

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

25th May 2014

St. Mary's, Belford Road, Fort William PH33 6BT. Tel. (01397) 702174

Charity No. SC002876

www.stmarysfortwilliam.org



Noticeboard

Sunday Masses

Saturday, 6 p.m.
Sunday, 10.30 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Monday, 11 a.m. (*Funeral Mass of Rhoda Fletcher RIP*)
Tuesday, 12 noon (*Funeral Mass of Elizabeth Davidson RIP*)
Wednesday, 10.15 a.m.
Ascension Thursday, 10.15 a.m. 1.15 p.m.
7 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 10.15 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 9.45 to 10 a.m.
4 to 4.30 p.m. 5.30 to 5.45 p.m.

Monday is the Memorial of St. Philip Neri; Thursday, the Solemnity of the Ascension; Saturday, the Feast of the Visitation.

This is the Church's **Day for Life**. We commit ourselves all the more to safeguarding the sanctity of all human life. There will be a special collection for the Church's work in defending and proclaiming God's gift of life.

Please remember that the Solemnity of the Ascension on Thursday is a **Holiday of Obligation!**



We remember our Faithful Departed. We pray for the eternal peace and joy of **Rhoda Fletcher**, sister of Fr. MacKinnon, who died peacefully last Sunday after living so bravely with cancer. Rhoda was a woman of deep personal faith and kindness, who in her unassuming and warm-hearted way touched the hearts of many. May the Lord now welcome her home and may he comfort her husband David, their children Jamie, Jacqui, Damien, Gemma, Jocie, all the family and Rhoda's dearest friends. We pray also for **Elizabeth Davidson** who has died peacefully in Invernevis House. Elizabeth's was a life of faith, gentle love and quiet goodness. She was devoted to her loved ones and we ask the Lord to be with Lorraine, Gary, Sharon and all the family. We pray also for the eternal rest of **Molly Toal**, Bishop Joseph's aunt, as has died peacefully in Moss Park, aged 95. May she now rest in the peace of her Saviour. We ask the Lord to bless all who loved her. And as always we pray for those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Stephen Archibald, Laurence Childs, Neil MacKinnon (Canna), Thomas Grant, Elizabeth Laird, Bridget Keenan, Moira Jones, John MacLaren, Ian Wynne and George O'Neill**. May they rest in peace.

Fr. MacKinnon is most grateful for the expressions of sympathy and the cards he has recently received. He is grateful above all for the cards given to him for his brother-in-law David and the Fletcher family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Pope Francis as he begins his pilgrimage to the Holy Land. May its peoples hear his voice, a voice that speaks of peace.

Because of the Funeral Masses on Monday and Tuesday, **Holy Communion** will be taken to the housebound from Wednesday to Friday.

Next Sunday is **Communications Sunday**. There will be the usual collections for the Church's media apostolate, national and international.

On Friday, we will have our monthly **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**, from 5 to 6 p.m. There will be some short readings and invitations to prayer in the course of that hour, the theme being the forty days that the Risen Lord spent with his disciples.



Les Petits Chanteurs de Saint André de Colmar

This well-known French choir will be touring Scotland in July. Fort William will be one of their venues. Here in St. Mary's, we will be able to hear them on the evening of Tuesday, 15th July. Their extensive repertoire includes Elgar's *Ave Verum*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach's *Jesus bleibet meine Freude*, Ralph Vaughan William's *Let all the world* and the Black American Spiritual *Glory, Glory*. It is certainly something to look forward to! We will give you more details in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, you may wish to visit their website: www.petits-chanteurs-colmar.com

The ascension of Elijah may be compared to the flight of a bird, which none can follow; the ascension of Christ is, as it were, a bridge between earth and heaven, laid down for all who are drawn to Him by His earthly existence. (*Michael Baumgarten*)

Faith is the bird that feels the light when the dawn is still dark. (*Rabindranath Tagore*)

Believers, look up - take courage. The angels are nearer than you think. (*Billy Graham*)

Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength. (*Saint Francis de Sales*)

Nature is the one song of praise that never stops singing. (*Fr. Richard Rohr*)

While we are mourning the loss of our friend, others are rejoicing to meet him behind the veil. (*John Taylor*)

Life is eternal, and love is immortal,
and death is only a horizon;
and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.
(*Rossiter Worthington Raymond*)

In the sweetness of friendship let there be laughter, and sharing of pleasures. For in the dew of little things the heart finds its morning and is refreshed.
(*Khalil Gibran*)

Let me get through today, and I shall not fear tomorrow. (*St. Philip Neri*)

Can miles truly separate you from friends? If you want to be with someone you love, aren't you already there?
(*Richard Bach*)

The more one judges, the less one loves.
(*Honoré de Balzac*)

We cannot let another person into our hearts or minds unless we empty ourselves. We can truly listen to him or truly hear her only out of emptiness.
(*M. Scott Peck*)

A grandmother and a little girl whose face was sprinkled with bright freckles spent the day at the zoo. The children were waiting in line to get their cheeks painted by a local artist who was decorating them with tiger paws.

'You've got so many freckles, there's no place to paint!' a boy in the line cried.

Embarrassed, the little girl dropped her head. Her grandmother knelt down next to her. 'I love your freckles,' she said.

'Not me,' the girl replied.

'Well, when I was a little girl I always wanted freckles,' she said, tracing her finger across the child's cheek.

'Freckles are beautiful!'

The girl looked up. 'Really?'

'Of course,' said the grandmother. 'Why, just name me one thing that's prettier than freckles.'

The little girl peered into the old woman's smiling face. 'Wrinkles,' she answered softly.

Here in this world He bids us come, there in the next He shall bid us welcome. (*John Donne*)