

# 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

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**10th August 2025**

## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Friday, 15th August, the Church celebrates the great Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and raises her gaze to heaven with joy and hope. The Solemnity of the Assumption celebrates the truth that Mary, the Mother of God, "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." This is not just a celebration of Mary's destiny - it is a promise for us, too.

Mary's Assumption is a sign of what awaits all who remain faithful to God. She shares now in the fullness of the resurrection, which we too are called to enter. In her, we see the fulfilment of God's promise: that sin and death will not have the final word. Her glorification shows us that heaven is not an escape from earth, but the ultimate destiny of our redeemed humanity.

Mary, conceived without sin and full of grace, cooperated freely with God's plan. Her Assumption reminds us that our lives, too, have eternal significance when they are lived in union with Christ. Her life was one of quiet service, listening, trusting, and standing firm even at the foot of the Cross. Her reward, therefore, is eternal joy.

In our time - marked by uncertainty, conflict, and rapid change - the Assumption offers a message of hope and a challenge to faithfulness.

**1. Hope in the Face of Death:** We live in a world where death is often seen as the end. But Our Blessed Lady's Assumption tells us that death is a passage, not a final destination. In a time when many feel hopeless or disoriented, this feast reminds us that heaven is real and that our lives are going somewhere.

**2. Dignity of the Human Body:** In an age where the body is often misused, exploited, or dismissed, Mary's bodily assumption reveals the sacredness of the human person. Our bodies are not disposable—they are temples of the Holy Spirit, destined for resurrection.

**3. Call to Holiness:** Mary lived a simple, hidden life, but her "yes" to God changed the course of history. In a noisy, attention-seeking world, the Assumption reminds us that God values fidelity over fame, humility over recognition.

**4. Solidarity with the Poor and Forgotten:** Our Lady sang of how God "has lifted up the lowly" (Luke 1:52). Her Assumption is a sign that God exalts the humble. In this feast, we are called to stand with the poor, the suffering, and the forgotten—those whom God does not forget.

**5. A Mission of Peace and Reconciliation:** In our fractured world, Mary, Queen of Peace, calls us to be agents of unity, not division. Her Assumption invites us to rise above earthly disputes and live for the kingdom of God, where peace reigns.

The Feast of the Assumption is not a distant theological idea. It is a living reality that shapes how we view life, death, hope, and eternity. As we honour our Blessed Lady, let us also imitate her. Let us be faithful in prayer, courageous in love, and joyful in service.

May our Blessed Mother, now assumed into heaven, intercede for us and lead us ever closer to her Son. May we, like her, trust in God's promises and one day share fully in the glory of the Resurrection.



## Weekly Parish Schedule

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

**Sunday 10th August** *St Mary's Church will close after the 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 (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

**Monday 11th August** *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass & Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

**Tuesday 12th August**

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

**Wednesday 13th August**

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass & Novena to St Therese of Lisieux
- 10.00am** Church Cleaning

**Thursday 14th August**

- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass & Novena to St Joseph
- 6.30pm** Holy Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)

**Friday 15th August**

- 8.00am** Holy Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)
- 9.10am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am** Holy Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary's)

**Saturday 16th August** *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
- 4.30am** Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

**Sunday 17th August** *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am** Holy Mass for the 20th Sunday in ordinary Time (St Mary's)
- 11.15am** **St Mary's Annual BBQ**
- 12noon** Holy Mass for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm** Holy Mass for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



## St Mary's Parish BBQ

St Mary's Annual BBQ will take place on **Sunday 17th August 2025** after 10.30 Mass. The day will be packed with Children's entertainment, fire engine, balloon modelling, face-painting and lots more activities. 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.

*The BBQ is always a packed day of fun and excitement for all the family and we really hope to see you all there!!*

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



## Liturgical Calendar

**Monday 11th August, St Clare, Virgin & Religious** - Born at Assisi (Italy) in 1193 or 1194; died there on this day in 1253. From a well-to-do family, Clare embraced an evangelical way of life after hearing the preaching of Saint Francis of Assisi. Founded the order of the Poor Ladies, now the Poor Clares. Noted for her life of extreme poverty, austerity, contemplation, and charity.

**Wednesday 13th August, Ss Pontian and Hippolytus, Martyrs** - PONTIAN, Pope, and HIPPOLYTUS, Priest, died some time in the fourth century after mistreatment in exile and brought back to Rome for burial on this day. Honoured as seekers of the truth. Pontian: Bishop of his native Rome in 230 but exiled to Sardinia, where he abdicated the papacy during the persecution of the emperor Maximinus in 235. Hippolytus: A conservative theologian and presbyter who objected to the teaching of one pope and the election of the next and who, in 217, went into schism. Regarded as the author of the Apostolic Tradition, whose eucharistic prayer forms the basis of Eucharistic Prayer II in the Roman Missal.

**Thursday 14th August, St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr** - Born near Łódź (Poland) in 1894; died at Auschwitz Oswiecim on this day in 1941. A Conventual Franciscan priest. Used the printing press in Poland and in Japan to promote devotion to the Virgin Mary. Interned in Auschwitz in 1941, he endured hard labour and offered his life in place of a fellow prisoner who had a family. Condemned to death by starvation and finally killed by lethal injection. Noted for his energy and poverty, his compassionate ministry, and his self-sacrifice.

**Friday 15th August, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** - This feast originated in Jerusalem before the fifth century as the "Falling-Asleep of the Mother of God." It was adopted in Rome in the mid-seventh century and was renamed the "Assumption" in the next century. It celebrates Mary's passing over, body and soul, from this world into the glory of her risen Son.

### Scotland—Walk the Cross 2025

Calling the four nations, Ireland, Scotland, England & Wales, united under the Cross of Christ, to witness the Gospel by walking 33 miles, 1 mile for each year of Jesus' life, between Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th September 2025. Register interest by emailing [walkthecross33@gmail.com](mailto:walkthecross33@gmail.com)

[www.walkthecross.ie](http://www.walkthecross.ie)

### Deanery Mass

Bishop Toal will celebrate a Deanery Mass in the Wishaw Deanery as part of the Jubilee Year celebrations. The Mass will be in St Thomas' Church, Pather (ML2 0JH) on Thursday 11th September at 7pm. Everyone from across the Deanery is invited to attend this special celebration.



### National Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto 2025

This year's National Pilgrimage to Carfin Grotto will be on **Sunday 7th September**, with the Pilgrimage Mass at 3pm. In this Jubilee Year we will gather as "Pilgrims of Hope", with Archbishop Leo Cushley as main celebrant and preacher as he celebrated 40 years of priesthood. Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati will be canonised in Rome by the Holy Father on that same day. All are encouraged and welcome to attend Mass at Carfin.

### VJ Day - 80th Anniversary, Lanark

The Memorial Chapel, within the Memorial Hall, Lanark, will be open each day on Friday 15th August (VJ DAY) and Saturday 16th August 2025, from 11am to 3pm. Again, there will be an exhibition of personal stories/photos of some of the fallen, whose names are listed on the bronze plaques for WW2, a story of a local survivor of a Japanese POW camp and much more. (Photos/stories kindly donated by their families).

**There will be a 2 minute silence on Friday 15th August at 12 noon in the Memorial Chapel, Lanark....  
ALL WELCOME**

### Stop Assisted Suicide - Action Needed

The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September.

Right To Life UK has launched an Easy Action tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill.

Please take action now and visit  
[www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers)  
to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide -  
it takes just 30 seconds!



## Please Pray For The Following



**Recently Dead:** Peter Harrower Cleghorn  
Ronnie Reilly; Julie Semple; Gordon Allan;

**Months Minds & Anniversaries:** Gorgia Murray; Anna Marchall (Callaghan); Mary Jane Brennan;

*May their souls  
and the souls of all the faithful departed  
rest in peace. Amen.*

## The Assumption - Holyday of Obligation

Friday 15th August, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is a Holyday of Obligation, a day that all Catholics are asked to attend Mass. Extra Masses are available in the parish to encourage your attendance.

**Thursday 14th August: 6.30pm      Friday 15th August 8am (quick Mass); 9.30am Mass (School will attend)**

### St Mary's Primary School

Mrs Allen and all the Staff very much look forward to welcoming back the p2-p7 children on Thursday 14th August from 8.45am.

The whole school community is very excited to welcome the new p1 pupils to St Mary's Primary School on Thursday 14th August at 10am.

### Parish Organists

A big expense for many parishes is musicians; however, we are very lucky in St Mary's to have Katie, Siobhan and David who play the organ for us free of charge. We very much thank Katie, Siobhan and David for their service to our parish and thank them for sharing their gifts and talents with us. Thank you!!

## Gift Aid Claim

As you know, Gift Aid is a scheme that allows the parish to claim back 25p in every £1 donated by a UK Taxpayer, at no cost to the donor. This money is transformational for our parish's growth and future. Without the generosity of our parishioners St Mary's would not be the great parish it is today! This year we have received **£22,233.63** from our Gift Aid claim, and we take this opportunity to thank all those who are part of the Gift Aid Scheme. If you are a UK Taxpayer and not part of the Scheme, please consider joining; forms can be found in the stall and can be returned to the sacristy or put in the offertory collection with your next offering.

## Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£ 1,060.00
Standing Orders:	£ 425.00
Votives:	£ 160.00
Stall:	£ 55.00

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

Thank you *for your*  
*continued generosity*

## St Mary's Ministry Rota

### Readers:

<u>9th/10th August</u>	<u>23rd/24th August</u>
<b>5.00pm</b> C. Jackson	<b>5.00pm</b> R. McConnell
<b>10.30am</b> M. McCusker	<b>10.30am</b> R. Colpitts
<b>5.00pm</b> N. Donnelly	<b>5.00pm</b> M. Davis
<u>16th/17th August</u>	<u>30th/31st August</u>
<b>5.00pm</b> F. Chung	<b>5.00pm</b> G. Abernethy
<b>10.30am</b> E. McCabe	<b>10.30am</b> P. Roberts
<b>5.00pm</b> S. Casserly	<b>5.00pm</b> N. Donnelly

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<u>9th/10th August</u>	<u>23rd/24th August</u>
<b>5.00pm</b> F. McBride	<b>5.00pm</b> C. Scott
R. Sinton	S. Callaghan
<b>10.30am</b> G. Duddy	<b>10.30am</b> V. Hilland
A. Gillespie	M. Thompson
M. Keenan	B. Farrell
<u>16th/17th August</u>	<u>30th/31st August</u>
<b>5.00pm</b> A. Dempsey	<b>5.00pm</b> K. Bryce
J. McBride	A. McGowan
<b>10.30am</b> J. Littlejohn	<b>10.30am</b> C. Duddy
A. O'Neill	D. McFarlane
N. Keenan	I. Maxfield