For many Catholics, such devotions deeply nourish their faith, and they continue to have an important place in the Church. As in other aspects of Catholic life, however, different periods call for different emphases. Over the last century, and particularly in the Second Vatican Council, the Church has emphasised more strongly the presence of Christ within the community, which Paul called the Body of Christ. In this vision, all Catholics are active as well as receptive in the celebration of the Eucharist.

It has also given strong weight to Christ's action in the Eucharist. Christ is present, not simply in the consecrated bread and wine, but as the one who forgives, speaks, feeds, gathers together and makes present his offering on the cross. In this fuller understanding of the Eucharist, Christ is present in the bread and wine because he is active in the Church. In the Eucharist, he calls us to prayer and reverence. He also calls us to follow his way in feeding the poor and giving spirit to the excluded, and in taking up our own cross.

The feast of Corpus Christi is a feast of its time. It is also a feast for every time, encouraging us to pray, to wonder at Christ's continuing gift to us through his presence and his continuing activity, and to follow him in giving ourselves to those in need.

A Vote of Thanks

Over the past few weeks, as the weather has improved and the nights have got longer, it has been wonderful to feel the buzz around St Mary's; to see people coming and going, saying their prayers at the Calvary shrine, and talking with others who pass. The past few weeks have really made me feel the luckiest priest in the Diocese, to be serving the parishioners of St Mary's, and I would like to take this opportunity to express a short word of thanks.

From the moment you enter St Mary's campus you are immediately impressed by the grounds, and in particular the well-kept lawn and the flowers around the Calvary shrine. I would like to thank the Gardening Group for all their efforts in making the grounds look so beautiful. We have people attending the gardens everyday, making sure the grass is cut and the flowers are planted and watered, and it is to the benefit of us all. Thank you so much for your skills and talents, and most importantly for the many hours you spend keeping the grounds looking so pristine.

When you enter St Mary's you are presented with a clean and tidy church. I would like to thank the Church Cleaners for looking after our church, and for dedicating time every second Wednesday to make sure our church is clean and tidy. I would also like to thank those who clean the floors weekly. A clean church is something many of us take for granted, but thank you to those who do this for us, and make our church shine.

At weekends when we enter the church we receive a warm welcome from the Passkeepers, again volunteers who offer their time and talents to the parish. This is such an important ministry, especially with the many visitors we receive in Lanark. Thank you for making everyone feel so welcome and included in our church.

The Piety Stall in the narthex is opened everyday, and those who assist are always welcoming, kind and patient. Thank you for using your people skills to build up our parish.

The church is always adorned with beautiful flowers, and I would just like to thank Mari and the florists for the wonderful work they do in making our church look so beautiful. A special thank you also goes to Grace for organising the Flower Fund and to the many benefactors who donate towards our flowers. Thank you for using your artistic skills to help raise our hearts to heaven through the beauty of the flowers.

When Mass begins we welcome the beautiful singing from the Choir. We are so blessed in our parish to have such a fantastic choir, and two talented and dedicated organists. A special thank you to Mary Margaret, David and the Choir for leading us with their beautiful singing, and for the many hours you spend rehearsing each week. You truly do lift our spirits! Thank you for all you do in our parish, and for your beautiful voices.

It is important at this point to recognise those who participate in a special way within the Liturgy. To the Sacristans who put everything out for Mass and oversee everything, to the Linen Sacristan who prepares the altar cloths, altar frontals and linens so beautifully; to the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who help distribute the Eucharist so worthily; to the Readers who proclaim the Word of God to us with such passion. Thank you very much for using your gifts and talents to benefit our parish, and for fulfilling your ministry with dignity and respect.

A special thank you goes to Dominic, Anna, Luke and Rebecca for serving at the altar. Four wonderful servers who enhance our Liturgy and assist us in our praise of God.

We are also so blessed in the parish to have such a great number of Volunteers who assist with the Clubrooms, again people who offer their time and talents to help build up the social side of our parish. A special mention to the fantastic girls on the Social Committee who are relentless with their volunteering and who offer so much to our parish. Thank you all for giving of yourself for our parish.

Unfortunately some people are less fortunate, but here in St Mary's we have such a committed SVDP who are supported wonderfully by parishioners, and they are able to offer support when required.

I am very conscious of those who are not part of the groups listed above, and who do so much in our church, and I thank you for quietly going about your duties, and dedicating so much of your time to our parish.

From the bottom of my heart I offer a very sincere thank you to everyone who helps in our parish, no matter how small you think your input. Thank you to everyone for using your gifts and talents in building up our parish here in Lanark.

Fr John-Paul



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Cesarina Coia; Jim Welsh; Anna Kane (Cleland); Les McKinlay; Sr Barbara DC.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: John Renton (Birthday Remembrance); Geraldine Murphy; Thomas Coll; Mary Coll; Sean Coll; Margaret Coll; Grace Donaldson.

Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 1,150.00
Standing Orders: £ 737.00

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ 60.00
Standing Orders: £ 128.00

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

St Marys Mission RCDM 80-17-02 00265809

Parish of St Isidore's 83-16-11 00235026

Second Collection

Our next Second Collection will be taken up at all Masses on weekend 25th/26th June, for Peter's Pence.

The purpose of the Peter's Pence Collection is to provide the Holy Father with the financial means to respond to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster, and disease.

Clydesdale Foodbank

Next 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.

Diocesan Mass for Families in Motherwell Cathedral

Bishop Toal will celebrate Holy Mass in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, on **Sunday 26th June, at 3pm**, for all families in our Diocese. This Mass is to coincide with the World Meeting of Families, taking place in Rome that same week.

The Bishop has asked each parish to send two families to this Mass. If you would like to attend this Mass, and represent our parish, please speak to Fr John-Paul.

Letter from The Bishops'

The Bishops' of Scotland have released a letter, *On The Holy Eucharist*, which is an encouragement to us all to focus our lives on the Lord, and make the Eucharist central to who we are. Please read the letter and ponder what it contains.

Diocesan News

Please pray for Colm Martin who will be ordained a deacon on Saturday 25th June, in St Mary's College, Oscott, by Archbishop Bernard Longley, for the Motherwell Diocese. Colm will return to the Diocese and after a time serving as a deacon he will be ordained a priest.

Please pray for Deacon Christopher Morris who will be ordained to the priesthood on Thursday 30th June, in Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral, Motherwell, and will take up his appointment as Assistant Priest later in the summer.

This is also a good opportunity for us to continue to pray for all those men studying for the priesthood, and pray to the Lord to call more men to service in his Church.

Summer Bulletin

As we enter the summer holiday season the bulletin will be scaled down to one A4 sheet, containing Mass times and basic announcements. This will give the editor some down time during the summer. The normal bulletin will recommence during August.

Summer Timetable

The summer holidays provide us with the opportunity to recharge our batteries for the second half of the year, therefore, some changes to the weekly parish schedule will take place during the summer months in order to allow this to happen. All times of Masses etc. will be listed in the bulletin each week, but during the month of July there will be no 12noon Mass on a Monday in St Isidore's.

Weekly Parish Schedule

Sunday 19th June *St Mary's opened from 9.45am until 6pm*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for Corpus Christi Sunday (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for Corpus Christi Sunday (St Isidore's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for Corpus Christi Sunday (St Mary's)

Monday 20th June

- 9.30am** Holy Mass (St Mary's)
12noon Angelus & Holy Mass (St Isidore's)

Tuesday 21st June

- 10.30am** Holy Mass (St Isidore's)
11.30am Confessions until 11.55am (St Mary's)
12noon Angelus & Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Wednesday 22nd June

- 9.30am** Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Thursday 23rd June

- 9.30am** Holy Mass (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass St Catherine's (Sisters Only)

Friday 24th June

- 9.30am** Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 25th June *St Mary's opened from 9.45am until 6pm*

- 9.00am** Confessions until 9.25am (St Mary's)
9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 26th June *St Mary's opened from 9.45am until 6pm*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
12noon Holy Mass for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Isidore's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

*Daily Mass from St Mary's is Livestreamed on the parish Facebook Page
and broadcast on the parish YouTube Channel.*

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

<u>18th/19th June</u>		<u>2nd/3rd July</u>	
5.00pm	L. Moynagh	5.00pm	G. Abernethy
10.30am	E. McCabe	10.30am	R. Colpitts
5.00pm	S. Casserly	5.00pm	S. Casserly
 <u>25th/26th June</u>		 <u>9th/10th July</u>	
5.00pm	R. McConnell	5.00pm	A. Haetzman
10.30am	S. Watson	10.30am	J. Russell
5.00pm	M. Davis	5.00pm	M. Davis

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<u>18th/19th June</u>		<u>2nd/3rd July</u>	
5.00pm	M. Keenan	5.00pm	P. Freel
	P. Stewart		J. McEwan
10.30am	J. Wilson	10.30am	P. Cunningham
	C. Duddy		A. Cruickshank
 <u>25th/26th June</u>		 <u>9th/10th July</u>	
5.00pm	T. Mullen	5.00pm	M. Keenan
	C. McClafferty		P. Stewart
10.30am	G. Duddy	10.30am	M. Keenan
	T. Mullen		J. McAlavey