



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



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



PARISH CLERGY
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7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
20th February 2022

Without love everything is in vain

Charity is a right attitude of mind which prefers nothing to the knowledge of God. If a man possesses any strong attachment to the things of this earth, he cannot possess true charity. For anyone who really loves God prefers to know and experience God rather than his creatures. The whole set and longing of his mind is ever directed towards him.

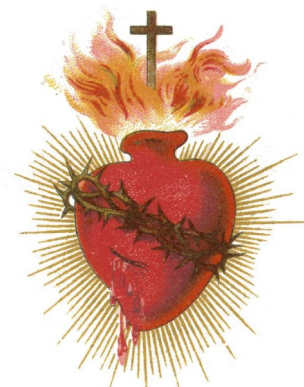
For God is far superior to all his creation, since everything which exists has been made by God and for him. And so, in deserting God, who is beyond compare, for the inferior works of creation, a man shows that he values God, the author of creation, less than creation itself.

The Lord himself reminds us: Whoever loves me will keep my commandments. And this is my commandment: that you love one another. So the man who does not love his neighbour does not obey God's command. But one who does not obey his command cannot love God. A man is blessed if he can love all men equally. Moreover, if he truly loves God, he must love his neighbour absolutely. Such a man cannot hoard his wealth. Rather, like God himself, he generously gives from his own resources to each man according to his needs.

Since he imitates God's generosity, the only distinction he draws is the person's need. He does not distinguish between a good man and a bad one, a just man and one who is unjust. Yet his own goodness of will makes him prefer the man who strives after virtue to the one who is depraved.

A charitable mind is not displayed simply in giving money; it is manifested still more by personal service as well as by the communication of God's word to others. In fact, if a man's service towards his brothers is genuine and if he really renounces worldly concerns, he is freed from selfish desires. For he now shares in God's own knowledge and love. Since he does possess God's love, he does not experience weariness as he follows the Lord his God. Rather, following the prophet Jeremiah, he withstands every type of reproach and hardship without even harbouring an evil thought towards any man.

For Jeremiah warns us: Do not say: "We are the Lord's temple." Neither should you say: "Faith alone in our Lord Jesus Christ can save me." By itself faith accomplishes nothing. For even the devils believe and shudder. No, faith must be joined to an active love of God which is expressed in good works. The charitable man is distinguished by sincere and long-suffering service to his fellow man: it also means using things aright.



A treatise on Charity by St Maximus the Confessor

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 Parish

We are invited to speak out boldly and responsibly.

What helps us to do this?

What prevents us from doing this?

How does the relationship with local media work (not only Catholic media)?

How well do we choose the people who speak on our behalf to the wider community?

<https://youtu.be/pSHHnlnsI5U>

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.

Sacramental Enrolment Mass

The Sacramental Enrolment Mass for children receiving the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion in 2022 will take place today, **Sunday 20th February at 10.30am**. Enrolment is the first step for a person being presented for the Sacraments and is not optional.

SCIAF Wee Boxes

Traditional SCIAF Wee Boxes are available at the back of the church, and can be returned before Easter or when full. Thank you in advanced for your continued support and generosity.

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



Please Pray For The Following:



Recently Dead - Sister Anna Teresa Roper DC; Anne Boyle; James Thomson Snr; Douglas Miller; George Sloey (Wishaw).

Months Minds & Anniversaries - Alys Rose Scott; Annie Main; Helena Lambert; Ella Lambert; Beverley Milliken; Margaret Scott; Mary Kennedy; Jock Craig; Rose James; Ron Meldrum; Janette Irvine; Bill Dowds; Patrick Grant; Lisa Geddes; Mary & Wilson Allison.

Sick Visits

Bishop Toal has now encouraged clergy to re-establish the tradition of visiting the sick and housebound in our parishes. Fr John-Paul very much looks forward to carrying out this ministry and taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. In order to keep everyone safe, Fr John-Paul will limit his time in each household and will not visit multiple households per day. If you would like a visit, or you know of someone who would benefit from a visit, please contact Fr John-Paul direct (frmcshane@rcdom.org.uk or 01555 662234).

Liturgical Calendar

Tuesday 22nd February Chair of St Peter - The chair (cathedra) of a bishop is a pre-eminent sign of his teaching authority and pastoral oversight of a local Church. This feast, observed in Rome since the fourth century, celebrates Peter, first among the apostles, as founder of the See of Rome and the focus of unity in the communion of one faith.

Wednesday 23rd February St Polycarp - Born about the year 69; died on this day about 155 at Smyrna (Turkey), where he had been the beloved and respected bishop. A disciple of Saint John the apostle, who wrote to the Philippians to strengthen their faith and to defend the Church against heresy. Noted for his fearless acknowledgment of Christ, and honoured as one of the apostolic fathers of the Church.

Parish Finances

St Mary's

Offertory Collection: £ 1,065.00

Standing Orders: £ 637.00

St Isidore's

Offertory Collection: £ -----

Standing Orders: £ 95.00

(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:

19th/20th February

5.00pm A. Haetzman

10.30am J. Russell

5.00pm M. Davis

5th/6th March

5.00pm R. McConnell

10.30am R. Colpitts

5.00pm M. Davis

26th/27th February

5.00pm J. Moynagh

10.30am E. McCabe

5.00pm S. Casserly

12th/13th March

5.00pm G. Abernethy

10.30am P. Roberts

5.00pm S. Casserly

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

19th/20th February

5.00pm M. Keenan

P. Stewart

10.30am P. Cunningham

A. Cruikshank

5th/6th March

5.00pm A. Dempsey

C. Scott

10.30am J. Wilson

C. Duddy

26th/27th February

5.00pm T. Mullen

C. McClafferty

10.30am J. McAlavey

M. Keenan

12th/13th March

5.00pm J. McClafferty

M. Davis

10.30am G. Duddy

T. Mullen

Weekly Parish Schedule

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)

Monday 21st February

- 9.30am Holy Mass & Novena to St Joseph - Week 6 (St Mary's)

Tuesday 22nd February

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

Wednesday 23rd February

- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
7.00pm **Weekly Rosary Group (Zoom: ID 828 0546 0960 Passcode 638016)**

Thursday 24th February

- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
10.00am **Holy Mass (St Catherine's)**
7.30pm **Choir Rehearsal (St Mary's Clubrooms)**

Friday 25th February

- 9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)

Saturday 26th February

- 9.10am Recitation of the Holy Rosary (St Mary's)
9.30am Holy Mass (St Mary's)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

Sunday 27th February

- 10.30am Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)
1.00pm Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Biggar Kirk)
5.00pm Holy Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (St Mary's)

The 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.

Parish Lenten Journey

Lent is a great opportunity to invite people to return to Mass and for all of us to deepen our relationship with Jesus. During Lent we will have a variety of devotions and Masses available in the parish, in order to encourage as many people as possible to use the Season of Lent to grow closer to God, and experience his love and mercy. A full timetable of events will be available in next week's bulletin.

The timetable will include many devotions and services led by parishioners, and will help us on our journey to being a synodal Church.

Please feel free to speak to Fr John-Paul about any ideas you have, or any devotions you would like to be involved in, or see happening in our parish.

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 best serve the Catholic community in Biggar and surrounding areas.

An agenda will be composed for the meeting in order to cover all topics. If you would like an item added to the agenda please email Fr John-Paul (fmcs Shane@rcdom.org.uk). The agenda will be followed with great care and all points covered.