

# THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

1<sup>st</sup> January 2017

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)



## Noticeboard

### Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6 p.m.  
Sunday Morning Mass, 10.30 a.m.

### Monday

Mass at 12 noon

### Tuesday

Mass at 5 p.m.

### Wednesday

### to Saturday

Masses at 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.

*Monday is the Memorial of St. Basil and St. Gregory Nazianzen*

**We wish you every blessing in this New Year!**

**Our sincere thanks** for your support of SCIAF's work in Syria. The collections at our Christmas Masses came to a remarkable £1,285.88! God bless you for your kindness.

This is the Church's **World Day of Prayer for Peace** and the annual collection for Justice and Peace will take place. Whatever you can give is truly appreciated. And please remember the Crib Collection. It is for our children's special donation to the Church's Missions.

We remember our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Peggy Cameron, Alistair Matheson, Charles Fitzsimons (Snr.), Archie MacDonald, John Maguire, Michael McEleney, Flora Buchanan, Graham Goodman, Margaret Anne Childs, Margaret Mitchell, Bobby Gribben, Ronald MacInnes, Dorothy Anderson, Roderick MacDonald, Catherine Kearney, David MacPherson and Patricia MacGrail.** May they rest in peace. We pray also for **Teresa Tumilty**, mother of Liz Treasurer, who has died recently, blessed to the end by the devoted love of her family. May she now rest in the peace of the Saviour born for her in Bethlehem.

Next Sunday is the **Solemnity of the Epiphany**. Our Christmas season ends on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

**May the Lord bless you and keep you.**

**May the Lord let his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.**

**May the Lord uncover his face to you  
and bring you peace.**

**Amen.**

## Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise and haste,  
and remember what peace there may be in silence.  
As far as possible without surrender  
be on good terms with all persons.  
Speak your truth quietly and clearly;  
and listen to others,  
even the dull and the ignorant;  
they too have their story.

Avoid loud and aggressive persons,  
they are vexations to the spirit.  
If you compare yourself with others,  
you may become vain and bitter;  
for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans.  
Keep interested in your own career, however humble;  
it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.  
Exercise caution in your business affairs;  
for the world is full of trickery.  
But let this not blind you to what virtue there is;  
many persons strive for high ideals;  
and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself.  
Especially, do not feign affection.  
Neither be cynical about love;  
for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment  
it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years,  
gracefully surrendering the things of youth.  
Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune.  
But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings.  
Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.  
Beyond a wholesome discipline,  
be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe,  
no less than the trees and the stars;  
you have a right to be here.  
And whether or not it is clear to you,  
no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God,  
whatever you conceive Him to be,  
and whatever your labours and aspirations,  
in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.  
With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams,  
it is still a beautiful world.  
Be cheerful.  
Strive to be happy.