

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

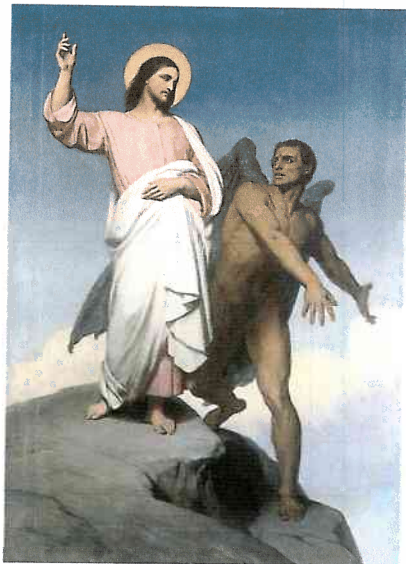
18th February 2018

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A Parish of the R. C. Diocese of Argyll & the Isles Charitable Trust

Registered Scottish Charity No. SC002876

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. 5.30 to 5.45 p.m.
Way of the Cross	Wednesday, 7 p.m. (<i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.</i>)

Thursday is the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter. The chair, or "cathedra," is the symbol of the authority of a Bishop, in this case the symbol of the special authority and service of the successors of Peter.

This year's Lenten packages are available at the back of the church. **The SCIAF boxes** are within. Please collect these as soon as possible.

Many parishioners have a great devotion to the **Way of the Cross**. The first of these will be on Wednesday, at 7 p.m. Please note that there is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for half an hour before, should you wish to spend time in silent prayer with the Lord.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **John MacDonald, Mary Donaldson, Ellen Mitchell, Donald Joseph Currie, Marie MacAulay, Michael MacInnes, Alister MacLean, Mary Delaney, Mary Wegner, Jessie MacDonald, Alexander MacDonald, Eugene Leddy, and Hugh McEleney**. May they all rest in peace. We remember also **Father Vernon Boutilier**, one of Canada's Cape Breton priests who were such good friends of our Diocese. Father Vernon served for several years as priest in Kingussie. He was affectionately known as "Braveheart". May he now rest in the peace of the Lord he served so well.

Please help out with the **church cleaning** after the 10.15 Mass on Thursday. We are always grateful for what you do for the parish.

This year's Confirmations will take place on the Fifth Sunday of Easter, the 29th April. Meanwhile, we ask parents to concentrate on preparation for First Confession. The booklets and sheets are there in front of the sanctuary. Many have been already uplifted. Whenever parents are confident that their child is ready, please contact Fr. MacKinnon. The Confessions can take place in the confessional or in the far corner of the church sanctuary, where the children will speak very quietly with Fr. MacKinnon. We hope to have this done in late March. As always, First Holy Communion will be on the first Sunday of June. This year it will be on the 3rd of that month. Appropriately, it will also be the Feast of Corpus Christi.

The speaker system in the church is not working. The fault might be simple: a new fuse may be all that is required. If this is not the case, then we will have to order an identical replacement from Poland. Any other model will not work. Meanwhile, we will do our best. It might help if people sat nearer the front of the church.



After the burial of Ewen Cameron on Tuesday, such was the beauty of the day Fr. MacKinnon asked Jamie Manson to take a photo with his cell phone. Here it is. It invites us to remember all the loved ones we have laid to rest in Lochaber. Our thanks to Jamie.

Some Quotations for Lent

Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.

(Pope Francis)

As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst... 'Repent and believe' Jesus tells us. What are we to repent? Our indifference, our hardness of heart. What are we to believe? Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor -- He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.

(Teresa of Calcutta)

Some people think that having ash on your forehead is ridiculous. But I am neither ashamed nor afraid because the ashes remind me that I have to someday pass away and reunite with my Creator.

(Walter Buns)

Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life.

(Pope Benedict XVI)

Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons, but they are helpless against our prayers. *(Sidlow Baxter)*

Everything in life has its own time. There is time to celebrate and there is time to mourn. This is the time for reflection and transformation. Let us look within and change into what we ought to be.

(Aaron Saul)

During these 40 days, let me put away all my pride. Let me change my heart and give up all that is not good within me. Let me love God with all that I am and all that I have. *(Genesis Grain)*

Wretched are those who are vindictive and spiteful. *(Pope Francis)*

So if you pray, fast; if fast, show mercy; if you want your petition to be heard, hear the petition of others. When you fast, see the fasting of others. If you hope for mercy, show mercy. If you look for kindness, show kindness. If you want to receive, give. *(St. Peter Chrysologus)*