

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

19th March 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



Noticeboard

Sunday Masses First Mass of Sunday (Vigil Mass), Saturday 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Mass, 10.30 a.m.

Weekday Masses Monday, 5 p.m.
Other weekdays, 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.

Way of the Cross Wednesday 7 p.m. (*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 to 7 p.m.*)

Saturday is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.

The SCIAF Lenten collection will take place next Sunday. We know that you will be as generous as always!

We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember especially **Ena Morrison** who has died peacefully at home after a long illness. Ena was truly one of the Faithful of our parish community. Hers was a life of quiet goodness and love of her family. May she now rest in the peace of her Saviour. We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayer to Dougie in Invernevis House, to Michael, Anne-Marie, Moira, Donald, the grandchildren and all the family, who gave such devoted care to Ena.

We remember also those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Hugh Davidson, George MacKinnon, Margaret McHugh, John MacLean, Kathleen Robertson, Sister Elizabeth MacLaren, Fred MacLaren, Mary Brannigan, Mary Alistair MacDonald, Lena Maguire, Margaret Deeny, Sarah Kennedy and Flora MacInnes**, May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Our best wishes to **Lochaber Hope** whose new premises were officially opened on Friday. We are grateful for all that it does for so many people in our community and we wish its staff and volunteers every blessing in the future.

The **Easter Vigil** will begin at sunset, 8.30 p.m. on Saturday, 16th April.

Please note a very special Feast on Saturday of this week: the **Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**.



Fra Angelico's Annunciation

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame
"All hail" said he "thou lowly maiden, Mary,
most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

For know, a blessed Mother thou shalt be.
All generations laud and honour thee.
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favoured lady." Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favoured lady! Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn;
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favoured lady!" Gloria!

The British art critic William Michael Rossetti (1829-1919) once wrote of Fra Angelico: "*From various accounts of Fra Angelico's life, it is possible to gain some sense of why he was deserving of canonization. He led the devout and ascetic life of a Dominican friar, and never rose above that rank; he followed the dictates of the order in caring for the poor; he was always good-humored. All of his many paintings were of divine subjects, and it seems that he never altered or retouched them, perhaps from a religious conviction that, because his paintings were divinely inspired, they should retain their original form. He was wont to say that he who illustrates the acts of Christ should be with Christ. It is averred that he never handled a brush without fervent prayer and he wept when he painted a Crucifixion. The Last Judgment and the Annunciation were two of the subjects he most frequently treated.*" His words were to be prophetic. Pope John Paul II beatified Fra Angelico on October 3, 1982, and in 1984 declared him patron of Catholic artists.