

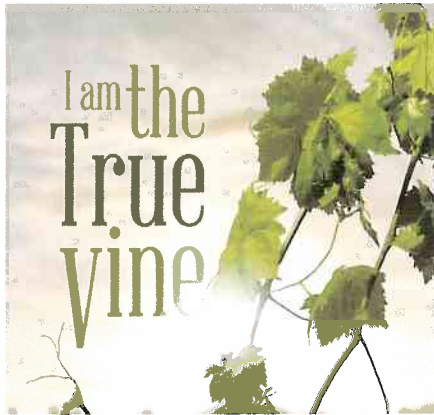
# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

3<sup>rd</sup> May 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

<u>Sunday Masses</u>	Saturday, 6 p.m. Sunday, 10.30 a.m.
<u>Weekday Masses</u>	Monday, 5 p.m. Other Weekdays, 10.15 a.m.
<u>May Devotions</u>	Wednesday, 7 p.m. ( <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 6.30 p.m.</i> )
<u>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</u>	Saturday, 9.30 to 9.50 a.m. 4.30 to 5 p.m. 5.30 to 5.45 p.m.

*There are no Feasts or Memorials this week.*

Thank you for your very generous support of SCIAF. This year, the **Wee Boxes** raised £1188.76. This has already been sent off, ensuring that it arrive in good time for the UK government's doubling of all contributions. Last year's total was £975.35

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Marie Maclean, Jim Grace, Helen MacDonald, Theresa MacDonald, Georges Hayes, Rose Hamilton and Maimie Trybis.** May they rest in the peace of their Risen Lord. We pray also for the eternal rest of **Peggy MacDonald**, sister of Mary Kerr, who has died peacefully in South Uist. May the Lord welcome her home and comfort all her loved ones. And may Our Saviour look after all our loved ones until we are together again on the Day of the Lord.

Please remember that our **May Devotions** begin on Wednesday, at 7 p.m. They will not take place in the Lady Chapel as in previous years, but in the main body of the church. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beforehand, beginning at 6.30 p.m.

Our congratulations to the children who made their **First Confession** on Friday. They did very well! Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their First Holy Communion in June.

Thank you for your very generous support of Pope Francis. Last Sunday's **Peter's Pence** collection came to £499.83 Last year's collection raised £372.62.

Our congratulations to recent **200 Club** winners: Mary MacDougall, James MacDonald, and Chrissie MacLean! And our thanks to all who support the parish through their membership.

Please remember the invitation to the **Chapel House garden**, this Sunday, at 2 p.m. Whatever you do to enhance the garden would be greatly appreciated, and we would welcome any suggestions. Much can be done by those who love gardening. Fr. MacKinnon will concentrate on the three tomato plants in the greenhouse, hoping that he will be more successful than he was the last time.

SCIAF has launched an emergency appeal for the **suffering people of Nepal.** It has already sent off £50,000 to the Catholic agencies already in that country. It has been left to parish priests to decide how to respond that this appeal. Over the next few weeks, baskets will be left at the back of the church for any donations you may wish to give. We can, of course, send personal donations directly to SCIAF at 19 Park Circus, Glasgow G3 6BE. The SCIAF website can also be visited for up-to-date information.



## POTPOURRI



Religion creates community, community creates altruism and altruism turns us away from self and towards the common good... There is something about the tenor of relationships within a religious community that makes it the best tutorial in citizenship and good neighbourliness. *(Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)*

In 1906, the author Hilaire Belloc stood as a candidate for the Liberal Party. His Tory opponent urged people: "Don't vote for a Frenchman and a Catholic!" At a public meeting, Belloc addressed the crowd: "Gentlemen, I am a Catholic. As far as possible, I go to Mass every day. This *(taking a rosary out of his pocket)* is a rosary. As far as possible, I kneel down and tell these beads every day. If you reject me on account of my religion, I shall thank God that He has spared me the indignity of being your representative." Belloc won the seat, overturning the Conservative majority by 852 votes.

Divide and rule, a sound motto. Unite and lead, a better one. *(Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1749-1832)*

Our true nationality is mankind. *(H.G. Wells, 1866-1946)*

All wars are civil wars because all men are brothers... Each of us owes infinitely more to the human race than to the particular country in which he or she was born. *(Bishop François Fénelon, 1651-1715)*

Secular humanists of every type may ridicule the Bible, but they cannot escape it; and in their obsession with change, calls for reform, doomsday warnings, and utopian visions, they continue to steal from it. *(Gene Edward Veith Jr.)*

Happiness is not only a hope, but also in some strange manner a memory ... We are all kings in exile. *(G.K. Chesterton, 1874-1936)*

Our dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we really want is for things to remain the same but get better. *(Sydney J. Harris)*

Anyone who thinks there's safety in numbers hasn't looked at the stock market pages. *(Irene Peter)*

Tradition is not the worship of ashes, but the preservation of fire. *(Gustav Mahler, 1860-1911)*

A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love. *(Saint Basil, 330-379)*

Highly sensitive people are too often perceived as weaklings or damaged goods. To feel intensely is not a symptom of weakness, it is the trademark of the truly alive and compassionate. It is not the empath who is broken; it is society that has become dysfunctional and emotionally disabled. *(Anthon St. Maarten)*

My strength and my weakness are twins in the same womb. *(Marge Piercy)*

Some people complain because God puts thorns on roses, while others praise God for putting roses among thorns. *(Anon)*

God will not take shelter behind a jugglery of logic or metaphysics. He is neither a schoolman nor theologian, but our Father in heaven. *(George MacDonald, 1824-1905)*

God is dead not because He doesn't exist, but because we live, play, procreate, govern and die as though He doesn't. *(Chuck Colson)*

**AND ALSO....**

1. Never trust an atom: they make up everything.
2. Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.
3. Can atheists get insurance for acts of God?
4. Why isn't "phonetic" spelled the way it sounds?