

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

31st August 2014

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

A Parish of the R. C. Diocese of Argyll & the Isles Charitable Trust

Registered Scottish Charity No. SC002876

www.stmarysfortwilliam.org



St. Mary's
25th August 2014

Noticeboard

<u>Sunday Masses:</u>	Vigil Mass, Saturday	6 p.m.
	Sunday Morning Mass	10.30 a.m.
<u>Weekday Masses:</u>	Monday and Tuesday	10.15 a.m.
	There will be no Mass on Wednesday.	
	Thursday	7 p.m.
	Friday and Saturday	10.15 a.m.
<u>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</u>	Saturday: 9.45 to 10 a.m.	
	4 to 4.30 p.m.	
	5.30 to 5.45 p.m.	

Wednesday is the Memorial of St. Gregory the Great.

St. Mary's is hosting the annual **Harvest Praise Service**, this Sunday evening at 6.30 p.m. Please try to take part. The Harvest Lunches will be served in St. Andrew's Hall in the course of the week, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Friday is our day. We call upon parishioners to help out by making soup and serving. Such help is really appreciated! The sheet for volunteers is at the back of the church.

Mary's Meals will be with us next weekend. You know well the tremendous work done by this charity, founded in our own Diocese. If you have bags of clothing or fabric to hand in, please place them in the Chapel House garage. You will also have the opportunity to help by buying raffle tickets.

The Assembly of Priests and Deacons takes place this week in Oban, from Tuesday to Thursday. During it, Bishop Toal will receive his presentation from the Diocese. Roy Maxwell, our retired treasurer, will receive a presentation from the clergy in gratitude for what he did for us all. Please note the consequent changes in our Mass times.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Irene MacLean, Anne O'Donnell, Duncan Kennedy, Neil Gillies, John Leddy, Eileen Bailey, Catherine Williamson, Ann Clark, Donald Kearney and Jimmy MacKinnon**. We pray also for the eternal rest of **Rose Agnew**, Bob Lucas's sister, who died earlier this week. May the Lord grant her eternal peace and comfort all her loved ones. We pray for **Mrs. Joan Steele**, who has died peacefully at the great age of 94. May she now rest in the peace and joy of her Saviour. We extend our sympathy and prayer to John, Ruth and all the family.

This will be **Kevin Cameron's** last Sunday with us for quite some time. He is shortly heading off to Aberdeen University. We thank Kevin for all he has done for our parish and we wish him every success and blessing in Aberdeen.

At the back of the Church, there are copies of a communique from the Bishops' Conference regarding the ongoing work of the **MacLellan Commission**. The Commission is keen to hear from members of the Catholic Church in relation to the ways in which the Church works to safeguard its members from abuse and harm.

Our warmest congratulations to **Father Roddy Johnston** who this week celebrated his 60th birthday!

St. John's in Caol is holding a licensed **Ceilidh Dance** in the Community Hall on Friday, from 8 p.m. until late. Entrance costs £10 for adults and £5 for children.

Also, the Josephite Sisters have a visitor from Australia, **Brother Michael Herry**, who will be given a talk on his music ministry in St. John's this Monday, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Come To Me, O Christ

O Christ – Thou rarest flower of hearts – Thou didst sail on the storm-tossed lake of prejudiced minds. Its evil-scented, gloomy thought-waves lashed Thy lily-tender soul. They crucified Thee with their evil. Yet Thou didst shed the aroma of goodness and forgiveness, and didst help them to be purified by remorse, so helping them to become attractively sweet-scented with Thine all-loving Flower-Soul.

O Thou Great Lover of error-torn brothers – an unseen monument of the mightiest miracle of love was established in each heart when the magic wand of Thy voice uttered: "Forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Thou hast healed the cataract of hatred, and now we have grown to see: "Love thine enemies as thyself, for they are thy brothers – though sick and sleeping." Thou hast taught us not to increase their delirious kicks of hatred by battering them with the bludgeons of revenge. Thine undying sympathy hath inspired us to heal and wake our brothers, suffering from the delirium of anger, by the soothing salve of our forgiveness.

Thy crucifixion reminds us of the daily crucifixion of our fortitude by trials, of our wisdom by ignorance, of our self-control by the scathing hands of temptation, and of our love by misunderstanding. Thy test on the cross proved the victory of Thy wisdom over ignorance, of Thy soul over flesh, of Thy happiness over pain, and of Thy love over hatred. So are we heartened to bear our crosses bravely and pleasantly.

Teach us to pour out sweetness when crucified by harshness, to bear with calmness the assault of worries, and to give understanding unceasingly to those who unjustly hate us.

O Shepherd of Souls, wandering hearts are of themselves seeking the one fold of divine devotion. We have heard the ever-calling music of Thine infinite kindness. Our one desire is to be at home with Thee, to receive the Cosmic Father with joyous, open eyes of wisdom, and to know that we are all sons of our own One God.

Teach us to conquer the Satan of dividing selfishness, which prevents the gathering of all brother-souls into the one fold of Spirit. Calling to one another by the watchword: "Love him who loves you, and love all who love you not," let us rally beneath the canopy of the universal sense of Christ-Oneness.

Amen.

(Paramahansa Yogananda, 1893 – 1952)

In all our travels and movements, in all our coming in and going out, in putting on our shoes, at the bath, at the table, in lighting our candles, in lying down, in sitting down, whatever employment occupies us, we mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross. *(Tertullian, A.D. 160- 240)*

Let us then not be ashamed to confess the Crucified. Be the cross our seal, made with boldness by our fingers on our brow and in everything; over the bread we eat and the cups we drink, in our comings and in our goings out; before our sleep, when we lie down and when we awake; when we are traveling, and when we are at rest. *(St. Cyril of Jerusalem, A.D. 315-386)*

People have no idea what one saint can do: for sanctity is stronger than the whole of hell. *(Thomas Merton)*

Whenever anything disagreeable or displeasing happens to you, remember Christ crucified and be silent. *(St. John of the Cross)*

If you have ten thousand regulations you destroy all respect for the law. *(Winston Churchill)*

I don't like swearing on the air. As a matter of fact, I'm not a prude, but... I watch HBO and some of the comedy stuff, and I'm constantly asking myself, 'Why have we gone there?' It seems like it's unfortunate. It's so cheap. It's so easy. *(Brian Lamb American TV executive)*

Smooth seas do not make skilful sailors. *(African Proverb)*

Gratitude is the heart's memory. *(French Proverb)*

Talk does not cook rice. *(Chinese Proverb)*

I start with the premise that the function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers. *(Ralph Nader)*

For however devoted you are to God, you may be sure that he is immeasurably more devoted to you. *(Meister Eckhart)*

AND ALSO...

Adult, n. a person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

I think I'll sell my hoover – it's just gathering dust. *(Best Joke at the Edinburgh Fringe)*