



**ST MARY'S LANARK
ST ISIDORE'S BIGGAR
ST MARY MAGDALENE'S FORTH**



**ST ISIDORE'S BIGGAR &
ST MARY MAGDALENE'S
FORTH (ML11 8BB)**
6 Coulter Road
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Charity No - SC011041



PARISH CLERGY
Father John-Paul McShane
Father Thomas Devine

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1ST SUNDAY IN LENT
6th March 2022

The Hope of Lent

We might think that the hope of Lent has to do with our hope that we will get through it, that we will come to the end of it. We see Lent as an obstacle course we need to navigate in order to get to the great feast of Easter. But while the Lenten season is indeed preparation for our Easter celebration, the hope of this season is that we will find our lives transformed by the many ways we encounter God's Word, by the richness of the Scripture readings chosen to encourage, to challenge, to confront, to comfort. Focusing only on the end goal would cause us to miss so much along the way.



The greatest hope of Lent is the discovery that it's not only about penance, deprivation, spiritual struggles, and rooting out sin in our lives. Those are often the things we do during Lent. But the hope of Lent lies in what God does. From the beginning of his pontificate, Pope Francis has made mercy his hallmark. It's no surprise that he declared a special year dedicated to the contemplation of mercy.

Pope Francis wants us to realise that God's mercy and grace surround us not just in special times and places but always and everywhere. Lent is a time to discover the extraordinary in the ordinary, to be surprised by God's mercy when we least expect it. As the season begins, think about the hopes you have for Lent this year. Think about what changes you want to see in your life, in the world. Let the words of Pope Francis guide you on a journey of bringing those hopes to fulfillment.

People often remark on the way our churches are filled on Ash Wednesday. It's not a holy day of obligation. No one is required to attend Mass or receive blessed ashes. But there's something about the beginning of this season of Lent that draws us in, calls us to return to sanity, to a bit of austerity, to a change of heart and mind. It's a second chance at our new year's resolutions, long since broken and forgotten. It's a second chance at making changes in our lives. For some people, it's no less than a second chance at life. That something that draws us is God's grace. And it's drawing us back to God's merciful embrace.

There's something attractive about Lent beginning in the middle of an ordinary week, catching us in the midst of our daily occupations and asking us to take time out to find God there. Lent doesn't take us away from our ordinary lives, but rather it invites us to bring a new and holy attention to those activities. This should be the way with all of our spiritual practices. We take time apart in order to return to our daily activities with new inspiration. God will always surprise us with possibilities when we least expect them. Let this Lent be one of those surprises.



PRAYER



FASTING



ALMSGIVING

Livestream

Lenten Devotions, 10.30am Sunday Mass & weekday Masses from St Mary's are Livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

The 1pm Sunday Mass from Biggar Kirk is also Livestreamed on St Isidore's parish YouTube Channel.

Clydesdale Foodbank Collection

Thank you very much for your generosity last weekend to the Clydesdale Foodbank. We collected **£345** and **12 bags** of groceries. What a great contribution to our local community. God bless your continued generosity and support.

Liturgical Calendar

Monday 7th March Saint Perpetua & St Felicity -

Perpetua and Felicity (believed to have died in 203 AD) were Christian martyrs of the 3rd century. Vibia Perpetua was a married noblewoman, said to have been 22 years old at the time of her death, and mother of an infant she was nursing. Felicity, a slave imprisoned with her and pregnant at the time, was martyred with her. They were put to death along with others at Carthage in the Roman province of Africa, during the reign of Septimius Severus.

Tuesday 8th March St John of God -

Born in Portugal in 1495; died in Granada (Spain) on this day in 1550. At the age of about forty, he directed the energies of his spiritual conversion toward hospitality for the destitute and care of the sick. Noted for this ministry, which was continued by his followers, who became the Order of Brothers Hospitallers of Saint John of God.

Thursday 10th March St John Ogilvie -

John Ogilvie was born of noble Calvinist parents in 1579 at Drum-na-Keith in Banffshire, Scotland. As a boy he was sent to the continent to further his education. With the help of Father Cornelius van den Steen ('Cornelius a Lapide') he was received into the Catholic Church. He entered the Society of Jesus on the 5th November 1599, and was ordained priest at Paris in 1610. He returned to his native country, but his ministry was cut short by his betrayal and capture in Glasgow. After extreme suffering he was hanged on the 10th of March 1615. The principal cause of his martyrdom was his insistence on the primacy of the Pope in spiritual matters, a primacy he affirmed with great constancy to the very end. His last words were "If there be here any hidden Catholics, let them pray for me but the prayers of heretics I will not have." After he was pushed from the ladder, he threw his hidden Rosary beads out into the crowd. One of his enemies caught them, and he became a devout Catholic for the rest of his life.

St Isidore's Parish Consultation With Bishop Toal

Bishop Toal will visit the parish of St Isidore's on **Sunday 13th March**. He will celebrate Holy Mass in Biggar Kirk and then he will carry out a consultation meeting with the parishioners of St Isidore's.

The meeting will be structured in an orderly manner and will cover a variety of points in regards to the future of St Isidore's parish, as we look to recover from Covid-19 and how best serve the Catholic community in Biggar and surrounding areas.

An agenda will be composed for the meeting. If you would like an item added to the agenda please email Fr John-Paul (frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk) **before Friday 11th March**. The agenda will be followed with great care and all points covered.

Ukraine Collection

Next weekend there will be a second collection at all Masses to support the SCIAF Emergency Fund for Ukraine. The collection will be taken up immediately after the distribution of Holy Communion. You can also support Ukrainian refugees by donating the following items at Masses next weekend: new sleeping bags, non perishable foodstuff, and paracetamol in unopened packaging. Thank you for your help!!

The Synod In Our Parish

SHARING RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR COMMON MISSION:

Every baptised person is called to use their natural and supernatural gifts and talents to participate in the life and missionary service of the Church.

Do we understand what this means?

What stops us from giving our gifts and talents to the Church?

How does the Church community support its members who serve society in various ways (social and political involvement, scientific research, education, promoting social justice, protecting human rights, caring for the environment etc.)?

<https://youtu.be/7NNDFWehO7s>

If you would like further details or you would like another opportunity to share your thoughts, then please speak to our Parish Coordinators; Gillean McCluskey 07854012277 or Frances Spence 07796388240.



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead: Marion Renton Beechgrove Care Home
Bernadette McCarthy; Agnes McKee (Wishaw); Nessie McKenna (Mother of Deacon Harry McKenna, Chaplain to Wishaw General Hospital); Bridget Hume (Derry); L. Fitzsimon; Joseph Craig; George Devlin.

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Joseph Doolan; Stuart Gordon.

Funeral Arrangements: Marion Renton Reception & Rosary: Tuesday 8th March 7pm
Requiem Mass: Wednesday 9th March 9.30am

Bernadette McCarthy Rite of Committal: Tuesday 8th March 1.30pm
West Linton Cemetery

Monday Club

The Monday Club Committee would like to inform you, that after several weeks of absence due to Covid-19 omicron variant, the Monday Club will resume on Monday 7th March.

Change In Personnel

After two years as Clubrooms Manager, Shona has decided to step down. We thank Shona for all the wonderful work she did, and all her efforts promoting the Clubrooms, and making it run so smoothly!! We would also like to note all the great work done by Shona and Kathleen during the Covid pandemic, keeping the parish running smoothly, and also too keeping in regular contact with parishioners.

We are glad to announce Angela as the new Clubrooms Manager, and we thank her for taking on this role and assure her of our support. If you have any queries, or you would like to book the Clubrooms, please email Angela direct - theclubrooms@outlook.com

Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 1,238.00

Standing Orders: £ 179.00

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ 123.95

Standing Orders: £ 60.00

(Including St Mary Magdalene's)

St Mary Magdalene's

Offertory Collection: £ -----

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

For those who wish to pay Bank Transfer or Standing Order please find the relevant details below.

St Marys Mission RCDM 80-17-02 00265809

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

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

5th/6th March

5.00pm R. McConnell

10.30am R. Colpitts

5.00pm M. Davis

19th/20th March

5.00pm E. Haetzman

10.30am S. Watson

5.00pm M. Davis

12th/13th March

5.00pm G. Abernethy

10.30am P. Roberts

5.00pm S. Casserly

26th/ 27th March

5.00pm J. Moynagh

10.30am J. Russell

5.00pm S. Casserly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5th/6th March

5.00pm A. Dempsey

C. Scott

10.30am J. Wilson

C. Duddy

19th/20th March

5.00pm P. Freel

J. McEwan

10.30am P. Cunningham

A. Cruikshank

12th/13th March

5.00pm J. McClafferty

M. Davis

10.30am G. Duddy

T. Mullen

26th/27th March

5.00pm M. Keenan

P. Stewart

10.30am J. McAlavey

M. Keenan

Weekly Parish Schedule

Sunday 6th March

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
11.15am **Coffee Morning (St Mary's Clubrooms)**
1.00pm Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday in Lent (Biggar Kirk)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the 1st Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)
6.00pm Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)

Monday 7th March - **St Mary's opened from 9am until 7.30pm**

- 9.10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am (St Mary's)
9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to St Joseph - Week 8 (St Mary's)
12noon Angelus & Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)
6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6.55pm (St Mary's)
6.30pm Confession until 6.55pm (St Mary's)
7.00pm Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Tuesday 8th March

- 8.30am Holy Mass St Mary's Primary School (Children Only)
10.00am Stations of the Cross (St Mary Magdalene's)
10.30am Holy Mass (St Mary Magdalene's)
11.30am Confessions until 11.55am (St Mary's)
11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
12noon Angelus & Holy Mass (St Mary's)
7.00pm **Reception and Rosary of Marion Renton (St Mary's)**

Wednesday 9th March

- 9.10am Stations of the Cross (St Mary's)
9.30am **Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Marion Renton (St Mary's)**
10.15am Around the Lenten Circle - Faith Sharing Group (Cargill Club)
7.00pm Stations of the Cross (Livestream Only)
7.00pm **Weekly Rosary Group (Zoom: ID 828 0546 0960 Passcode 638016)**

Thursday 10th March

- 8.30am Holy Mass St Mary's Primary School (Children Only)
9.10am Morning Prayer of the Church (St Mary's)
9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
10.00am Holy Mass (St Catherine's)
7.30pm **Choir Rehearsal (St Mary's Clubrooms)**

Friday 11th March

- 9.00am Confession until 9.25am (St Mary's)
9.10am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Divine Mercy Chaplet (St Mary's)
9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 12th March

- 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)
4.15pm Confessions until 4.50pm (St Mary's)
5.00pm **Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)**

Sunday 13th March

- 8.30am **Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary Magdalene's)**
9.00am **Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Lent (St Mary Magdalene's)**
10.30am **Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)**
1.00pm **Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Lent (Biggar Kirk)**
5.00pm **Holy Mass for the 2nd Sunday in Lent (St Mary's)**
6.00pm **Evening Prayer of the Church and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (St Mary's)**