

THE
Immaculate
Conception

Our
Parish

Where all are welcome
and none are judged



Welcome & Information Brochure



Serving the community since 1851



Rescue party in Kilmun Street
Glasgow Artist, Ian Fleming

This picture shows the rescue party on the night the church was bombed in March 1941.

Thanks for picking up our Welcome and Information Brochure!

2026 is a massive milestone in the life of our parish – it's our 175th birthday! A growing number of people were fleeing the Famine, and found work and a future building the canal and the locks, so close to where the parish was founded in 1851.

We are proud of our origins and keep alive that spirit of welcome to modern-day migrants, refugees and asylum seekers who make up our parish today (*Did you notice all our flags at the church entrance?*).

Of course, the world has changed beyond recognition over the last 175 years, but we are still committed to our purpose – to worship God, ever grateful for all our blessings. Our parish-family is eager to serve our whole area, building up community. We want to share our good news with you, ‘evangelising’ that everybody has a place here and no-one is judged. Of course, we do not do this alone

– we are in partnership with our friends at Maryhill Ruchill Parish, with our local schools and every other person or group who wants a better world and a better community.

This brochure celebrates our worship, how we serve and evangelise and it also tells you about our partners. But this is also your invitation. Why not come and join us? We’d love you to drop into our café or you’re welcome to find a seat in the church. However, you feel comfortable, please know you’re welcome here. Your presence would be a great present for our 175th birthday year – and beyond!



All are welcome, none are judged

Immaculate Conception Church

2049 Maryhill Road,
Glasgow G20 0AA

Telephone:

0141 946 2071

Email:

immaculateconception
@rcag.org.uk

Website:

immaculateconception.org.uk

Livestream:

churchservicesTV/Maryhill

Mass Times

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

9:00am and 11:00am

(Children's Liturgy)

5:30pm (Youth Liturgy)

Daily Mass

Monday to Friday 10am

Holy Days of Obligation

6:30pm (Vigil) and 10am.

Confessions

Saturday 4:30pm

Adoration

Tuesday 10:30am - 2:30pm.

The Archdiocese of Glasgow is a
Designated Religious Charity,
Number SC018140.

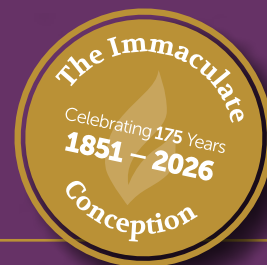


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Our Story

Where we began in **1851**



Where we moved to in **1955**



Where we came to in **1991**



The solemn opening of the original church took place on Sunday 9 November 1851 with the site having been purchased for £100 in January 1850. Press reports at that time say "the main street was thronged with carriages and the church was crowded with well-wishers from Glasgow as well as parishioners."

Even before the damage to the church, by a bomb during World War 2, it became

obvious that a new church and presbytery were going to be needed and in May 1941 the current site was purchased for £4,250 and in September 1942 a building fund was started and the new church opened in 1955.

Sadly in 1987 because of structural defects in the A frame design and the cost of repair it was decided to demolish the building and build a new more modern church. Our current building opened in 1991.

All are welcome, none are judged

Our People



We have come from the ends of the earth!

We are particularly proud that a parish, founded to respond to the influx of Irish working people escaping the Great Famine, still welcomes people from across every continent – currently 28 different countries (illustrated by the flags above), some of whom are escaping persecution/conflict in their own country.



Parish Priest: Rev Father Jim Lawlor

Father Jim was appointed Parish Priest in December 2011.

Following his ordination in 1987 he served in St Kessog's Balloch, Our Lady of Fatima, Dalmarnock (PP), Our Lady and St George's Penilee and St Peter's Partick before his appointment to Maryhill.

Father Jim Lawlor

Our People



Ruth & Rita

We love going to church to grow our faith with God and the Sunday youth liturgy mass has the best worship band. Altar serving has helped us grow deeper in faith and confidence. We enjoy being part of our church community where we can make friends and serve God.

Ruth & Rita are originally from Uganda.



Max

Max is one of the dozens of young adults who have joined us in recent years. He was baptised two Easters ago. Now he is the bass guitarist in our Sunday night music group.

Max is grateful for the welcome he received and is delighted to contribute to our worship, sharing his gifts and giving something back!



Our People



Betty Carlin

one of our oldest parishioners

I have been a parishioner in all three churches and have seen many historical changes, strength and growth. We are where we are today due to the hard work of previous clergy and parishioners, who did their utmost to make this parish the “best in the west”! I am proud to be part of the deep-rooted history here at The Immaculate Conception, full of memories, lessons and endurance. My faith is a great part of my life and I am happy and grateful to have accomplished this in Maryhill.



Gill, Gerry, Joseph and Susie McConville

The sense of belonging and feeling welcome within the parish is its key to success. We enjoy attending Sunday Mass to take time out to reflect on a busy family life and participating in special events such as the pop-up shop outreach within the local community.

The festive period is a particularly vibrant time with the advent candles being lit and kids gathering round the stable to welcome baby Jesus.



Sacramental and Prayer Life

Baptism

The Church welcomes your child into the family of God through the sacrament of Baptism. We are delighted to welcome around 60 new parishioners each year. Baptism requires commitment, which means parents need to attend mass and take part in parish life. Godparents play an important part in the spiritual life of the child so they must be baptised, practising Catholics. Baptisms take place regularly throughout the year. To arrange a baptism come to mass, introduce yourself, complete and return a registration form - available via the website.



First Holy Communion

The Eucharist is the centre of our Catholic faith. Our committed team of catechists, in conjunction with school staff, help prepare all children for First Holy Communion, primarily through attendance at the “CAT” club which takes place during 11am mass starting in February and running through to First Holy Communion days, which are normally in late May/June.

Confirmation

This sacrament is conferred by the Bishop each year. In Confirmation, young people are signed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. The sacrament renews and strengthens their baptismal call to bear witness to Christ. Our schools, in partnership with the parish and families work together to make this an important moment for our young people.



Our Worship



Matrimony

As soon as you start planning your wedding, please contact Father Jim. Marriage is both a spiritual sacrament and also a legal state that requires some preparation and paperwork. Marriage is so sacred it cannot be celebrated anywhere other than in the church. Please do not be anxious if one of you is not Catholic or is unbaptised. That is no obstacle to you marrying in church.

Reconciliation

Many find this sacrament difficult, but Jesus is waiting to forgive you—all you have to do is ask. It is not just about examining your life and confessing your selfishness; it's a moment of healing for any past hurts, mistakes and regrets. Reconciliation is celebrated once a week on a Saturday from 4:30pm. It is also available on request and we celebrate it as a parish community twice a year during Lent and Advent.



Anointing of the Sick

This sacrament is NOT the last rites. It is offered when someone is close to death but is most often offered to anyone who is unwell, ageing or in specific medical need at home or in hospital. If you have a planned admission to hospital for a serious procedure, you can receive the Sacrament of the Sick. This can be arranged with Father Jim. When you are in hospital and wish a visit from a priest, you should call the hospital chaplaincy team or ask the ward staff to contact them for you.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is the process whereby people who are interested in being baptised into the Catholic Church receive instruction, guidance, and support on their journey to becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. The process starts in September and moves in stages towards Lent and the Easter Vigil when Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion are celebrated. The group is supported on their journey by Father Jim, and the catechists, (lay people).



Arranging a Funeral

Coping with the death of a loved one is the most difficult of life's experiences. Please contact Father Jim as soon as your bereavement occurs. As a parish community we will support you as best we can to ensure the funeral of your loved one is as personal and as comforting as possible. There are different ways in which we can do this suited to your needs and comfort. We will guide you through the process.

Sadly, we celebrate more than 50 funerals each year. We continue to provide support to the bereaved families and hold them in our prayers. We offer bereavement support through Seasons for Growth – a loss and bereavement programme which runs over four weeks.

Our Worship



Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is the spiritual practice of spending time in the presence of the exposed consecrated host. Through this practice, we are invited to spend time alone with God in his real, physical form and to bring to Jesus all our cares, concerns, prayers, hopes and thoughts. Eucharistic adoration takes place on a Tuesday following morning mass and concludes at 2:30pm.



Eucharistic Service

When it is not possible to have a morning mass a Eucharistic Service may be held.

At this service the liturgy of the word is heard and Holy Communion is distributed.



Worship Ministries



Altar Servers

We have a dedicated team of young people and adults, who serve the parish in this special ministry on Sundays and weekdays. This enriches our worship and involves our young people in a very direct way.

Worship Ministries



Children's Liturgy

Attending mass together is a vital part of being a Catholic Family and a loving and caring community. Children's Liturgy takes place in the hall on a Sunday during 11am mass. It allows children of primary school age, to gather together to listen and talk about the gospel adapted to their level of understanding. The liturgy is led by parishioners working in pairs.



Music Ministry

We have a group of talented musicians and cantors who enhance our parish celebrations by helping us rejoice in the Sunday liturgies and the different seasons of the Church's year.

We are blessed with three great organists and a pool of cantors who are dedicated to making our worship as beautiful as possible.

Our Sunday evening mass has a 12-piece worship band and a liturgy that attracts many young adults.



Worship Ministries

Eucharistic Ministers

Eucharistic Ministers assist the priest to distribute Holy Communion and the precious blood in a reverent and orderly manner. They also ensure the vessels are prepared before mass and are made ready for the next mass. They serve at Sunday and weekday masses. Eucharistic ministers can also bring communion to the sick and housebound.



Welcome Ministry

Making sure everyone feels welcome when they come to mass and other services in the church is the responsibility of all parishioners and we also have a committed group of pass keepers who extend a friendly welcome to people when they arrive.

Readers' Ministry

The reading of the Word is a vital contribution to the liturgy of the mass. When the Sacred Scriptures are read in church, God himself speaks. A group of parishioners serve as readers at Sunday and weekday services.



All are welcome, none are judged

Parish Life



Parish Life

Meditation

Our meditation group meets on the first Monday of the month at 7pm in the chapel house. The meeting starts with gentle music followed by 20 minutes of silent meditation and ends with a short reading/reflection. The meeting lasts around 45 minutes.

SPRED (Special Religious Development)

SPRED is a special way of helping adults (22 years +), who have a learning disability, to grow in faith and develop their own prayer life. Each member or 'Friend' has their own helper (Catechist) and they accompany each other through each session. Sessions involve settling down activities, praying together and finishing with simple food, conversation and singing.



Ecumenical Group

We have a long-standing friendship with Maryhill Ruchill Parish Church. We are delighted that this has now been expanded to include St Gregory's RC Church, Gairbraid Church of Scotland and Findlay Memorial Church. Our joint-churches ecumenical group arrange shared worship and events during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Lent, Holy Week and Advent.



Service

Fabric & Finance Team

Canon Law requires each parish to have a fabric and finance team to support the Parish Priest in ensuring that the parish maintains a sound financial footing and to provide advice in relation to property issues. We are grateful to have a group of 9 parishioners with appropriate experience and knowledge to support Father Jim in this work

Parish Coordinating Team

The PCT has care for the overall pastoral, social and spiritual life of the parish. It supports the Parish Priest and monitors the work of the wider parish community including the Together We Make Maryhill Partnership. The team is made up of 12 active parish members who meet every 2 months, follow a formal agenda and have recorded minutes that are available to all via the website.

Service



Church Cleaners

We have an enthusiastic group of parishioners who generously give of their time to keep the church looking beautiful. Our Gleam Team meet on a Friday after morning mass.

SSVP

The mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) is to help the poor and disadvantaged. We have a small Conference that meets regularly for the purpose of supporting families and individuals facing hardship or loneliness. They receive requests for support either directly from individuals or through third parties, such as local foodbank or the parish community. The Society provides help through the support it receives practically and financially from fellow parishioners.



Justice & Peace

The work of our Justice & Peace group is driven by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching with particular concern for the poor and marginalised. They promote the common good and stand in solidarity with those who are oppressed, all done in the context of both local and global events. They raise awareness about current issues and, through our weekly bulletin, share their understanding with the parish.

Tuesday Club

Our weekly lunch club for seniors, meets in our hall for lunch, bingo and a chat every Tuesday from 11:30am to 2:30pm. They enjoy an annual summer outing and a panto and dinner at Christmas. The club provides a support network and helps build friendships. New faces always welcome.



Maccy Caffy

The Caffy is open every Thursday from 10:30am to 2:00pm as part of our Together We Make Maryhill initiative. This is an opportunity to enjoy warm hot food like home-made soup, baked potatoes as well as home baking and other treats, all for free. The Caffy helps to build community and allows people to make new friends. Come and join us any Thursday.

Sunday Tea Bar

A dedicated group of parishioners provide tea, toast and other goodies in the hall after 11am mass every Sunday. This is an important chance after worship to catch up for a cuppa and a blether. If you haven't enjoyed it yet, please think about joining us.



Evangelisation



Evangelisation

As part of our outreach out to the wider community, to connect with those people who may not think about attending church, we organise a number of events such as pop-ups at ASDA, family breakfast club and monthly men's breakfast.



Women's Time Out

An opportunity to pause, reflect and recharge.

Social Media Communication

Bulletin

Our weekly bulletin provides information on mass times, parish news and events, and has a weekly column detailing current Justice & Peace issues. The bulletin is also available on our website, our Facebook page and is circulated to over 600 people on our data base. If you would like to be added to our data base just ask.

Facebook

Our Facebook page allows us to communicate more widely and directly with individuals. It also provides a lively snapshot of weddings, baptisms and funerals.

Website

Our website shows the programme of our future events, it also has the weekly bulletin and minutes from formal parish meetings. It provides more detailed information on our sacramental programme and worship. You can also download forms for baptism, funerals, hall hire etc. immaculateconception.org.uk.

Church TV Services

All of our services are live streamed via church tv services. They are also recorded and are on the website for 30 days. They can be downloaded and retained for your own use. We are delighted to have now over 2,000 virtual parishioners.



Partnerships



Together We Make Maryhill (TWMM)

Our formal partnership with Maryhill Ruchill Parish Church, established in 2021 is a major part of both our evangelisation and ecumenical work. Our friendship and partnership have strengthened and grown over the years helping us to achieve more for our community.



Newman Association

We are delighted to host the monthly meetings of the Newman Association. An organisation of Catholic men & women keen to deepen their faith through study and learning.

Partnerships

Our Schools

Our parish is served by three thriving Catholic schools, reflecting that we are a young and diverse community.



St Blane's Primary opened 50 years ago in the heart of Summerston to serve what was a new and growing community.

St Blane's Primary School, 23 Arrochar Drive, Glasgow G23 5QB



St Mary's Primary is on the site of the original church and school, dating back to the 1850's.

St Mary's Primary School, 2 Kilmun Street, Glasgow G20 0EL

John Paul Academy opened its doors in 1982, just weeks after the visit of Pope John Paul to Glasgow, it is one of the first schools in the world named for the now St John Paul.



John Paul Academy, 2 Arrochar Street, Glasgow G23 5LY



Twelve Steps Group

The 12 Step Programme provides support to people suffering from addictions. The parish hosts three weekly 12 Step Groups, advertised in the relevant publications and websites. You can contact us confidentially for further information.

Support Group for Catholic Women Affected by Separation and Divorce.

We are delighted to host this support group. Their meetings take place monthly in our hall on Friday, evenings from 6pm to 8pm. A confidential support group, run by women who have come through this experience themselves.



Other Activities - Building Community



Summer Fete



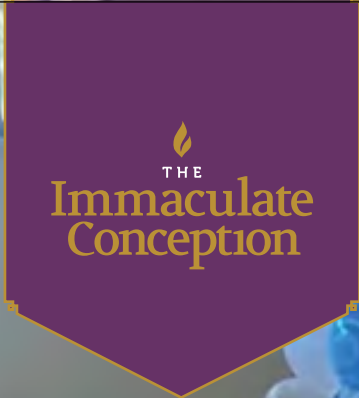
The fete in June each year is our biggest community event. Hundreds come along to enjoy an afternoon of fun and games with a great atmosphere. There are always lots of bargains with over 15 stalls, an amazing barbecue and other treats.



Social Committee

An enthusiastic group of parishioners form our social committee and run a variety of dances and other social events throughout the year.





THE
Immaculate
Conception

Parish Hall for Hire

Available to everyone

Hall Hire
from £30
per hour.



**Booking the parish hall is
a great way to support our parish.
The hall is available for:**

**Wedding Receptions | Funeral Breakfasts | Baptism
| Receptions | Birthday Parties | Anniversary Parties |
Charity Events | Corporate Events | Conferences etc.**



Our hall has the full range of IT equipment, separate break out room and with ample parking and good transport links. We are able to accommodate up to 100 people.

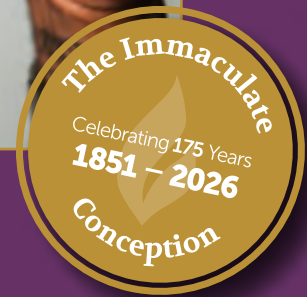
We also have a fully accessible suite of meeting rooms with a separate entrance and kitchen facilities. Contact our hall manager by e-mail or text (see below) for more information.



Booking Enquiries

For booking enquiries e-mail to
immaculateconceptionhall@rcag.org.uk or text
07598759551

Lots of weekend dates are available for 2026.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the shared responsibility of everyone to ensure the safety and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults. It is also about ensuring the professional and safe behaviour of everyone who has a duty of care within our Catholic communities whether ordained or lay and whether in a paid or volunteer position.

Safeguarding is not only a way to respond to harm, but must be proactive in the prevention of any form of abuse or harm. We have a safeguarding officer who supports the Parish Priest in this work. If you have a concern about any adult or child in the parish you should contact our coordinator Pauline Bradshaw **07345 562 303**, or the Diocesan Safeguarding Office **0141 226 4898**.

Our Organisations

Get in touch - Get Involved

If you are interested in joining any of our ministries or to contribute to any other committee or just to find out more we would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact, via e-mail, the coordinator for the ministry you are interested in.

Altar Servers

Father Jim

✉ immaculateconception@rcag.org.uk

Children's Liturgy

Laura Degnan

✉ lauradegnan@hotmail.com

Church Cleaners

Agnes Barrett

✉ agnes.a.barrett@gmail.com

Eucharistic Ministers

Donna Nichol

✉ dnichol1978@outlook.com

Justice and Peace

Andrew Smith

✉ andrew.smith
@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

Newman Association

Pat Baird

✉ patmbaird@hotmail.com

Parish Hall

Davie Boyle

✉ immaculateconceptionhall@rcag.org.uk
☎ 07598759551

Ministry of Reading

Michael Cannon

✉ michael.g.cannon@ntlworld.com

Music Ministry

To contact our organists

David Galloway

✉ gallowayd@sky.com

To contact our worship group

Louisa King

✉ louisa.c.king@aol.co.uk

Safeguarding

Pauline Bradshaw

☎ 07345 562 303

SPRED

Anne Cannon

✉ anne.cannon@ntlworld.com

SSVP

Theresa White

☎ 07516132846

Support Group for Catholic Women Affected by Separation and Divorce

Tricia Macfarlane

✉ archdioceseofglasgowwomen@gmail.com

Together We Make Maryhill

Catherine McGhie

✉ catherinemcghie@icloud.com

Welcome Ministry

Gerry McLintock

✉ gggafc1886@gmail.com

We also Relax



Our pilgrimages to Rome/Assisi and Iona



We play!



and it's fun belonging here

What Next!

We are proud of our past, but our future needs you too!

If anything in this brochure has attracted you please get in touch.



Our Future



Get in touch!

- ☎ 0141 946 2071
- ✉ immaculateconception@rcag.org.uk
- 🌐 immaculateconception.org.uk
- 📺 churchservices.tv/maryhill
- 📘 facebook.com/ImmaculateConceptionMaryhill



We are grateful to AS Campbell Realty for a donation to help produce this brochure.

Grateful for a donation in memory of Mary MacKenzie.

The Archdiocese of Glasgow is a Designated Religious Charity, Number SC018140



Serving the community since 1851