

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10th 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

Sunday Masses

Saturday, 6 p.m.
Sunday, 10.30 a.m.

Weekday Masses

10.15 a.m.
Ascension Thursday:
10.15 a.m. 1.15 p.m. and 7 p.m.

May Devotions

Wednesday, 7 p.m. (*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 6.30 p.m.*)

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 9.30 to 9.50 a.m.
4.30 to 5 p.m. 5.30 to 5.45 p.m.

Thursday is the Solemnity of the Ascension and a Holiday of Obligation

Those who wish to support SCIAF's aid to **Nepal** have a final chance to do so this Saturday and Sunday. The baskets will be there at the back of the church. Our thanks to all those who have already given so generously. SCIAF has written to thank you for your **Wee Box** donations. With match funding from the UK government, your final donation will be £2377.52.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Sarah Teresa Hayes, Kateann and Murdoch MacNeil, Annie and Dugald MacDonald, Craig Marshall, Mary Brown, Ewen Morrison, Angus MacDonald, Peter Doherty, Jack Borrill, Peter Kennedy, Helen MacDonald, John MacLellan, Mary Catherine McAuley and John Law.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Please note that **Ascension Thursday** is a Holiday of Obligation.

Our **May Devotions** will be on Wednesday, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beforehand, beginning at 6.30 p.m.

Whatever our political persuasions may be, we thank **Charles Kennedy** for representing our community since that day when, as a very young man, he entered the House of Commons for the first time. We wish him every blessing in the future and hope that his gifts will continue to be recognised and used, nationally and perhaps internationally. Our good wishes to all who were elected. Each knows that he or she will have to keep the balance between their party and its particular agenda and the representation of all the people in the constituency that elected them to office. Please note the words of Pope Francis in this week's bulletin.

We have two special collections in the coming weeks: **Catholic Communications** next Sunday and the **Day for Life** collection the Sunday after. Whatever you can give will be greatly appreciated.

As we marked the 70th anniversary of **VE Day**, our thoughts and prayers were with the veterans who are still with us. Nor should we forget the bitter conflict that continued in 1945, in the Pacific and the Far East.

Please remember the invitation to help out in the **parish garden**, and our thanks to those have already done so.

Our best wishes and prayers to all the young people who are sitting important exams at the moment.

"Bon voyage" to the parishioners setting off for **Lourdes** later this week. Ours is the time-honoured request: "Please remember us at the Grotto."

Potpourri

On 16 September 2013, during one of his informal homilies at early morning Mass, Pope Francis said: "Prayer is the best that we can offer to those who govern. That's what Paul says: 'Pray for all people, and for the king and for all in authority.'" Prayers can be simple, the Pope explained. "Pray that the leader, man or woman, can govern well, love their people, serve their people, and remain humble....."

The Pope's message extended to those in positions of political power. He argued that are two virtues a true leader needs to govern: love for the people and humility. "And every man, every woman who has to take up the service of government, must ask themselves two questions: 'Do I love my people in order to serve them better? Am I humble and do I listen to everybody, to diverse opinions in order to choose the best path?'" he asked. "If you don't ask those questions, your governance will not be good."

"La France s'ennuie! La France s'attriste!" – "France is bored! France grieves!"
(Alphonse de Lamartine, French poet and politician, heralding the revolution of 1848)

Well and good if all things change, O Lord God, provided I am rooted in You. (St. John of the Cross, 1542-91)

My trust in God flows out of the experience of his loving me, day in and day out, whether the day is stormy or fair, whether I'm sick or in good health, whether I'm in a state of grace or disgrace. He comes to me where I live and loves me as I am. (Brennan Manning, American writer and Franciscan priest, 1934-2013)

Hatred is corrosive of a person's wisdom and conscience; the mentality of enmity can poison a nation's spirit, instigate brutal life and death struggles, destroy a society's tolerance and humanity, and block a nation's progress to freedom and democracy.

(Liu Xiaobo. Chinese writer and human rights activist, Received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2010. At present in prison)

Music in the soul can be heard by the universe. (Lao Tzu, Chinese poet and philosopher, 6th century BC)

Governing a great nation is like cooking a small fish - too much handling will spoil it. (Lao Tzu)

Only one man has the right to boast, and that's the man who never does. (Anon)

In passing, we should note this curious mark of our own age: the only absolute allowed is the absolute insistence that there is no absolute. (Francis Schaeffer, American Evangelical theologian and pastor, 1912-1984)

I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.
(Martin Luther King, Black American Civil Rights leader. Assassinated 1968)

AND ALSO..... Too bad the only people who know how to run the country are busy driving cabs and cutting hair.
(George Burns, American actor and comedian, 1896-1996)
Never let a computer know you're in a hurry.
In every fat book there is a thin book trying to get out.



Pope Francis is made an Honorary Harlem Globe Trotter



Parrot meets Pope