

## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**29<sup>th</sup> March 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**

### **NOTICEBOARD**

**Monday** Mass at 10.15 a.m.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation, 7 to 8 p.m.  
*(Fr. Tony Wood)*

**Tuesday** Mass at 10.15 a.m.

**Wednesday** Mass at 10.15 a.m.

### **THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Mass at 7 p.m.

Vigil at the Altar of Repose until Night Prayer at 10 p.m.

### **GOOD FRIDAY**

*(Day of Fast and Abstinence)*

Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord at 3 p.m.

Way of the Cross at 7 p.m.

### **HOLY SATURDAY**

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10 to 10.45 a.m.;  
4 to 4.30 p.m.

*(Fr. MacKinnon)*

**THE EASTER VIGIL WILL BEGIN AT 8.30 P.M.**

**THE EASTER MORNING MASS IS AT 10.30 A.M.**

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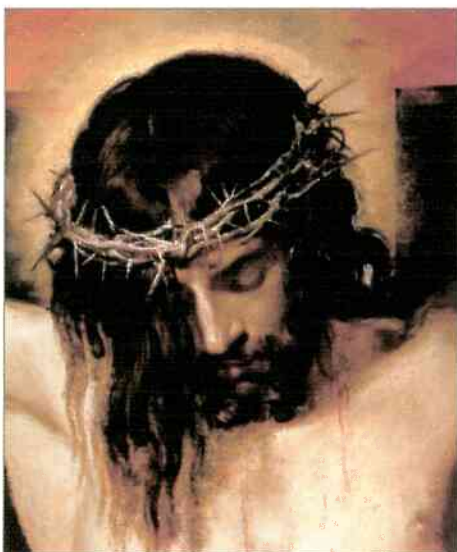
May this **Holy Week** be a time of special blessing for you all!

Please note that **Good Friday** is a Day of Fast and Abstinence.

There are collection baskets at the back of the church for those who would like to support the **African Missions and the Holy Places**. These baskets will also be available on Good Friday.

**Fr. Tony Wood** will be this Easter's visiting confessor and will be here on Monday, from 7 to 8 p.m.

There is a sheet at the back of the church for those who would like to take part in the Holy Thursday Vigil at the **Altar of Repose**. Please remember our parish's observance of silence from Holy Thursday night until after the Good Friday Commemoration of the Passion of the Lord.



We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Margaret McHugh, Frank Keenan, Winnie Maclellan, Donald Alistair MacDonald, Ian Kerr, James Campbell, Rosemary Clark, Ann MacBeth, Duncan MacBeth, Lyndsey McMonagle, Donald John MacNeil and John Deakin.** May they rest in the peace of their Saviour.

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

**We thank** all those who have volunteered to read during Holy Week!

The **Chrism Mass** in Oban was as special as ever. We thank Bishop Bill Nolan for being with us and for his encouraging homily. More than one priest remarked on how well represented was St Mary's, Fort William.

The school Easter holidays give us little time for rehearsing **our servers**. We can only do our best. Our thanks to the servers' parents for the support they give.

The victims of the **Germanwings air crash** in the Alps are very much in our thoughts and prayers, as are the loved ones who are trying to come to terms with what has happened. Our prayers are also with the parents and relatives of the co-pilot, Andreas Lubitz.

Fr. Michael Briody has produced an excellent little pamphlet in celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the martyrdom of **St. John Ogilvie**. Copies are available at the back of the church. They cost 75p, and the money raised will go to Fr. Briody's parish, St. Michael's in Moodiesburn.

It is to the Cross that the Christian is challenged to follow his Master: no path of redemption can make a detour around it.  
*(Fr. Hans Urs von Balthasar)*

Before we can begin to see the cross as something done for us, we have to see it as something done by us. *(John R.W. Stott)*

Suffering invites us to place our hurts in larger hands. In Christ we see God suffering – for us. And calling us to share in God's suffering love for a hurting world. The small and even overpowering pains of our lives are intimately connected with the greater pains of Christ. Our daily sorrows are anchored in a greater sorrow and therefore a larger hope. *(Fr. Henri J.M. Nouwen)*

And yet with every wound You robbed me of a crime,  
And as each blow was paid with Blood,  
You paid me also each great sin with greater graces.  
For even as I killed You,  
You made Yourself a greater thief than any in  
Your company,  
Stealing my sins into Your dying life,  
Robbing me even of my death.  
*(From the poems of Fr. Thomas Merton)*

My parents would always trace the sign of the cross on our foreheads before they kissed us goodnight. *(Cardinal Vincent Nichols)*

I am not going to Heaven because I have preached to great crowds or read the Bible many times. I'm going to Heaven just like the thief on the cross who said in that last moment: 'Lord, remember me.'  
*(Billy Graham)*

You might say, 'Can't we have a more human Christianity, without the cross, without Jesus, without stripping ourselves?' In this way we'd become pastry-shop Christians, like a pretty cake and nice sweet things. Pretty, but not true Christians.  
*(Pope Francis)*

When the dictators and the opportunists are gone, the cross will still stand before us and something in us will say, 'That is the real thing.'  
*(Ralph W. Sockman)*

Power, no matter how well-intentioned, tends to cause suffering. Love, being vulnerable, absorbs it. In a point of convergence on a hill called Calvary, God renounced the one for the sake of the other.  
*(Philip Yancey)*

Who is there that can adequately gauge the greatness of the humility, gentleness, self-surrender, revealed by the Lord of majesty in assuming human nature, in accepting the punishment of death, the shame of the cross? *(Saint Bernard)*

Jesus didn't die to save me from God. Jesus died to save me from myself. *(Ricky Maye)*