

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

11th January 2015

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

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|  | Noticeboard | |
| | Sunday Masses | Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6 p.m. Sunday, 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 5.45 p.m. |
| <i>Tuesday is the Feast of St. Kentigern (St. Mungo), Patron Saint of Glasgow. Saturday is the Memorial of St. Anthony of Egypt.</i> | | |

The **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** marks the end of our Christmas season. On Monday we enter the First Week of Year I. Our thanks to those who have removed and stored the parish Crib and the Christmas tree. We will miss them!



We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember especially **Margaret Childs**, who was buried from St. Mary's on Thursday. We give thanks for Margaret's devoted love for all her family, for her kindness, and for her faithfulness to her Saviour. May he now welcome her into his eternal peace and joy. We extend our sincere sympathy and prayer to her children, Catherine, John, Laurence and all the family as they entrust to God a beloved mother, grandmother and sister. We pray also for **Eithne MacNeil**, mother of Fr. James MacNeil, who has now been laid to rest in her native Barra. Our thoughts and prayers were with Fr. James and all the family.

We remember also those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Bernard Dougan, Gerry Best, Danny Doherty, Annie McKinney, Mary MacDonald, Joan MacLean, Captain Donald MacIntyre, Gerald Mulrooney, Josephine Watters, Dan Ryan, James and Elizabeth MacDougall, Peggie Smith and Josephine MacLaren.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** begins in Sunday, 18th January.

The most fundamental of human rights is the **right to life**. We saw that right cruelly violated in France in the course of the past week. One of those who died was a Muslim policeman. Another was a young black policewoman, originally from Martinique, who graduated just a few weeks ago. Innocent Jewish hostages have also died. They had gone to do their shopping for the Sabbath. A Muslim shop assistant hid fifteen of the Jewish customers, thereby saving their lives. Atheists and believers alike have been murdered in cold-blood, robbed of their humanity and their right to life with their loved ones. And in the same week, hundreds more have been killed in north-east Nigeria, victims of the Boko Haram terrorists. More than ever, the world needs a deep sense of our common humanity, our compassion and our prayer.



The memory of **St. Kentigern**, or **Mungo**, is kept alive in the coat of arms of the city of Glasgow. We see the image of the saint himself, Glasgow's first bishop. Then there are the symbols of various legends connected with him: the tree with Kentigern's bell attached to it; the fish with the gold ring in its mouth, recovered thanks to the prayer of the saint; the robin, favourite bird of Kentigern's mentor, St. Serf. The city's motto is taken from words used in one of Kentigern's sermons: "Lord, let Glasgow flourish by the preaching of the word."