

## TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11<sup>th</sup> October 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

[www.stmarysfortwilliam.org](http://www.stmarysfortwilliam.org)



“He went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.”

### Noticeboard

#### Sunday Masses

First Mass of Sunday, Saturday, 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning Mass, 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.

#### October Devotions

Wednesday, 6 p.m. (*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for half an hour before.*)

*Monday is the Memorial of St. Kenneth (Diocesan Calendar); Thursday, the Memorial of St. Teresa of Avila; Saturday, the Memorial of St. Ignatius of Antioch.*

Our sincere thanks for your very generous response to SCIAF's **emergency appeal** for the refugees of Syria. Last Sunday's special collection raised a remarkable £1100.80! God bless you for your thoughtful kindness.

We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember especially **Rachel Morrison** who died very peacefully in Invernevis House on Wednesday. We give thanks for Rachel's years of service as housekeeper to her brother Canon John Morrison. She was laid to rest in South Uist this Saturday. May the Lord now welcome her into eternal peace and joy. We extend our sincere sympathy and prayer to all of Rachel's family, for whom she was a very special person. We remember also those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Colin MacMillan, Maureen MacPherson, Archie MacKay, Sister Isabel Kelly, Sandy Campbell, Sandra Campbell, Ena MacDonald, Allan MacKellaig, Monsignor William MacMaster, Ronnie MacLeod, George Ulph, Thomas Brash, Mona McGovern, Alastair Weir, Kenny Cairns, Davie Allan, Ellen McGinley and Roddy MacLean.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Please remember our **October Devotions**, and the half-hour of adoration and reflection beforehand.

We wish **Father Stanislaw** every blessing as he resumes his studies at the Catholic University of Warsaw.

### NEXT SUNDAY IS MISSION SUNDAY

Small Gift Aid envelopes are available at the back of the church. These are for the special collection taken at the end of Mass. If you would like to augment your donation through Gift Aid, please take one these envelopes home this Sunday and fill in the details required during the week. Some prayer cards are also available for those who would like to keep the Missions in their prayer in the coming week.

*Please do not put Missio Membership money or cheques in these Gift Aid envelopes.* These should be separate from the special collection. There are forms for renewing or initiating *Missio* membership at the back of the church, along with standard-sized blank envelopes. Please take these home this Sunday. Cheques should be made out to "*Missio Scotland*".

This parish has always been exceptionally supportive of the Church's missions, and we know you will be as generous as ever next Sunday.

**The Annunciation**  
**A Marian Poem by Thomas Merton**

Ashes of paper, ashes of a world  
Wandering, when fire is done:  
We argue with the drops of rain!

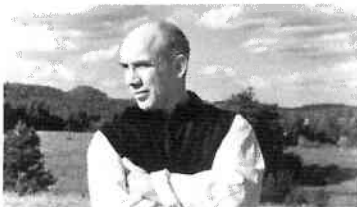
Until one comes Who walks unseen  
Even in elements we have destroyed.  
Deeper than any nerve  
He enters flesh and bone.  
Planting His truth, He puts our substance on.  
Air, earth, and rain  
Rework the frame that fire has ruined.  
What was dead is waiting for His Flame.  
Sparks of His Spirit spend their seeds, and hide  
To grow like irises, born before summertime.  
These blue thinas bud in Israel.

The girl prays by the bare wall  
Between the lamp and the chair.  
(Framed with an angel in our galleries  
She has a richer painted room, sometimes a crown.  
Yet seven pillars of obscurity  
Build her to Wisdom's house, and Ark, and Tower.  
She is the Secret of another Testament  
She owns their manna in her jar.)

Fifteen years old -  
The flowers printed on her dress  
Cease moving in the middle of her prayer  
When God, Who sends the messenger,  
Meets His messenger in her Heart.  
Her answer, between breath and breath,  
Wrings from her innocence our Sacrament!  
In her white body God becomes our Bread.

It is her tenderness  
Heats the dead world like David on his bed.  
Times that were too soon criminal  
And never wanted to be normal  
Evade the beast that has pursued  
You, me and Adam out of Eden's wood.  
Suddenly we find ourselves assembled  
Cured and recollected under several green trees.

Her prudence wrestled with the Dove  
To hide us in His cloud of steel and silver:  
These are the mysteries of her Son.  
And here my heart, a purchased outlaw,  
Prays in her possession  
Until her Jesus makes my heart  
Smile like a flower in her blameless hand.



In a country well governed, poverty is something to be ashamed of. In a country badly governed, wealth is something to be ashamed of.

*(Confucius, renowned Chinese sage, 551 – 479 BC)*

Without a rich heart, wealth is an ugly beggar.

*(Ralph Waldo Emerson, essayist and poet, 1803-82)*

There is more in you of good than you know, child of the kindly West. Some courage and some wisdom, blended in measure. If more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold, it would be a merrier world.

*(From J.R.R. Tolkien's, "The Hobbit")*

Religious liberty might be supposed to mean that everybody is free to discuss religion. In practice it means that hardly anybody is allowed to mention it.

*(G.K. Chesterton, convert and writer, 1874-1936)*

Wealth is the slave of a wise man; the master of a fool.

*(Seneca, Roman statesman and philosopher, c. 4 BC – AD 65)*

It is not in everyone's power to secure wealth, office, or honours; but everyone may be good, generous, and wise.

*(Luc De Clapiers, French writer 1715-47)*

Surplus wealth is a sacred trust which its possessor is bound to administer in his lifetime for the good of the community. *(Andrew Carnegie, Scots-born industrialist, billionaire and philanthropist, 1835-1919. He gave away almost 90% of his fortune.)*

Every child deserves a chance at a life, filled with love, laughter, friends and family.

*(Marlo Thomas, actress, 1937-)*

Art for art's sake is a philosophy of the well-fed.

*(Frank Lloyd Wright, architect and writer, 1867-1959)*

We plant seeds that will flower as results in our lives, so best to remove the weeds of anger, avarice, envy and doubt, that peace and abundance may manifest for all.

*(Dorothy Day, convert, journalist, social and peace activist, 1897-1980)*

The child must know that he is a miracle, that since the beginning of the world there hasn't been, and until the end of the world there will not be, another child like him. *(Pablo Casals, famous cellist, 1876-1973)*

The UN wasn't created to take mankind into paradise, but rather, to save humanity from hell.

*(Dag Hammarskjöld, UN Secretary General, 1953-61)*

You pray in your distress and in your need; would that you might pray also in the fullness of your joy and in your days of abundance.

*(Kahlil Gibran, American-Lebanese poet, 1883-1931)*