

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

16<sup>th</sup> August 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



**“Anyone who does eat my flesh  
and drink my blood has  
eternal life.”**

### Noticeboard

#### Sunday Masses

Saturday, 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning, 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.

*Thursday is the Memorial of St. Bernard; Friday, the Memorial of St. Pius X; Saturday, the Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary.*

Our sincere thanks to **Father Stanislaw** for looking after the parish in Fr. MacKinnon's absence. We hope that he enjoys the rest of his summer in Scotland, and wish him every blessing when he returns to his studies and parish work in Poland.

We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember especially **Maude Russell** of Victoria Road, who died earlier this week. May her Saviour now welcome her home into the peace and joy of his eternal love. We pray also for those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Sheena Cameron, Esther McEleney, Peter Doherty, Anne Gillies, Kathleen McCartney, Tom Crowe, Lucy Ryan, Harry Campbell, Donald (Dodo) MacKinnon, Ann MacLeod, Darin Quail, George Brown, Lily Quail, Donald Smith and Anne O'Donnell**. May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

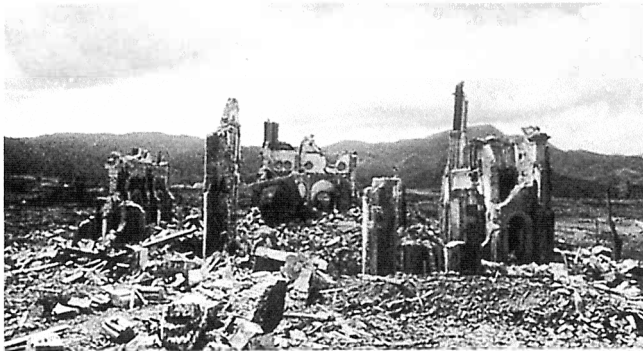
We are especially grateful to those who support the parish through **Gift Aid**. The amount claimed for the past tax year came to £5,737.15. Much of this went to the cost of repairing the Lady Chapel and to preliminary work in the church. As this work continues, in both church and Chapel House, we ask all our parishioners to continue their generous support of their parish.

**Holy Communion** will be taken to the housebound from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August.



**Detail of the Coronation of Our Lady by Gentile da Fabriano (c. 1370 – 1427)**

**Gentile belonged to the International Gothic period of Christian art**



We see here the Catholic Cathedral of Nagasaki before and after the atomic bomb was dropped on the city on the 9<sup>th</sup> August, 1945. It was just 500 metres from the epicentre of the explosion. 8,500 of the Cathedral's 12,000 parishioners perished. One of those who survived was Dr. Takashi Nagai. Despite his own serious wounds, he immediately dedicated himself to the care of the injured.

Takashi was a convert to the Catholic faith, largely through the example of the Moriyama family, with whom he lodged. For three centuries, in the face of terrible persecution, the Moriyamas' ancestors had secretly preserved the Catholic faith. The faith and goodness of young Midori Moriyama in particular brought Nagai to his baptism in 1934. Shortly afterwards, he and Midori were married. Theirs would be a union of faith, prayer and service as well as love. All that Takashi would find of Midori after the atomic explosion were her charred bones with the remains of a rosary. In the years before his death in 1951, Takashi Nagai gave extraordinary comfort and hope to thousands. People of every faith in Nagasaki continue to honour his memory. The first stage in the process of his canonisation has begun.



Takashi Nagai in the final weeks of his life, with two of his children.

Midori, those secret pilgrimages you used to make early in the morning to Hongochi Monastery, praying for me, they are over now. Thank you for that and for your countless acts of kindness. Forgive me! Forgive me for taking you for granted. You remained at home while I selfishly pursued my studies and got promoted. Forgive me for not going straight to you when you were dying. Please forgive me!

*(Takashi Nagai's words as he buried the remains of his wife Midori)*

Unless you have suffered and wept, you really don't understand what compassion is, nor can you give comfort to someone who is suffering. If you haven't cried, you can't dry another's eyes. Unless you've walked in darkness, you can't help wanderers find the way. Unless you've looked into the eyes of menacing death and felt its hot breath, you can't help another rise from the dead and taste anew the joy of being alive.

*(Takashi Nagai)*

All things must come to the soul from its roots, from where it is planted. *(Saint Teresa of Avila)*

Every mother is like Moses. She does not enter the Promised Land. She prepares a world she will not see. *(Pope Paul VI)*

Liturgy is like a strong tree whose beauty is derived from the continuous renewal of its leaves, but whose strength comes from the old trunk, with solid roots in the ground. *(Pope Paul VI)*

Advertising treats all products with the reverence and the seriousness due to sacraments. *(Thomas Merton, Trappist monk, author and poet)*

When ambition ends, happiness begins. *(Thomas Merton)*

Jesus didn't say, 'Blessed are those who care for the poor.' He said, 'Blessed are we where we are poor, where we are broken.' It is there that God loves us deeply and pulls us into deeper communion with himself. *(Fr. Henri Nouwen, author)*

AND ALSO....

Those people who have no trouble separating the men from the boys are called women. *(Howard Tamplin)*

What did the nuclear physicist have for lunch?  
Fission chips!

A recent worldwide survey showed that out of 2,146,703,436 people, 94% did not bother to actually read that number.

How do you make seven an even number?  
Take the "s" out!