

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5<sup>th</sup> July 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



**'He was amazed at their lack of faith.'**

### Noticeboard

#### Sunday Masses

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

#### Weekday Masses

Monday, 5 p.m.  
Other Weekdays, 10.15 a.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 Feast of Our Lady of Aberdeen; Saturday, the Feast of St. Benedict.*

**The work** on the church's guttering and downpipes is progressing well. You can see the improvement at the back of the church. Much remains to be done, and we hope that good weather will soon return and make things easier.

We pray for the Faithful Departed, especially those anniversaries are about this time: **Michael Deeny, Alexander MacDonald, Christine Smith, Michael Morrison, Gladys White, Charles McKeown, Billy MacLeod, Christine Smith, Maisie Mitchell, Ian MacIntyre, Mary McLaughlin, Mary Ulph, John Donaldson, Ellen Kennedy, Catherine MacLeod, Eugene McCaffrey, Ina MacDonald and Ian MacLennan.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

**Fr. Stanislaw** will begin a supply in St. Mary's next weekend. He should be with you for a month, and we know that he will enjoy being back. Father MacKinnon will be away for much of the time. There will be no parish bulletins in his absence.

As July is the month of the Precious Blood, we will have **Communion under both kinds** at Mass this Sunday. Please note the Litany on the back of this bulletin. Deacon Thomas had offered to recruit more volunteers for this ministry, making it more frequent at our Sunday Masses. We thank those who have helped at weekday Mass for many a year!

The annual collection for the **Bishop's Fund** is due in July. We will have it on the 18/19th of the month

Please note that **Monday's Mass** is at 5 p.m.

### Some Quotes to Ponder

The future starts today, not tomorrow. *(Pope John Paul II)*

Born poor, but of honoured and humble people, I am particularly proud to die poor. *(Pope John XXIII)*

When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand. *(Fr. Henri Nouwen)*

No one heals himself by wounding another. *(Saint Ambrose of Milan)*

*Traditionally, July is the month of the Precious Blood of Our Saviour. Here is part of the Litany of the Precious Blood, the response being "Save us!" It could be our daily devotion for July. It could also help us articulate our faith in the saving love of Christ as we drink from the chalice at Mass.*

- Blood of Christ, only-begotten Son of the eternal Father
- Blood of Christ, Incarnate Word of God
- Blood of Christ, of the New and Eternal Testament
- Blood of Christ, falling upon the earth in Gethsemane
- Blood of Christ, shed profusely in the Scourging
- Blood of Christ, flowing forth in the Crowning with Thorns
- Blood of Christ, poured out upon the Cross,
- Blood of Christ, price of our salvation
- Blood of Christ, without which there is no forgiveness
- Blood of Christ, Eucharistic drink and refreshment of souls
- Blood of Christ, stream of mercy
- Blood of Christ, victor over demons
- Blood of Christ, courage of Martyrs
- Blood of Christ, strength of Confessors
- Blood of Christ, source of Virgins
- Blood of Christ, help of those in peril
- Blood of Christ, relief of the burdened
- Blood of Christ, solace in sorrow
- Blood of Christ, hope of the penitent
- Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying
- Blood of Christ, peace and tenderness of hearts,
- Blood of Christ, pledge of eternal life
- Blood of Christ, freeing souls from purgatory
- Blood of Christ, most worthy of all glory and honour



St. Giles is one of the principal streets of Oxford. In it is the *Eagle and Child* public house, made famous by two men: one a devout Catholic, the other an Anglican convert of Ulster Protestant background. They often met here with their closest friends, calling themselves “the Inklings”. The two men were J.R.R. Tolkien, author of *The Lord of the Rings*, and C.S. Lewis, the writer who made the Christian faith accessible to millions through his books and radio broadcasts. Both were professors at Oxford University and lifelong friends.

There was once another public house in St. Giles, called the *Catherine Wheel*. Humphrey Pritchard was its “pot boy”. Nowadays we would call him a barman. He lived during the Elizabethan persecution. He converted to the Catholic faith and was eventually condemned to death along with two priests and one of the local gentry.

On the scaffold Humphrey Pritchard said, "I call all people here present to bear witness, in this world, and on the Day of Judgement, that I die because I am a Catholic, a faithful Christian of Holy Church." One of the academics in the crowd mocked Pritchard, calling him a poor wretch who in his ignorance did not know what “Catholic” meant. To this Humphrey Pritchard replied: "I may not be able to tell you in words what it means to be a Catholic, God knows my heart, and that which I am unable to explain in words I am here to explain and attest with my blood."

The words of the Litany come to mind: “Blood of Christ, courage of martyrs”, as do the words of Our Saviour when speaking of the persecutions that lay ahead: “Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself will give you an eloquence and wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict.” (Luke 21:25)

Humphrey Pritchard was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987. Today, 5<sup>th</sup> July, is his Memorial Day.

In 1962, the *Eagle and Child* was renovated, depriving Tolkien, Lewis and their friends of the privacy they had enjoyed. Reluctantly, they moved to the nearby *Lamb and Flag*.

