

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

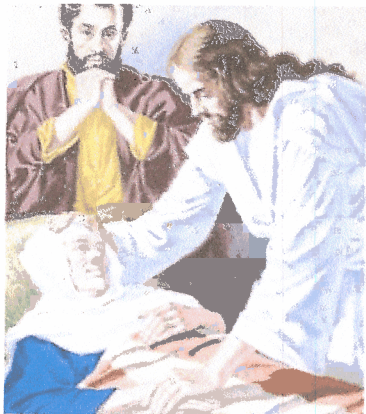
4<sup>th</sup> February 2018

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

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. 6.30 to 6.45

*Monday is the Memorial of St. Agatha; Tuesday, the Memorial of St. Paul Miki and Companions, the Holy Martyrs of Japan; Saturday, the Memorial of St. Scholastica.*

Our thanks to those who took part in the **Christian Unity Service** at St. John's last Sunday evening. It raised £203.37 for the Moss Park Nursing Home. Thank you for that!

We pray for our Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Michael Haggerty, Andrew George, Ian Wynne, Donald MacKintosh, John MacMaster, Simon MacDonald, Elizabeth MacPherson, Bob Dryden, Ronald MacDonald, Roderick MacInnes, Albert Timbrell and Dolly MacVarish.** May they all rest in the peace and joy of their Saviour.

Next Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, is the **World Day of the Sick**. As in previous years, we will have the Anointing of the Sick. So many of us need the healing touch of Jesus in mind, heart and body.

St. Mary's will host the **World Day of Prayer** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The Service has been composed by the Christian Women of Suriname in the north east of South America. There is meeting in the Lady Chapel on Thursday at 2 p.m. If any parishioners would like to be there to help out, they would be most welcome. Fr. MacKinnon hopes to be there.

**Ash Wednesday** will soon be upon us, on the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month. The SCIAF Lenten Boxes have arrived, and will be available for collection next Sunday.

This is something **Fr. MacKinnon** heard about recently. Some years ago, in the former Catholic School in Lochyside, there were two little girls in the same class called Sarah. For roll calls they were called Sarah "C" and Sarah "B", the initials derived from their family names. They used to walk home together from school. One day they had a discussion about whether or not there was a God. They were aged about six.

They decided to do something about it. They got hold of cardboard sheets and went from door to door in Castle Drive and beyond. The adults who did not believe in God were asked to sign one sheet; those who did believe in God, the other. Their mission accomplished, the youngsters compared their sheets. In Sarah B's sheet, the people who believed in God far outnumbered those who did not believe in a God.

"There we are" said Sarah B to her friend, "there is a God!" Sarah B is Fr. MacKinnon's niece, and a very good hairdresser, too! That's a story for this Catholic Education Week!

## The Popes of our Lifetimes



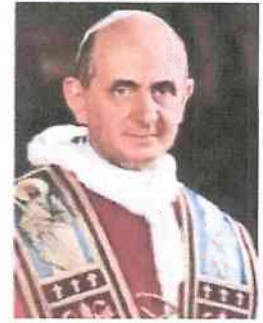
Pius XI



Pius XII



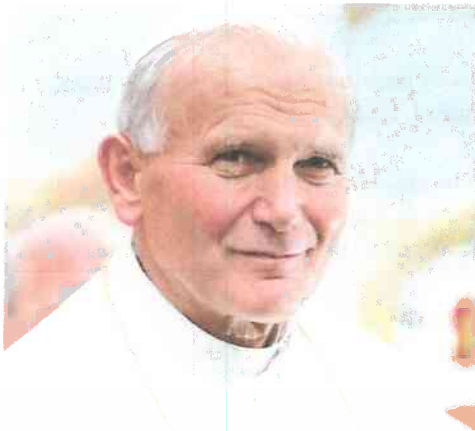
John XXIII



Paul VI



John Paul I



John Paul II



Benedict XVI



Francis