

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

13th May 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
fortwilliam@rcdai.org.uk



Noticeboard

Sunday Masses

First Mass of Sunday (Vigil) Saturday, 6 p.m.
Sunday Morning Mass 10.30 a.m.

Weekday Masses

10.15 a.m. (Monday, 5 p.m.)

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday:
9.45 to 10 a.m.
4 to 4.30 p.m.
5.30 to 5.45 p.m.

May Devotions:

Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.)

Monday is the Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle

Next Sunday is the **Solemnity of Pentecost**, one of the most important days in the Church's calendar.

Our ecumenical **Pentecost Service** will take place next Sunday evening, in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, at 6.30 p.m. Do try to take part. There will be a special collection for Lochaber Sensory Care.

We thank those who came along last Sunday afternoon to hear **Martin Aelred's** wonderful singing. You donated over £300 for the street children of Colombia in South America. Thank you for your great kindness!

Next Sunday, there will a special collection in St. Mary's for **Catholic Communications**. Whatever you can give will be greatly appreciated.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Angus MacDonald, Peter Doherty, John MacLellan, Ewen Morrison, Peter Kennedy, Helen MacDonald, Mary Catherine McAuley, John Law, Rosemary Archibald and Rhoda Fletcher**. May the Risen Lord care for them until we are together again.

The parish **Anniversary Book** is now more visible at the back of the church. Ensure that the names of your loved ones are entered.

Please remember our **May Devotions**, and the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament that precedes them. In a busy and demanding world, we all need that quiet time with the Lord.

After Mass next Sunday morning, there is a rehearsal for our **First Communicants**. Please ensure that the children be there, so that they learn receive the host in a proper and dignified way.



Image of St. Matthias with the instrument of his martyrdom

Quotations from the Letters of JRR Tolkien

“For myself, I find I become less cynical rather than more--remembering my own sins and follies; and realize that men's hearts are not often as bad as their acts, and very seldom as bad as their words.”

“Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated, I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament ... There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity, and the true way of all your loves upon earth.”

“We all long for Eden, and we are constantly glimpsing it: our whole nature at its best and least corrupted, its gentlest and **most** human, is still soaked with the sense of exile.”

“The most improper job of **any** man, even saints (who at any rate were at least unwilling to take it on), is bossing other men. Not one in a million is fit for it, and least of all those who seek the opportunity.”

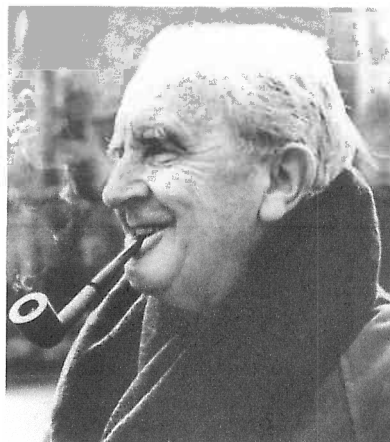
“I invented that little rhyme **about** 'One Ring to rule them all', I remember, in the bath one day.”

“I am (obviously) much in **love** with plants and above all trees, and always have been; and I find human maltreatment of them as hard to bear as some find ill-treatment of animals.”

“I wrote The Lord of the Rings because I wished to try my hand at a really long story that would hold the attention of readers, amuse **them**, delight them, and at times maybe excite them or deeply move them.”

“Actually I am a Christian, and indeed a Roman Catholic, so that I do not expect 'history' to be anything but a 'long defeat' - though it **contains** (and in a legend may contain more clearly and movingly) some samples or glimpses of final **victory**.”

“The news today about "Atomic bombs" is so horrifying one is stunned. The utter folly of these lunatic physicists to consent to do such work for war-purposes: calmly plotting the destruction of the world! Such explosives in men's hands, while their moral and intellectual status is declining, is about as useful as giving out firearms to all **inmates** of a gaol and then saying that you hope "this will ensure peace" . . . Well, we're in God's hands. And He does not look kindly on Babel-builders.”



John Ronald Reuel Tolkien
1892-1973

Footnote

Tolkien's devout Roman Catholic faith was a significant factor in the conversion of C. S. Lewis from atheism to Christianity, although Tolkien was dismayed that Lewis chose to join the Church of England. He once said, "It may be said that the chief purpose of life, for any one of us, is to increase according to our capacity our knowledge of God by all the means we have, and to be moved by it to praise and thanks." According to his grandson Simon Tolkien, Tolkien in the last years of his life was disappointed by some of the liturgical reforms and changes implemented after the Second Vatican Council: "I vividly remember going to church with him in Bournemouth. He was a devout Roman Catholic and it was soon **after** the Church had changed the liturgy from Latin to English. My grandfather obviously didn't agree with this and **made** all the responses very loudly in Latin while the rest of the congregation **answered** in English. I found the whole experience quite excruciating, but my grandfather was oblivious. He simply had to do what he believed to be right." (Cf. *Wikipedia article on Tolkien. Well worth reading!*)