

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

frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk

St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings: 07300857616

Saint Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07565396878

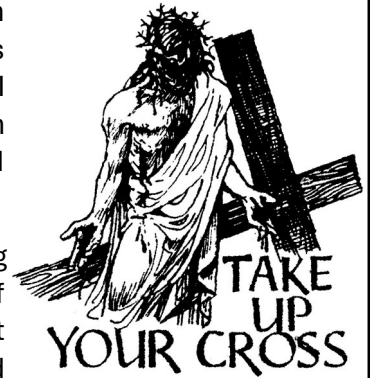
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th October 2025

The Sacraments: Suffering Made Sacred

We turn to the saints to hold our petitions close to their hearts and to intercede on our behalf in tough times. However, the lives of the saints also provide the means by which we can understand Christ's Passion and suffering. Pope Benedict XVI taught us that Christ suffered with "infinite love". How do we reconcile love with suffering in our lives and in the lives of our family and friends? The paths travelled by three saints show us the way.

St Bernadette of Lourdes' concealment of her physical and emotional suffering was not in an effort to deny or minimise her struggles. Instead, it was her way of offering her pain to God. Following a diagnosis of tuberculosis in her right knee, St Bernadette suffered further complications which caused difficulty eating and extreme pain. She was confined to bed in the last years of her life and continued to be inspired by her visions of the Virgin Mary. Her conscientiousness for those who cared for her makes St Bernadette's journey even more remarkable.



The visible wounds of Christ (stigmata) appeared on **St Pio of Pietrelcina's** body without warning and with great physical pain. Wounds appeared on St Pio's hands, feet and side. These marks brought agony but also scrutiny and doubt from those around St Pio. In the face of scepticism, St Pio accepted his suffering quietly and turned to prayer. When asked about his suffering, St Pio commented that to be on the cross with Jesus is "infinitely more perfect than merely contemplating Him on the cross".

St Rita of Cascia asked Christ to allow her to share in His' suffering. St Rita faced resistance to her wish to join the Monastery of St Mary Magdalene due to a rivalry between two local families. She encouraged peace between them. Thereafter, she began to live in accordance with the teachings of the Order of Augustine. Christ answered St Rita's prayer to partake in His suffering. A wound appeared on St Rita's forehead. This is described as the piercing of a thorn, similar to the crown of thorns which pierced Christ's brow. In the hillside gardens of Roccaporena, near Cascia, there is a powerful depiction of St Rita's suffering. The sculpture shows St Rita being handed a rose towards the end of her life. Accounts tell us that St Rita asked her relative to go out and pick a rose from the gardens. It was winter and the hills were covered in a blanket of snow. However, St Rita knew that her suffering would bring her closer to God. Her faith was rewarded. There, under the snow, was a single rose.

Three saints of different ages, genders and backgrounds. Three saints who took different, yet at times similar, approaches to suffering. Three saints who show us that bearing suffering with "infinite love" will bring us closer to God. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross did not bring an end to suffering in the world. However, in dying, He allowed us to suffer as He did. When we ask how we can put this into practice, at times when suffering affects not only our lives but the lives of those around us, let us pray to **St Bernadette, St Pio** and **St Rita** for their strength, humility and inspiration.

JF McBride

Weekly Parish Schedule

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

Sunday 19th October *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

10.30am Holy Mass for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Monday 20th October *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary

9.30am Holy Mass

Tuesday 21st October

10.00am Holy Mass (St Catherine's)

11.30am Confessions until 11.55am

11.40am Recitation of the Holy Rosary

12noon Angelus & Holy Mass

Wednesday 22nd October

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary

9.30am Holy Mass

Thursday 23rd October

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary

9.30am Holy Mass

7.30pm **The Choir of St Mary's Weekly Rehearsal (Clubrooms)**

Friday 24th October

9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary

9.30am Holy Mass

Saturday 25th October *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 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 26th October *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

10.30am Holy Mass for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

12noon Holy Mass for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Holy Trinity)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)



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.*



Missio Sunday - 19th October

Mission and evangelisation are at the very heart of the Church's identity and purpose. The month of October is dedicated in a special way to promoting and supporting the Church's missionary work. This emphasis is particularly close to the heart of Pope Leo, who himself served as a missionary in Peru.

To support the work of Missio Scotland, a second collection will be taken up at all Masses on weekend 18th/19th October.

Christmas Stock - St Mary's Stall

St Mary's Stall is stocked with a variety of cards and gifts for sale, including some homemade cards. Please try to keep Christ in Christmas by purchasing religious Christmas cards and having Masses offered for your loved ones, and if you don't have one already, purchasing a crib for your home.



Month of the Holy Rosary

The month of October is traditionally dedicated to praying the rosary. Please set aside some time each day to pray the rosary either as an individual, by joining us at St Mary's each morning, or as a family. Pope Leo asks all Catholics to pray the rosary daily during October for peace in our world.



November - Month of the Holy Souls

November is the month traditionally dedicated to praying for the Holy Souls; those men, women and children who have gone before us in faith, helping them pass through purgatory and reach the eternal joys of heaven.

During November Holy Mass will be offered each day for all those names contained in our November Lists, which will be placed before our altar. Lists are available at the back of the church and once completed can be handed into the sacristy, placed in the 'November List' box at the Lady Altar or placed in the collection basket with your weekly offering.



St Andrew's National Jubilee Pilgrimage

A National Pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year has been organised for Saturday, 25th October to St Andrews and Dunfermline.

The coach will leave Motherwell Cathedral at 9:00 am and return about 9:30 pm. The cost is £35 per person, including fish and chips after Vigil Mass in St Margaret's, Dunfermline.

For further details, please email
j.mckelvie@holyyear2025.org.uk
or phone 07957 847290.



Diocese of Motherwell Justice & Peace Group

The Diocesan group is meeting on Thursday 30th October. Starting with Mass at 7pm in the Cathedral at which they will sign the Prisoners' Week Charter - all are welcome to attend the Mass and the meeting!



At the meeting in the Diocesan Centre afterwards, they will explore how to support Prisoners' Week, reflect on events in the Holy Land following Fr Colm Martin's pilgrimage, and agree what they are going to do further to promote Catholic Social Teaching.

Liturgical Calendar

Wednesday 22nd October, Pope St John Paul II - Karol Józef Wojtyła (1920-2005) served as Pope of the Catholic Church from 1978 to 2005. He was the second longest-serving pope in history after Pope Pius IX, who served for nearly 32 years (1846-1878). He helped to end Communist rule in Poland and eventually all of Europe. Doctrinally conservative, he quelled dissent on controversial issues such as artificial contraception and the ordination of women, but strongly emphasised the universal call to holiness.. He canonised 483 saints, more than all of his predecessors combined. He was beatified in 2011 by his successor Pope Benedict XVI and canonised in 2014 by Pope Francis.

Thursday 23rd October, St John Capistrano - Born in Capistrano (Italy) in 1386; died on this day in 1456 at Ilok (Croatia). Though a married man and governor of Perugia, he decided to join the Friars Minor and was released from his marriage vows. Professed as a Franciscan at the age of thirty and ordained a presbyter three years later. A successful preacher, committed Franciscan reformer, zealous inquisitor in Vienna, and spiritual leader of a victorious crusade against the Ottoman forces. Noted for his preaching and austerity of life.

Friday 24th October, St Anthony Claret, Bishop - Born in Sallent (Spain) in 1807; died in exile in France on this day in 1870. Spent more than a decade preaching missions and retreats in Catalonia, and founded a religious institute, later known as the Claretians, for this work. Was appointed archbishop of Santiago (Cuba) where he aroused opposition for his spiritual and social reforms and for championing the rights of the indigenous peoples. Finally, as chaplain to Queen Isabella II, drew the arts and sciences into his missionary endeavour. Noted for his work of religious renewal through the spoken and printed word.



Please Pray For The Following



Recently Dead: Betty Woods; Ian Brown Snr (Carstairs); Angela McManus; Peter Mcatamney (Motherwell); Andrew McKenzie (Australia); John Burns (Hamilton);

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Dick McKeown (Hamilton); Anna Clemmitt (Kent); Betty Woods; Paul Halloran; Joseph Scott; Kate Hanlon; William & Ella Ritchie; Jim Reid; Michael Healy; Daniel Kennedy; Mary Murray;

Prayers for the Dead: The Church has always urged the faithful to pray for those who have died, particularly by having Holy Mass offered for the repose of their soul. Pope Francis described this as, 'the best spiritual help that we can give to their souls, particularly the most abandoned ones.' If you would like Mass offered for the repose of the soul of a loved one please write their name on an envelope with the Mass offering enclosed and give it to Fr John-Paul or hand it into the sacristy or post it through the chapel house letterbox.

300 Club: July, August & September Winners

Week 6th July: **283**

Week 13th July: **194**

Week 20th July: **267**

Week 27th July: **32**

Week 3rd August: **220**

Week 10th August: **166**

Week 17th August: **203**

Week 24th August: **39**

Week 31st August: **200**

Week 7th September: **24**

Week 14th September: **212**

Week 21st September: **68**

Week 28th September: **42**

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

St Mary's 300 Club Subscription

Thank you to all those who have taken out new subscriptions for the 300 Club, and to all those who have now set up a Standing Order through the bank. Once again, thank you for your continued financial support to our parish, it is very much appreciated!

For those still interested in setting up a Standing Order bank details are as follows:

St Mary's Lanark 80-12-97 10246763

Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations: £ 1,135.00

Standing Orders: £ 118.50

Votives: £ 175.00

Stall: £ 350.00

St Marys Mission RCDM

80-17-02 00265809

Thank you for your
continued generosity

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

18th/19th October

5.00pm A. Haetzman

10.30am R. Colpitts

5.00pm S. Casserly

25th/26th October

5.00pm J. McBride

10.30am P. Roberts

5.00pm M. Davis

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

18th/19th October

5.00pm J. McBride

R. Sinton

10.30am G. Duddy

A. Gillespie

M. Keenan

25th/26th October

5.00pm A. Dempsey

F. McBride

10.30am J. Littlejohn

A. O'Neill

N. Keenan