

# Parish Bulletin

## SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

27<sup>th</sup> May 2012

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

Charity No. SC002876



**'And something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire.'**

### Noticeboard

#### Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning Mass, 10.30 a.m.

#### Weekday Masses

10.15 a.m.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 9.45 to 10 a.m.  
4 to 4.30 p.m.  
5.30 to 5.50 p.m.

#### May Devotions

Wednesday, 7 p.m. (*preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*)

*Thursday is the Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady; Friday, the Memorial of St. Justin, the early Christian philosopher, apologist and martyr.*

Please remember the **Pentecost Walk** this (Sunday) evening, beginning at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and concluding at the Salvation Army, where refreshments will be served. Come along and walk with those brothers and sisters who share in the same Holy Spirit!

**Holy Communion** will be taken to the housebound from Monday to Wednesday of this week.

We remember our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Laurence Childs, Thomas Grant, Elizabeth (Baba) Laird, Moira Jones, John MacLaren, Ian Wynne** and **Joan Bremner**. May the risen Lord welcome them home.

You will remember the case of the two Catholic midwives, **Mary Doogan** and **Connie Wood**. Their appeal to conscience regarding any association with abortions was rejected by the Nursing and Midwifery Council. You will find a copy of a letter they issued at the back of the church. There is also a petition that you can sign asking the NMC to change its stance and fully and actively respect the conscience and the legal rights of pro-life doctors and nurses. Please give your support. Next Sunday is the Church's Day for Life and there could be no better way of preparing for it!

The annual **Day for Life** collection takes place next Sunday. Please support the Church's defence of human life from conception to the moment of the death that God has willed for us.

The June edition of the **Day by Day Mass booklet** is available at the back of the church. They cost £1 each.

The last of our **May Devotions** takes place on Wednesday. Please come along!

This Sunday, you will be given copies of the new Mass set to **music composed by Julie Hoey**. This is for you to look at. It is a rather lovely Mass, easily learned by all - very much a "People's Mass." We will start using this Mass next Sunday. The Cantors will lead us in this.

Fr. MacKinnon is wondering if it would be useful to have a **trolley for our hymn books** at the back of the church. It can be a bit of a *burach* at times with Mass books and hymn books piled up on the table. Fr. MacKinnon has looked at the different offers on the internet. Some of the trolleys advertised cost an arm and a leg! Church furnishing can be very expensive! But there is one trolley available from McCrimmon's, costing £300. Would any parishioners like to donate towards this?



Some years ago, Fr. MacKinnon met a Franciscan who knew Padre Pio. Here is a joke that the saint once told him at table.

Away back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, an old Italian peasant heard about the wonderful new invention called the railway. One day, he decided to go and see for himself. He walked many, many miles to the nearest town and was directed to the brand new railway station. He went to the man in the ticket office who explained things to him. The old man then bought a ticket.

Soon afterwards the train entered the station. The man's eyes were like saucers. Never had he seen a marvel like it. He watched the other passengers enter the carriages and then, gingerly, he opened a door and entered a compartment. There was only one person in it, a priest.

The train set off. The old man was apprehensive. In all his years he had never travelled at such speed. The priest asked him if this was the first time he had been on a train and the peasant admitted that it was. As the train steamed along, the priest questioned him further and soon discovered that the man was not exactly Gospel greedy. The priest began to sternly lecture him on the state of his soul, but to no obvious effect.

Suddenly the train entered a tunnel. No one had prepared the peasant for this! He cried out in fear and alarm: "What on earth is happening?"

Hoping to frighten the man into repentance, the priest cried out: "You are entering the jaws of hell! The devil awaits you!"

There was silence. Then the priest heard the old peasant say with relief: "It's alright, Father. I bought a return ticket!"

#### AND ALSO

Have you ever wondered why you never see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Have you ever wondered why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called the "rush hour"?

BED & BREAKFAST: Two things the kids will never make for themselves

"BECAUSE I SAID SO": Reason enough, according to Mum.

"WAIT UNTIL YOUR FATHER GETS HOME": Standard measurement of time between crime and punishment



When you say a prayer, He (the Holy Spirit) is in every word of it, and like a Holy Fire, penetrates each word.  
*John of Kronstadt*

No erudition, no purity of diction, no width of mental outlook, no flowers of eloquence, no grace of person can atone for lack of fire. Prayer ascends by fire. Flame gives prayer access as well as wings, acceptance as well as energy. There is no incense without fire; no prayer without flame. *E. M. Bounds*

The wizard of Oz says look inside yourself and find self. God says look inside yourself and find the Holy Spirit. The first will get you to Kansas. The latter will get you to heaven. Take your pick. *Max Lucado*,

You might as well try to see without eyes, hear without ears, or breathe without lungs, as to try to live the Christian life without the Holy Spirit. *D.L. Moody*

The Holy Spirit is the bridge to God within you. It is the part of your mind—the part of your Spirit—that is joined with the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God and acts as a reminder to all of God's children of the unconditional love that God has for them.  
*David Paul Doyle and Candace Doyle*

The word Comforter as applied to the Holy Spirit needs to be translated by some vigorous term. Literally, it means with strength. Jesus promised His followers that The Strengthener would be with them forever. This promise is no lullaby for the faint-hearted. It is a blood transfusion for courageous living. *E. Paul Hovey*

Do not be afraid to allow the Holy Spirit to reveal any unforgiveness or bitterness. The longer you hide it, the stronger it will become and the harder your heart will grow. Stay tenderhearted. *John Bevere*

It is the Spirit's work to draw what might otherwise be a cacophonous disunity into symphony. The Spirit worked to transcribe God's music for playing on the human instrument of Jesus of Nazareth; the Spirit now works to orchestrate that theme for an ensemble of billions.  
*Mike Highton*