



Saint Mary's Parish Lanark

4th Sunday of Easter

26th April 2026



Good Shepherd Sunday

Good Shepherd Sunday invites us to pause and listen for a voice that is often drowned out by the noise of daily life—the voice of Christ, who calls each person by name. In the Gospel, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who knows his sheep intimately and lays down his life for them. This image is not distant or abstract; it is personal and immediate. It reminds us that our faith is not simply about belonging to a crowd, but about being known, loved, and called.

Every year, this Sunday also draws our attention to vocations, especially to the priesthood. The priest stands in the midst of the community as a visible sign of Christ the Good Shepherd—guiding, nourishing, and caring for God's people. Yet priests do not appear out of nowhere. They are called from among us: from our families, our parishes, our ordinary lives. The voice of the Shepherd continues to speak, but it requires hearts willing to listen and respond.

Encouraging vocations begins not with recruitment strategies, but with prayer. Prayer creates the space where God's call can be heard and recognised. When we pray for vocations, we are not simply asking for more priests; we are asking that individuals have the courage to say “yes” to whatever God is asking of them. It is a prayer of trust—that God continues to provide shepherds for his people—and a prayer of openness—that we as a community will support and nurture those who are called.

It is also worth reflecting on how we each contribute to a culture where vocations can flourish. Do we speak positively about the priesthood? Do we encourage young people to consider that God may be calling them to something greater than they had imagined? Do we show, by our own commitment to faith, that a life given to God is a life full of meaning and joy? These quiet, everyday witness moments matter more than we might think.

For those who may feel even the faintest stirring of a call, Good Shepherd Sunday is a gentle invitation not to ignore it. God's call is rarely loud or overwhelming; more often, it is persistent and patient. It may come as a sense of restlessness, a desire to serve, or a deep attraction to the things of God. Bringing that feeling to prayer, and speaking with someone you trust, can be the first step toward clarity.

As we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, let us pray with sincerity and hope: that the Lord of the harvest will send labourers into his vineyard, and that those he calls will have the courage to respond. And may all of us, in our own vocations, learn to recognise and follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.



Holy Week Parish Schedule

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

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

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter (Holy Trinity)
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 4th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

Monday 27th April *St Mary's Church will be opened Monday - Friday from 8am until 3pm*

- 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am
- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

Tuesday 28th April

- 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 29th April

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass

Thursday 30th April

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to St Joseph
- 7.30pm **St Mary's Choir Weekly Rehearsal (St Mary's Clubrooms)**

Friday 1st May

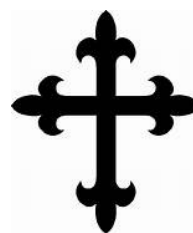
- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to St Agatha

Saturday 2nd May *St Mary's Church will open at 8am and close after the 5pm Mass*

- 9.00am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9.25am
- 9.00am Confessions until 9.25am
- 9.30am Holy Mass
- 4.30pm Recitation of the Holy Rosary
- 4.30pm Confessions until 4.50pm
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)

Sunday 3rd May *St Mary's Church will close after the 5pm Mass*

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)
- 11.15am **Monthly Coffee Morning (Clubrooms)**
- 12noon Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (Holy Trinity)
- 12.35pm **Monthly Light Bite (Holy Trinity)**
- 5.00pm Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday of Easter (St Mary's)



Parish Weekly Finances

Offertory Collection & Donations:	£ 1,560.00
Standing Orders:	£ 430.00
Votives:	£ 150.00
Stall:	£ 50.00



Quiz Night Friday 15th May 7pm

St Mary's Social Committee are hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 15th May 2026.
The Clubrooms will open at 7pm with Quiz starting at 7.30pm.

If you are planning to enter a team, please can you let a member of the social committee know. Entry price is £2.00 per person. Maximum number in team is 6 people. The Bar will be open for refreshments.



Building Fund Collection

Thank you to everyone who so generously gave to our first Building Fund Collection last weekend. **£1,640** (including a £500 donation) was gifted.

The Building Fund Collection will be used for future maintenance and repairs of St Mary's campus. Our next Building Fund Collection will be weekend 6th/7th June.

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 marked 'FOODBANK'.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity to the foodbank. Over 50% of what is donated to Clydesdale Foodbank is used in Lanark.

Holy Trinity Singing Mass Parts

The community of St Isidore's has a rich musical history spanning decades, encouraged and enhanced by the wonderful dedication of Kathleen Tawse. As we continue to build upon this tradition and history, the Mass Parts will be sung at Sunday Mass. Margaret will teach us the simple Missal Setting over the next few weeks. It is quite simple and easy to pick up.

As St Augustine said, "To sing is to pray twice."

Communion & Confirmation Dates

This year's First Holy Communion for St Mary's Primary School will take place on Saturday 9th Mass at 11am. Confirmation for the children of St Mary's Primary School will be celebrated on Tuesday 2nd June at 7pm.

Bishop Toal will visit Holy Trinity Chapel on Sunday 21st June at 12noon to celebrate the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Vocations to the Priesthood

Vocations Evening on **Sunday 26th April** in Cathedral House (ML1 1PP) beginning at **7.30pm** and is open to young men who are considering a vocation to the priesthood. This is an enquiry evening for young men to gather and share with one another as they discern whether they have a vocation.

Any man who is considering a calling/vocation to the priesthood in the Diocese of Motherwell should make himself known in the first instance to his Parish Priest. His contact details will then be forwarded to the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Charles O'Farrell. If anyone wishes to receive information or encouragement about discerning their vocation, contact can be made with Fr O'Farrell at frofarrell@rcdom.org.uk

300 Club: March Winners

Week 1st March: **21** Week 8th March: **268** Week 15th March: **41**
Week 22nd March: **70** Week 29th March: **48**

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 emailing Kathleen who will then supply you with a lucky number: stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk

St Mary's Ministry Rota

Readers:

<u>25th/26th April</u>		<u>9th/10th May</u>	
5.00pm	T. Coia	5.00pm	J. McBride
10.30am	R. Colpitts	10.30am	J. Angus
5.00pm	N. Donnelly	5.00pm	S. Casserly
<u>2nd/3rd May</u>		<u>16th/17th May</u>	
5.00pm	A. Haetzman	5.00pm	C. Jackson
10.30am	A. Servers	10.30am	P. Roberts
5.00pm	M. Davis	5.00pm	N. Donnelly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<u>25th/26th April</u>		<u>9th/10th May</u>	
5.00pm	K. Bryce	5.00pm	F. McBride
	A. McGowan		R. Sinton
10.30am	V. Hilland	10.30am	K. Lawrence
	M. Thompson		J. McFarlane
	B. Farrell		M. Russell
<u>2nd/3rd May</u>		<u>16th/17th May</u>	
5.00pm	C. Callaghan	5.00pm	A. Dempsey
	M. Keenan		J. McBride
10.30am	C. Duddy	10.30am	G. Duddy
	I. Maxfield		A. Gillespie
	J. Russell		M. Keenan



Holy Trinity Chapel

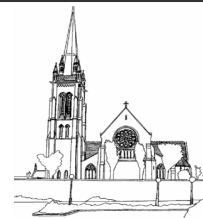
Lamington
Biggar
ML12 6HW



Parish Priest

Father John-Paul McShane

St Mary's Church
70 Bannatyne Street
Lanark ML11 7JS
01555 662234
frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk



St Mary's

70 Bannatyne Street
Lanark
ML11 7JS
stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk
Charity No - SC011041

St Mary's Clubrooms Bookings: 07300857616

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 07565396878



Please Pray For The Following



Recently Dead: Clare McCool Armadale Road

Sr Anna McBride DC; Professor Judith Champ (Birmingham); John David Taggart; Councillor Lesley McDonald; Hugh Gilluley (Hamilton); Lilly Ralston Kilpatrick (Doncaster);

Months Minds & Anniversaries: Frank Coia; Terry Kelly; Owen Dempsey; James Kelly; Evelyn Grant Quinn; Gordon James; Frank Brady;

Easter Remembrances

Bishop Frank Thomson; Bishop Joseph Devine; Father Joseph Brannigan; Father Paddy Hughes; All Deceased Members of The Vincentian Fathers; All Deceased Members of The Daughter's of Charity; Canon Willie Dunnachie; Father Damien Gilhooley; Fr John Breslin; Canon Giles Goward; Father David Mellor; Jim McShane; John & Mary McShane; Rosemary McShane MacIntyre; Charlie McShane; John McShane; Frank McMahan; Annie & Arthur Lenagh; Hughie & Mary McShane; McShane Family; McGuire Family; Lenagh Family; McMahan Family; Kate & William Campbell; Bernie & Jim McEwan; Campbell Family; McCafferty Family; McEwan Family; James E. Reid; Gerry Wyllie; Wyllie Family; Deerin Family; Mary McFarlane; Therese Martin; John Skeffington; Joe & Betty McLeish; Peter Brannan; Edgar Family; Peter Skelly; Grace McGregor; Thomas & Helen Lamb; Thomas Lamb Jnr; Lamb Family; McGuigan Family; William & Sarah Dunnachie; Dunnachie Family; Michael Pavilonis; Cathy Gallagher; Tony Murphy; Lisa Katherine McAlavey; John McAlavey; Blanche McAlavey; Gerard Mays Snr; Gerard Mays Jnr; Brian Mays; Susan Mays; John O'Neill; Agnes Foley (McKendrick); John (Johnny) Foley; Joseph foley; Agnes Foley (McGuinness); Emilio & Cesarina Coia; Coia Family; Ungaretti Family; Giuseppe Molinaro; Owen, Margaret & John Dempsey; John & Marion Renton; Betty & Joe Woods; James, Clare & Evelyn O'Leary; Jimmy & Saddle Littlejohn; Frances, Monica & Anthony Cassidy; Lisa Geddes; Vera & Johnny Livingstone; Peter & Eleonore De-Schuster; Marion & Dan O'Donnell; Matt & Peggy Reilly; Betty, Wullie & John Thomson; Ann & Alasdair MacDonald; Teresa & Bill McArdle; Matt & Betty Reilly; Marjory Reilly; Jim Anderson; Bill & Annie Gebbie; Martha & Tam Smith; Sarah & Jimmy McEwan; Paisley Family; John, Mary & James Donnelly; Mary & Tommy Cavanagh; James & Rose Kelly; Pat & Joe McGarrigle; Gerry McGarrigle; McGarrigle Family; Dean Family; Margaret, John & Bobby Dykes; Ron Meldrum; Eileen Prior; Janette Irvine; May Quinn; David Tinto; Catherine & Daniel Stewart; Jean & Jimmy Meldrum; McConville Family (Shotts); Deceased members of the Choir of St Mary's; Mary, Jim & Michael McLaughan; Mary, Bill & Stephen Murray; Anne & John Boyle; Lizanne Inglis; Edward Hanlon; Kate Hanlon; Anne Lindsay; Archie Lindsay; Mary Sheely; Michael Sheely; Kate Nevin & Brothers; Rodger McConnell; Bernard & Rose Scott; Beverley & Alan Milliken; John, Annie, Liam & Janes McConnell; Noone Family; Dowds Family; Farrell Family; David Tinto; Rosemary McManus; Francis & Grace McManus; Francis McManus Jnr; Willie Connor; Iain Connor; Mark Stewart; Thomas Cloonan; Cecilia Cloonan; Mark Cloonan; Cloonan Family; Rotherham Family; Jim Callaghan; Anna Marshall; Agnes and Alice Bamford; Callaghan Family (Sligo); Karen Reilly; John Reilly Jnr; Betty Hutchison; Thomas McNulty; Christina McNulty; Nora Byers; John Byers; Rosina Baird; Babay Luca Gunning; James Tait; Mary Tait; Eileen McLeod; Nicholas Lambert; Rose Lambert; Bridget Lambert; Sandy McLean; Mary McLean; Catherine McLean; Jessie Clark; Frank Mackie; Susan Mackie; Graham Munro; Leah Welsh; Albert Welsh; Morton Family; Peter & Susan Mulligan; Joe McAllister; Bridget Donnelly; Fox Family; Harvey Family; Thomas, Molly & James McKeown; Paul Halloran; Halloran Family; Helen, Robert, Dennis, May & Veronica Quinn; Mr & Mrs Brady; John & Bridget Callaghan; John Doolan; Henry Doolan; Jane Doolan; Oliver Family; Small Family; Liz Rae; Eleanor Douglas; James McCardie; Arthur Christie; Jessica & John Christie; Rina & Jimmy Travers; Mary & John Christie; Evelyn Grant Quinn; Lilly Grant; Blanche McCabe;