



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



**Transfiguration of the Lord
6th August 2023**

**A Sermon on the Transfiguration of the Lord
by Anastasius of Sinai, bishop**

Upon Mount Tabor, Jesus revealed to his disciples a heavenly mystery. While living among them he had spoken of the kingdom and of his second coming in glory, but to banish from their hearts any possible doubt concerning the kingdom and to confirm their faith in what lay in the future by its prefiguration in the present, he gave them on Mount Tabor a wonderful vision of his glory, a foreshadowing of the kingdom of heaven. It was as if he said to them: "As time goes by you may be in danger of losing your faith. To save you from this I tell you now that some standing here listening to me will not taste death until they have seen the Son of Man coming in the glory of his Father." Moreover, in order to assure us that Christ could command such power when he wished, the evangelist continues: Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John, and led them up a high mountain where they were alone. There, before their eyes, he was transfigured. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as light. Then the disciples saw Moses and Elijah appear, and they were talking to Jesus.



These are the divine wonders we celebrate today; this is the saving revelation given us upon the mountain; this is the festival of Christ that has drawn us here. Let us listen, then, to the sacred voice of God so compellingly calling us from on high, from the summit of the mountain, so that with the Lord's chosen disciples we may penetrate the deep meaning of these holy mysteries, so far beyond our capacity to express. Jesus goes before us to show us the way, both up the mountain and into heaven, and – I speak boldly – it is for us now to follow him with all speed, yearning for the heavenly vision that will give us a share in his radiance, renew our spiritual nature and transform us into his own likeness, making us for ever sharers in his Godhead and raising us to heights as yet undreamed of.

Let us run with confidence and joy to enter into the cloud like Moses and Elijah, or like James and John. Let us be caught up like Peter to behold the divine vision and to be transfigured by that glorious transfiguration. Let us retire from the world, stand aloof from the earth, rise above the body, detach ourselves from creatures and turn to the creator, to whom Peter in ecstasy exclaimed: Lord, it is good for us to be here.

It is indeed good to be here, as you have said, Peter. It is good to be with Jesus and to remain here for ever. What greater happiness or higher honour could we have than to be with God, to be made like him and to live in his light?

Therefore, since each of us possesses God in his heart and is being transformed into his divine image, we also should cry out with joy: It is good for us to be here – here where all things shine with divine radiance, where there is joy and gladness and exultation; where there is nothing in our hearts but peace, serenity and stillness; where God is seen. For here, in our hearts, Christ takes up his abode together with the Father, saying as he enters: Today salvation has come to this house. With Christ, our hearts receive all the wealth of his eternal blessings, and there where they are stored up for us in him, we see reflected as in a mirror both the first fruits and the whole of the world to come.

Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 6th August *St Mary's Church will close after 5pm Mass*

10.30am Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord (St Mary's)

11.15am Coffee Morning (St Mary's Clubrooms)

12noon Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord (St Isidore's)

12.35pm Tea, Coffee & Home Baking (St Isidore's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the Solemnity of the Transfiguration of the Lord (St Mary's)

Monday 7th August *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)

Tuesday 8th August

11.30am Confessions until 12.55pm (St Mary's)

11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

12noon Angelus & Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Wednesday 9th August

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

7.00pm *Online Zoom Rosary (Meeting ID: 828 0546 0960 Passcode: 638016)*

Thursday 10th August

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

10.00am Holy Mass (St Catherine's)

Friday 11th August

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 12th August *St Mary's Church will close after 5pm Mass*

9.00am Confessions until 9.25am (St Mary's)

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 13th August *St Mary's Church will close after 5pm Mass*

10.30am Holy Mass for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Isidore's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Parish Finances

	St Mary's
Offertory Collection:	£ 1,050.00
Standing Orders:	£ 248.00

St Marys Mission RCDM
80-17-02 00265809

	St Isidore's
Offertory Collection:	£ 108.50
Standing Orders:	£ 60.00

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

Proposed Parish Pilgrimage 2024

Next summer Fr John-Paul and Fr Wyllie, from Our Lady of Fatima Parish (Blackwood & Larkhall), are organising a joint parish pilgrimage to The Royal Scots College Salamanca and Fatima. So far, 21 parishioners from Our Lady of Fatima Parish have expressed an interest in the pilgrimage. **If any parishioner from Lanark or Biggar would like to express an interest in traveling on this joint parish pilgrimage please add your details to the sign up sheet at the stall this weekend.**

A proposed itinerary has been sent to us by Alba Tours, this can be altered, edited or added to as we see fit, but it gives a sample of what we could do while in Salamanca and then Fatima, on a bed, breakfast and evening meal basis:

Day One: Travel to Madrid then to Salamanca. **Day Two:** Leisurely stroll & semi-guided tour around Salamanca. Time to enjoy College facilities & Mass. **Day Three:** Day Excursion to Segovia with Mass at the tomb of St John of the Cross. **Day Four:** Day trip to Madrid or Free day. **Day Five:** Day Excursion to Avila with Mass at the convent of St Teresa. **Day Six:** Free Day in Salamanca. **Day Seven:** Travel to Fatima - Torchlight Procession & Mass.
Day Eight: Rosary, Mass, Lunch & Departure.

RCIA

Are you thinking about becoming a Catholic? If so please contact Fr John-Paul to find out more. We are hoping that our RCIA Course will start in September.

St Mary's Gardens

The amount raised last weekend for the Gardening Group was **£645**.
Thank you for your generosity.

National Pilgrimage Carfin Grotto

The Bishops of Scotland invite you to attend the National Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto on Sunday 3rd September at 3pm, to pray for peace, particularly in the Ukraine.

The Main Celebrant will be Bishop Hugh Gilbert, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, and the Homilist will be Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy.

Clydesdale Foodbank Collection

Thank you very much for your generosity last weekend to the Clydesdale Foodbank. We collected **£210** and **11 bags** of groceries.

What a great contribution to our local community. Over 60% of all donations given to Clydesdale Foodbank in Carluke are returned to families in Lanark. Thank you most sincerely for your continued generosity to helping those in need.

Feast of the Assumption Holyday of Obligation

Tuesday the 15th August is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and a Holyday of Obligation. Mass times in our parish will be as follows:

Monday 14th August: 7.00pm (St Isidore's)

**Tuesday 15th August: 8.00am (St Mary's)
12noon (St Mary's)
7.00pm (St Mary's)**

St Isidore's Moving Forward

As we now work towards moving to Holy Trinity Chapel on Sunday 3rd September, we thank God for the many years we have worshipped in St Isidore's, and the many prayers that have been answered through St Isidore's intercession.

To mark and acknowledge the many blessings in St Isidore's a variety of Masses will be celebrated:

Sunday 6th August Mass offered for the Priests of the Past who have served the Parish

Sunday 13th August Mass offered for the Souls of the Faithful Departed

Sunday 20th August Mass offered by Bishop Toal - Followed by Parish Party

Sunday 27th August Mass of Thanksgiving

St Isidore pray for us.



St Isidore's
6 Coulter Road
Biggar
ML12 6EP
stisidore@rcdom.org.uk
Charity No - SC011041



Parish Priest
Father John-Paul McShane
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01555 662234
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St Mary's
70 Bannatyne Street
Lanark
ML11 7JS
stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk
Charity No - SC011041



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Mary Toal (Mother of Bishop Toal); Jimmy McDade; Marie Fusco (Cambridge).

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Wilma Jeffrey; James & Helen Donnachie; Bridget McGonagle; Gerry Haetzman; Mary Jane Brennan; Vera Hynds; Martin Hilland.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory!

St Mary's Annual BBQ - Sunday 20th August 11.30am

St Mary's Social Committee invite you to our Annual Parish BBQ on Sunday 20th August at 11.30am, in St Mary's Church grounds.

Children's entertainer, fire engine, balloon modelling, face-painting and lots more activities will be on offer. Stalls include Children's Tombola, Bottle Tombola and Make and Bake stall. The Raffle will be drawn at the BBQ. Tea and Coffee will be served. Bar will also be open for refreshments.

Any donations for raffle and tombola stalls will be gratefully received.

St Isidore's Biggar Bash - Sunday 20th August 12.45pm

St Isidore's Social Committee are hosting 'St Isidore's Biggar Bash' to celebrate the many wonderful years of Catholic worship in Biggar, and in thanksgiving of the prayers answered, and graces received, through the intercession of St Isidore.

Mass will be celebrated By Bishop Joseph A. Toal, Bishop of Motherwell.

First Holy Communions will be celebrated at the Mass as well as the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signup sheets will be available at the back of the church to help with the Social Committees planning.

ALL WELCOME

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

5th/6th August

5.00pm R. McConnell

10.30am M. McCusker

5.00pm M. Davis

19th/20th August

5.00pm A. Haetzman

10.30am E. McCabe

5.00pm S. Casserly

12th/13th August

5.00pm G. Abernethy

10.30am R. Colpitts

5.00pm N. Donnelly

26th/27th August

5.00pm R. Kane

10.30am P. Roberts

5.00pm M. Davis

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5th/6th August

5.00pm J. McClafferty

M. Bond

10.30am J. Wilson

A. O'Neill

19th/20th August

5.00pm P. Freel

J. McEwan

10.30am P. Cunningham

A. Cruikshank

12th/13th August

5.00pm A. Dempsey

C. Scott

10.30am G. Duddy

T. Mullen

26th/27th August

5.00pm M. Keenan

P. Stewart

10.30am V. Hilland

C. Duddy