



**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  
Biggar  
ML12 6EP  
stisidore@rcdom.org.uk  
Charity No - SC011041

**PARISH CLERGY**  
Father John-Paul McShane  
Father Thomas Devine  
St Mary's Church  
70 Bannatyne Street  
Lanark ML11 7JS  
01555 662234

**ST MARY'S LANARK**  
70 Bannatyne Street  
Lanark  
ML11 7JS  
01555 662234  
stmarylanark@rcdom.org.uk  
Charity No - SC011041

**5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
6th February 2022**

**A Foretaste Of Heaven**



Our loving reception of the Lord in the Eucharist is the most intimate way in which the Trinity allow us to taste heaven on earth. This precious sacrament truly is the "pledge of future glory."

St. John Paul II describes with heartfelt emotion how we are raised to heaven when we are present at Mass, as we "become part of that great multitude which cries out: 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!' (Rev. 7:10)." As we are raised to heaven, heaven itself comes down to us. Indeed, the sacrament of the Eucharist, the most wondrous fruit of the Mass, is the sweetest taste and "glimpse of heaven on earth."

In writing about her first Holy Communion, St. Thérèse tells us that "all the joy of Heaven" entered her heart when she received the Lord. Unable to hold back her tears, she realized that when she received the Lord in the Eucharist, "heaven itself" was in her soul.

St. Thomas Aquinas, too, tenderly contemplates the power of the Eucharist to raise us to heaven and to enable us to live in heaven here on earth. The Eucharist is the greatest of all the sacraments, the culmination and purpose of every other sacrament, precisely because in it we receive the precious Body and Blood of God the Son.

Because Jesus is "the Resurrection and the Life" (John 11:25), the Eucharist is the very cause of our eternal life in heaven: "Whoever eats of this Bread will live forever" (John 6:51).

Since the Lord is the font of all grace (John 1:16), devoutly receiving the Eucharist also deepens sanctifying grace and charity within us, "inebriating" us with heavenly delight. Meditating on the Scriptural words that "blood and water came out" of the pierced side of the crucified Lord (John 19:34), St. Thomas Aquinas reiterates the sentiments of St. John Chrysostom: "When you draw near to the awe-inspiring chalice, approach as if you were going to drink from Christ's own side."

Another wonderful effect of the Eucharist is a deepening in our souls of a profound spiritual delight and "sweetness" that allow us to taste heavenly joy even now: "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (Ps. 34:8). This deep contentment, even in the midst of trials, continues after we receive the Eucharist and especially can be savored when we spend time in adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

St. John Paul II tells us of his own intimate experience: "It is pleasant to spend time with him, to lie close to his breast like the beloved disciple (John 13:25) and to feel the infinite love present in his heart." The pope reminds us of how much every one of us truly needs this time in adoration and love before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. "How often, dear brothers and sisters, have I experienced this, and drawn from it strength, consolation and support!"

## **Covid Update - St Mary's**

### ***Track & Trace***

As advised by the Diocesan Covid Coordinator we are now in a position to cease our current track & trace system. Therefore, when you attend Mass you will not be asked for your personal details or Parish Number, but you may wish to use the QR code to check-in, as is advised for visitors. We do kindly ask that you retain your Parish Number Card, just as a precaution if required in the future.

### ***Offertory Collection***

As we steadily return to normality in the Church, the weekly offertory collection will be reintroduced this weekend. The offertory collection will be taken up at the appropriate time, and will be carried out by the on duty pass-keepers. Once again thank you for your continued generosity, and to all those who have subscribed to using the Standing Order scheme.

### ***Bidding Prayers***

Bishop Toal has encouraged that a full Liturgy of the Word is proclaimed, and therefore in a few weeks time we will reintroduce Prayers of the Faithful, which take place at the end of the Creed.

### ***Offertory Procession***

Within the next few weeks we will also see the return of the Offertory Procession. This is an important part of the Liturgy of the Eucharist and symbolises our offerings to the Lord, the bread and wine to be consecrated into the Eucharist. We hope that you will be kind enough to accept the invitation if a pass-keeper ask you to take part in the Offertory Procession.

### ***Sacrament of Confession***

Bishop Toal has now advised all parishes to offer regular times for the Sacrament of Confession. Again, within the next few weeks we will look to reintroduce the Sacrament of Confession, and will update you with times and procedures once they have been agreed.

### ***Eucharistic Adoration***

As we now start to look beyond Covid and introduce more devotions to the parish, we propose some time of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This will most probably happen prior to Mass and last 25 mins, all going well, this will begin in Lent.

### ***RCIA***

Bishop Toal has now advised all parishes to return to face-to-face meetings, and therefore we are looking to restart RCIA. On returning from his annual leave, Fr John-Paul will call a meeting of those who are on the RCIA Leaders Group with the hope of restarting RCIA sessions in late February.

## **The Synod In Our Pariah**

The first step in walking together is to really listen to one another, without prejudice or personal agenda. When we can listen like this, we may hear God's voice speaking to us through other people. You are invited to consider the following questions:

How well do we listen, especially to people who have different views than our own?

How can we better listen to young people, women and minority groups?

<https://youtu.be/97UCeiWckHU>

The details of our next meeting are:

**Thursday 24th February 2022, 7pm-8.15pm, St Mary's Clubrooms, Lanark**

If you would be interested in this idea, or you would simply like more information on the Synod and what is happening in our parish, please speak to our Parish Coordinators; Gillean McCluskey 07854012277 or Frances Spence 07796388240.

## **St Mary's Children's Liturgy**

Children's Liturgy has restarted at 10:30am Sunday Mass, and all children aged 3 and older are most welcome. The focus during Children's Liturgy is how we can live our lives following the example of Jesus – we learn this through the Gospel readings.

## **Clydesdale Foodbank Collection**

Thank you very much for your generosity last weekend to the Clydesdale Foodbank. We collected **£340** and **16 bags** of groceries. What a great contribution to our local community. God bless your continued generosity and support.

## **Bulletin Announcements**

There will be no parish bulletin next weekend. However, any Anniversaries, Months Minds, or announcements will be included in the following week's bulletin, which will be published on Sunday 20th February.



## Please Pray For The Following:



**Recently Dead** - Anne Boyle Byretown Road, Kirkfieldbank.  
James Thomson (Fr Jim's dad); George Sloey; Michael Coyle.

**Months Minds & Anniversaries** - Father Joseph Brannigan; Monteith Family; Thomas Bowie; Jim McShane; John Donnelly.

**Funeral Arrangements** - Anne Boyle Requiem Mass: Friday 18th February 9.30am (St Mary's)

*Blessed are those who have died in the Lord,  
Let them rest from their labours,  
For their good deeds go with them.*

### 300 Club: January Winners

<i>Week 2nd January:</i>	<b>113</b>	<b>I. Graham</b>	<i>Week 9th January:</i>	<b>188</b>
<i>Week 16th January:</i>	<b>141</b>	<b>N. McShane</b>	<i>Week 23rd January:</i>	<b>205</b>
<i>Week 30th January:</i>	<b>44</b>	<b>S. Abernethy</b>		<b>M. Buchanan</b>

### The Clubrooms Email Address

If you are looking to hire St Mary's Clubrooms for a function, or you would like to book the Clubrooms on a regular basis, then please use the email address below.

**theclubrooms@outlook.com**

### Sacramental Enrolment Mass

The Sacramental Enrolment Mass for children receiving the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion in 2022 will take place on **Sunday 20th February at 10.30am**. All children, along with their parents, are invited to attend this Mass. Enrolment is the first step for a person being presented for the Sacraments and is not optional.

### Parish Finances

#### St Mary's

Offertory Collection:	£	1,006.00
Standing Orders:	£	240.00

#### St Isidore's

Offertory Collection:	£	130.00
Standing Orders:	£	140.00

*(Including St Mary Magdalene's)*

#### St Mary Magdalene's

Offertory Collection:	£	90.00
-----------------------	---	-------

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.

<b>St Marys Mission RCDM</b>	<b>80-17-02</b>	<b>00265809</b>
<b>Parish of St Isidore's</b>	<b>83-16-11</b>	<b>00235026</b>

### St Mary's Ministry Rota

#### Readers:

<b><u>5th/6th February</u></b>	<b><u>19th/20th February</u></b>
<b>5.00pm</b> G. Abernethy	<b>5.00pm</b> A. Haetzman
<b>10.30am</b> P. Roberts	<b>10.30am</b> J. Russell
<b>5.00pm</b> M. Davis	<b>5.00pm</b> M. Davis

<b><u>12th/13th February</u></b>	<b><u>26th/27th February</u></b>
<b>5.00pm</b> R. McConnell	<b>5.00pm</b> J. Moynagh
<b>10.30am</b> S. Watson	<b>10.30am</b> E. McCabe
<b>5.00pm</b> S. Casserly	<b>5.00pm</b> S. Casserly

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

<b><u>5th/6th February</u></b>	<b><u>19th/20th February</u></b>
<b>5.00pm</b> A. Dempsey	<b>5.00pm</b> M. Keenan
	P. Stewart
<b>10.30am</b> J. Wilson	<b>10.30am</b> P. Cunningham
	A. Cruikshank
	C. Duddy

<b><u>12th/13th February</u></b>	<b><u>26th/27th February</u></b>
<b>5.00pm</b> P. Freel	<b>5.00pm</b> T. Mullen
	C. McClafferty
<b>10.30am</b> G. Duddy	<b>10.30am</b> J. McAlavey
	M. Keenan
	T. Mullen

# Weekly Parish Schedule

## Sunday 6th February

10.30am Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday in ordinary Time (St Mary's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

## Monday 7th February

9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to St Joseph - Week 4 (St Mary's)

## Tuesday 8th February

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

## Wednesday 9th February

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

7.00pm Weekly Rosary Group (Zoom: ID 828 0546 0960 Passcode 638016)

## Thursday 10th February

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

7.30pm St Mary's Church Choir (St Mary's Clubrooms)

## Friday 11th February

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

## Saturday 12th February

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

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

## Sunday 13th February

10.30am Holy Mass for the 6th Sunday in ordinary Time (St Mary's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

*The 10.30am Sunday  
Mass & weekday  
Masses from St Mary's  
are Livestreamed on  
Facebook and YouTube.*

## Saturday 19th February

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

9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

## Sunday 20th February

10.30am Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

1.00pm Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Biggar Kirk)

5.00pm Holy Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

## Liturgical Calendar

**Tuesday 8th February** - Born in Venice (Italy) in 1486; died of the plague on this day in 1537 near Bergamo. An army officer who, after imprisonment, began a new life of service among the sick and destitute. Noted for his care and education of orphaned and homeless children, a ministry continued by the Somaschi, an order of clergy which he founded.

**Thursday 10th February St Scholastica** - Born at Norcia (Italy) about 480; died near Monte Cassino in the 540s. Like Saint Benedict, her brother and twin, she dedicated herself to God through the monastic life. Noted for her part in establishing Benedictine monasticism.

**Friday 11th February Our Lady of Lourdes** - Observed since 1907, this memorial celebrates the immaculate Virgin Mary as honoured in Lourdes (France). This site of apparitions to the young Bernadette Soubirous in 1858 has become a focus of devotion to Mary. It is a place of prayer and pilgrimage, of conversion and healing for Christians from every land.