

## NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

13<sup>th</sup> August 2017

St. Mary's, Belford Road, Fort William PH33 6BT. Tel. (01397) 702174

Charity No. SC002876

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



### Noticeboard

First Mass of Sunday (Vigil Mass)	Saturday, 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Mass	10.30 a.m.
Weekday Masses	Monday, 5 p.m.
Tuesday	Solemnity of the Annunciation 10.15 a.m. 1.15 p.m. 7 p.m.
Wednesday to Saturday	10.15 a.m.
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday, 9.45 to 10 a.m. 4 to 4.30 p.m. 6.30 to 6.45 p.m.

*Monday is the Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe; Tuesday, the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady (HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION)*

**Please remember** that Tuesday, the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, is a Holyday of Obligation. This Feast calls upon our love of Mary and all she did for us, as well as our love of the Mass. Please note the times of Masses on this day.

There is a special collection due this Sunday. It is for the **sick and retired priests** of the Diocese. We know that you will be as generous as always, mindful of the service that these men gave on behalf of our people.

We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Alex Mitchell, Ann Gillies, Sheena Cameron, Esther McEleney, Peter Doherty, Isabel MacLean, Tom Crow, Lucy Ryan, Mary Campbell, and Donald (Dodo) MacKinnon.** We remember also **Sharon Dalziel**, one of the Kearney family, who has died recently. May the compassionate Good Shepherd lead her home and grant comfort to all those whom she loved. We remember all our loved ones. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

**We wish every blessing** upon our children and older pupils as they return to school. May the special gifts of each of them be discerned and fostered. And may their parents be their first teachers in their journey of faith.

**It is time to enrol** our children who are due for Confirmation, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. So far, six of our young Polish parishioners have been presented, as well as one from the Gaelic School. Now that the school holidays are over and people are returning home, we urge other parents to enrol their children. Fr. MacKinnon wishes to order the appropriate books as soon as possible. Parents (and grandparents!) will have the prime responsibility in the use of these books, to be presented to Fr. MacKinnon from time to time. What is of the greatest importance is the presence of the children at Sunday Mass. This church must become a familiar place for them and their loved ones. The Sacraments of Initiation are no mere rites of passage. They are far more than cultural Catholicism. They require a renewed commitment of faith on the part of the children's parents. Parents teach above all by example. It is a promise that they made on the day their children were baptised. This is as much a milestone in their lives as in the lives of the children entrusted to them by God.

## Potpourri

Each of us has his or her story, much of it known to a compassionate God alone. We follow different paths, but all these converge in the reality of death. We pray for each other when this moment arrives. May the darkness of death soon give way to the bright light of Christ, the gentle shepherd who waits to lead us home.  
*(William Lewis)*

There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.  
*(St. Thomas Aquinas)*

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy, they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.  
*(Marcel Proust)*

Friendship consists in forgetting what one gives and remembering what one receives.  
*(Alexander Dumas)*



This is the cell in Auschwitz where St. Maximilian Kolbe and nine fellow prisoners were enclosed to starve to death as a punishment for the escape of some of the camp's inmates. The Franciscan friar had offered to take the place of another man. That man, Franciszek Gajowniczek, survived, and lived to the great age of 95. Every year, he would return to Auschwitz to honour the ragged friar who had saved his life.



A photo of Franciszek Gajowniczek in his great old age