



St Francis Xavier's, Carfin

Taylor Ave, Carfin, Motherwell ML1 5AJ



12th September 2021

24th Sunday of the Year

THIS WEEK YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE

MON	Legion of Mary Mass 7.30pm	FRI	NO 10.00am Mass 1.00pm Requiem Mass for Fr Terry
TUE	<i>Fr Grant unavailable until the Novena/Mass</i> 7.00pm Novena to St Therese & Holy Mass	SAT	9.30am Holy Rosary in the church 10.00am Holy Mass in the church 5.00pm Vigil Mass
WED	9.30am Holy Rosary in the church 10.00am Holy Mass in the church	SUN	9.00am Holy Mass 11.00am Holy Mass
THU	9.30am Holy Rosary in the church 10.00am Holy Mass in the church 7.00pm Reception of Fr Terry, Holy Ghost Father		

TUESDAY : NOVENA TO ST THERESE Begins with Rosary at 6.40pm

LAST WEEK'S NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE
Thank you to **EVERYONE** for all your hard work preparing the grotto and on the day itself. God reward you.



WELCOME BACK

This weekend we welcome back Fr Francis McGachey who will celebrate all three weekend Masses giving him an opportunity to thank the parishioners for all the support you gave him during his time as your parish priest. This also affords us the opportunity to thank Fr Francis for all his efforts for the parish

and the grotto during the NINE years he spent with you.

ALSO, DEACON JIM AITKEN will come along to the 11.00am Mass and a small presentation will be made to him for all that he did for the parish during his long ministry here.

After all three weekend Masses, there will be light refreshments served in the Xavier Centre to which all are welcome.



A lady called Moira from New Stevenston telephoned me during the week to enquire about starting a 'Friendship Group' for people who have recently been widowed. If this is something that would be of interest to you then please contact her on 01698 833003 or 07432578261

THIS THE QR CODE IS FOR DONATIONS TOWARDS THE GROTTTO. If you have a smartphone, all you need do is take a picture of the QR code with your camera and follow the link. Otherwise download a free QR reader app.



LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Loose & GiftAid	£ 1700
Standing Orders	£ 205
Total	£ 1905

READERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Sat	5.00pm	Marie Marks
Sun	9.00am	Elaine Haldane
Sun	11.00am	William Collum

Carfin Lourdes Grotto—A place of prayer, a place of Pilgrimage

It is a genuinely lovely gesture to provide seating for pilgrims to the grotto, however, I have thought for many years that the escalating number of such benches was changing the focus of the grotto to something akin to visiting a cemetery. Though the primary purpose of the benches was to

provide seating in the grotto, there are now many benches where it would be impossible to sit given the amount of memorabilia placed on or around them. I am respectfully inviting those who have placed memorabilia on or around the benches to consider removing them so that they

can be used for their original purpose – seating for pilgrims.

At the same time, I would like to encourage pilgrims who use the benches as a seat, to say a little prayer for the person(s) on whose bench they are sitting.

LET US REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: Pat O'Rourke,

Recently Dead: Mary McLaughlin (Carnoustie), Roseann Armstrong, Mary Theresa Brannigan, Felix Gray, Jesie Feeney, Agnes Dalziel, John Campbell, Jimmy Quinn, George Reilly, Vincent Docherty (Hamilton), Marion Robb, Fr Terry Donnelly

Months Mind: McFarlane Family, Devine Family

Anniversary: Agnes Sneddon Byrne, Anne Sneddon Hough, Magdelene Smith, Helen McGinley, Margaret, Tommy & Thomas Heffernan, Anne Collumb, Steve Skelton, Annie & Dan Heffernan, Isa Murphy, John McVey, Jeanie Whyte, Maria Hart, Gerry Mitchell, Ellen Harvey (Newarthill), Harry Devine (Mossend), Frank McMahan, John & Mary McShane, Jim McShane, Rosemary & Ronald MacIntyre, Frank, Agnes & Desmond McMahan

Birthday Remembrances: Mary McColgan, Mary McShane, Mary Canning, William Lynn Jnr (Willie)



Coming to the grotto soon are two new marble statues; one of St Padre Pio and another of St Gianna Mola (donated by SPUC Scotland)

But who is St Gianna Molla ?

Born in 1922, Gianna was an Italian doctor. She already had three children (one of whom died at the age of seven) and was pregnant with her fourth when, during the second month of her fourth and final pregnancy, she was discovered to have a fibroma on her uterus. The doctors gave her three choices following an examination: an abortion, a complete hysterectomy, or the removal of the fibroma alone. The first option was disqualified by Gianna since the Church forbade all direct abortion. Though teachings on the principle of double effect would have allowed her to undergo the hysterectomy, which would have caused her unborn child's death as an unintended consequence. Gianna opted for the removal of the fibroma since she wanted to preserve her child's life; she told the doctors that her child's life was more important than her own.

On the morning of 21 April 1962, Holy Saturday, Molla was sent to the hospital where her fourth child, Gianna Emanuela, was delivered via a Caesarean section. But Gianna continued to have severe pain and died of septic peritonitis one week after giving birth, on the morning of 28 April. Her daughter Gianna Emanuela still lives and is a doctor of geriatrics..

Gianna was beatified in 1994 and was canonized as a saint ten years later in 2004. Pro-life groups such as SPUC have hailed her as a patron of the work.

Her statue (alongside that of Padre Pio) will be temporarily sited down in the grotto until a more permanent site is prepared.



Events coming up in the Grotto

Sun 19th September Polish Pilgrimage

Sun 3rd October 'St Therese Sunday'

Sun 10th October 'Rosary Sunday' - close of the Grotto season

2.00pm - 6.00pm

Torchlight Procession

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