

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10<sup>th</sup> December 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 (First Mass of Sunday)	Saturday 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Mass	10.30 a.m.

#### Weekday Masses

Monday, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, 10.15 a.m.
Wednesday, Communion Service at 10.15 a.m.
Thursday to Saturday, Mass 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.

*Wednesday is the Memorial of St. Lucy; Thursday, the Memorial of St. John of the Cross.*

Please help set up the **Crib and the Christmas Tree** this week! With Christmas Day on a Monday this year, this will have to be done earlier than usual. Come along after the 10.15 Mass on Thursday. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

And please note **the schedule for this week**. Fr. MacKinnon will be the visiting confessor in Mallaig and Arisaig on Tuesday and Wednesday. Deacon Thomas will lead you in a Communion Service on Wednesday. Otherwise, Masses will be at the usual times.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **John and Mary Alice Kelly, Margaret Culley,, John Kearney. Annie Neill, Katherine MacKinnon, Mary Cameron, Joseph MacLeod, Arthur McGinlay, Neil MacEachen, Murdo MacLeod, Dougie MacRae, Mary Ann Kennedy, Sandra Vial, Christina Quinn, Ronald MacRae, John MacDonell, Effie Gillies, Robert Meek, Georgina Thomson, John MacDonald, Janet Jones and Effie McFall.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

**Christmas Masses** will be at the usual times: 10 p.m. on Christmas Night and 10.30 a.m. on Christmas Morning. The Night Mass will be preceded by a short Carol Service, beginning at 9.45 p.m.

**Registration sheets** for our Confirmation candidates are available at the front of the church. Please take one and fill it in and return it as soon as possible!



**In Sweden, a Lutheran country, the Feast of St. Lucy or Lucia is very much a festival of light in the darkness of winter. Here we see girls wearing the white robes and red sashes, recalling the young Virgin and Martyr. One wears the traditional candles on her head. The name “Lucy” means “Light”. The boys wear hats decorated with stars, and are called “star boys”. Special buns are baked and distributed on the day.**

#### **Quotations from St. John of the Cross**

Live in faith and hope, though it be in darkness, for in this darkness God protects the soul. Cast your care upon God for you are His and He will not forget you. Do not think that He is leaving you alone, for that would be to wrong Him.

In the inner stillness where meditation leads, the Spirit secretly anoints the soul and heals our deepest wounds

In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human success, but rather on how much we have loved.

However softly we speak, God is so close to us that he can hear us; nor do we need wings to go in search of him, but merely to seek solitude and contemplate him within ourselves, without being surprised to find such a good Guest there.

Whenever anything disagreeable or displeasing happens to you, remember Christ crucified and be silent.

Silence is God's first language.

Where there is no love, pour love in, and you will draw love out.