

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10th September 2017

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

Charity No. SC002876

www.stmarysfortwilliam.org



First Mass of Sunday (Vigil Mass)	Saturday, 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Mass	10.30 a.m.
Weekday Masses or Communion Services	Monday, 5 p.m. Tuesday 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

Wednesday, Memorial of St. John Chrysostom; Thursday, Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross; Friday, Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows; Saturday, Feast of St. Ninian.

This Sunday, we have the annual collection for the **Ecclesiastical Students' Fund**, that is, for the formation of the seminarians of the Diocese. We know that you will be as generous as ever.

Our sincere thanks to those of the parish who helped out on Friday at the Harvest Lunches. St. Mary's raised £182.50. The total for the week, including the collection at last Sunday's Service, was £1125.84.

We pray for those who have died. We remember those whose anniversaries are about this time; **Bella MacPherson, Teddy Brady, Emily MacDonell, Bernice and Eugene Pratt, Colin Clark, Thomas Shaw, Cathie Wood, Francis Ward, Freddie Stephen, Ena MacDonald, Frank Gribben, Helen (Nellie) Hayes, Joe McHugh, Janie Taylor, Neil MacDonald, Kathleen Lucas, Margaret Chisholm, Allan Currie, Donald MacNeil, Janet MacDonald, Sheen McCulloch, David Donaldson, and Carmela Boni.** May they all rest in peace. We remember also **Martin Duncan** who has died recently. May the Lord welcome him home and give comfort to all those he loved.

This year, the annual missionary appeal will be given by one of the **Comboni Sisters**. It will take place on the 30th September/1st October.

Confirmation work books have been ordered for this year's candidates for this sacrament. We hope to have them delivered soon. Meanwhile, we urge parents and grandparents help the children to know the church as a familiar place! You what that means!

The source of **the leak** in the church tower has been identified. It should be attended to in the coming weeks. Even the most stoic among us must admit that, weather wise, we have had a terrible summer.

There be gremlins at work! The parish phone was out of action for several days, but seems to be back in service. Creating this bulletin was far from easy.

We thank young **Kevin Cameron** for that he has done for our Sunday morning liturgy in recent months. We wish him every blessing as he takes up his studies in Glasgow!



A Shepherd among His People: the Pope in Colombia

Few nations have suffered as has Colombia in Latin America. In the past four to five decades, it has endured an appalling civil war. Tens of thousands have died. But people are now seeking reconciliation. There is also the terrible and corrupting power of the drug barons to confront. Pope Francis's message is simply this: "Let us take the first step!" – that is, in making peace with each other. It is always a punishing schedule when he makes a pastoral visit to any country. Where does he get the strength? It can only be from the love in his heart, and from the outpouring of the love of the people who welcome him. If you ever want to travel with the Holy Father, find his journeys on Vatican-You tube. You will soon be deeply moved, and you will know all the more what is to belong to the Catholic Church, found in every nation.



**The Church of Our Lady of Sorrows
Garrynamonie, South Uist**