

## TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2012

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



**"Anyone who welcomes one of these little children welcomes me.."**

### Noticeboard

Sunday Masses:

Vigil Mass, 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 5.50 p.m.

*Thursday is the Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul; Saturday the Feast of the Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.*

**Please, please help out** with the soups in St. Andrew's Hall this coming Friday! There is a sheet in the church porch. The Annual Harvest Festival takes place this Sunday, in St. Andrew's Church at 6.30 p.m. Come along! And remember that soups are served throughout the week from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This Sunday, we have a special collection for the **Ecclesiastical Students' Fund** of the Diocese. We know that you will be as generous as you can in the present economic circumstances. On the other side of this bulletin you will find an article concerning seminaries based on the words of Pope Benedict XVI, who is quoted at length.

**The repair of the church** makes slow but steady progress. At present we await the scaffolding team for some additional work. The "flat bits" of the church (at the top of the tower and at the back) will eventually be given a new covering, using modern materials. This should make a great difference.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Joe McHugh, Rosemary Haggerty, John MacLellan, Sarah Sedgwick and Sandy MacFarlane.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Please remember the sheet for the **Deanery Pilgrimage to Pluscarden** at the back of the church.

Fr. MacKinnon is concerned about **the parking** immediately in front of the Chapel House. For those with mobility problems, this is the best place for parking. Others are free to park at the side of the house or near the wall. If we were to extend the tarmac at the front even by two yards, then this should give extra space without over-reducing a garden admired by many. We will look at this once church repairs and heating have been attended to.

Eighteen months ago we prayed for a **young soldier called Gavin** who returned terribly mutilated from Afghanistan. He is now coping well with an artificial leg and the reconstruction of one side of his face continues. Perhaps his missing lower arm is also being attended to. In the very near future, Gavin is flying to New York. From there he will cycle across the United States to Los Angeles, raising money for "Help the Heroes" and another charity. Such determination is a powerful lesson for us all, and we also saw so much of it in the recent Paralympics. The medical care given to Gavin and others like him is something to be truly thankful for.

**Mary's Meals** will be with us next weekend. We know that you will give them your full support in the fabrics you hand in and the raffle tickets you buy.

The murder of two unarmed **young policewomen** has shocked an entire nation. May they rest in peace and may God comfort all those who mourn them. Drug-gangs spawn such violence and what they supply and profit from continues to destroy many young lives. This is quite simply demonic, no matter where it takes place.

**Holy Communion** will be brought to the housebound this week, from Monday to Wednesday.

## Pax Vobiscum



Here is a drawing of a *Pax-Brede* or *Tabula Pacis*. In Medieval and even Renaissance times this was used at the Sign of Peace. It was kissed by the bishop or priest and then brought to be kissed by others, originally to high ranking people near the altar, and eventually to the wider congregation. Such was the desire to kiss this tablet that sometimes shoving and pushing tested Christian fellowship to the limit! In St. Mary's today, we do not, of course, use the *Tabula*. Instead we have our young servers who bring the peace won by the sacrifice of Christ, the peace of the Risen Lord present in the Eucharist, to the people. It must be one of the most heart-warming moments of our Sunday Mass.

## THE GROWTH OF THE INTERNET

Year	Number of Users	% of World Population
1995	16,000,000	0.4%
1996	36,000,000	0.9%
1997	70,000,000	1.7%
1998	147,000,000	3.6%
1999	248,000,000	4.1%
2000	361,000,000	5.8%
2001	513,000,000	8.6%
2002	587,000,000	9.4%
2003	719,000,000	11.1%
2004	817,000,000	12.7%
2005	1,018,000,000	15.7%
2006	1,093,000,000	16.7%
2007	1,219,000,000	20.0%
2008	1,574,000,000	23.5%
2009	1,802,000,000	26.6%
2010	1,971,000,000	28.8%
2011	2,267,000,000	32.7%
March 2012	2,280,000,000	32.7%

<http://>



## Diversity and Mutual Tolerance in the Seminary

“The origins of a priestly vocation are nowadays more varied and disparate than in the past. Today the decision to become a priest often takes shape after one has already entered upon a secular profession. Often it grows within the Communities, particularly within the Movements, which favour a communal encounter with Christ and his Church, spiritual experiences and joy in the service of the faith. It also matures in very personal encounters with the nobility and the wretchedness of human existence. As a result, candidates for the priesthood often live on very different spiritual continents. It can be difficult to recognize the common elements of one's future mandate and its spiritual path. For this very reason, the seminary is important as a community which advances above and beyond differences of spirituality. *The Movements are a magnificent thing. You know how much I esteem them and love them as a gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church. Yet they must be evaluated by their openness to what is truly Catholic, to the life of the whole Church of Christ, which for all her variety still remains one. The seminary is a time when you learn with one another and from one another. In community life, which can at times be difficult, you should learn generosity and tolerance, not only bearing with, but also enriching one another, so that each of you will be able to contribute his own gifts to the whole, even as all serve the same Church, the same Lord.* This school of tolerance, indeed, of mutual acceptance and mutual understanding in the unity of Christ's Body, is an important part of your years in the seminary.”  
*(Pope Benedict to Seminarians)*

The “Movements” referred to by the Pope include such groups as Focolare, the Faith Movement, Opus Dei, the Legionaries of Christ, the different forms of Charismatic Renewal, and so on. Many people will share his gratitude for what these have given to the life of the Church. But what should be noted in his words is a gentle warning as regards seminary life. Not every man who enters seminary belongs to a movement. Some are simply not “movement people”. Those seminarians who come from “the same stable”, so to speak, have a power of association that a particular seminarian may not have. This can lead to unfortunate situations where an individual student can become marginalized, even demoralized, because of the intolerance of a particular group or its dominant figure. One would always hope that seminary staff and bishops remain alert and sensitive to this possibility. There is much that is positive in the Movements. Each has its charism, and these may attract different kinds of people, but surely not to the detriment of any individual. Such groupings should always beware of an “us and them” mentality, more reminiscent of a sect than of Catholicism. The Movements do tap into the idealism of youth. This can be a very beautiful thing, as long as it does not lead to young seminarians trying to recreate a “Golden Age” of Catholicism which, frankly, did not exist.