

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
20th January 2013
St. Mary's, Belford Road, Fort William PH33 6BT. Tel. (01397) 702174
 Charity No. SC002876



The Wedding Feast of Cana by Giotto

Noticeboard

Sunday Masses: Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6 p.m.
 Sunday Morning Mass 10.30 a.m.

Weekday Masses: Friday and Saturday 10.15 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday : 9.45 to 10 a.m.;
 4 to 4.30 p.m.;
 5.30 to 5.50 p.m.

Monday is the Memorial of St. Agnes; Thursday, the Memorial of St. Francis de Sales; Saturday, the Memorial of Sts. Timothy and Titus.

Christian Unity Week began on the 18th January. There will be an ecumenical service in the Duncansburgh-MacIntosh Church of Scotland this Sunday at 6.30 p.m. Come along and join with our brothers and sisters!

Fr. MacKinnon will be taking a break this week, from Monday to Thursday. There will be no Masses on these days. Fr. McAuley will be on call (Tel. 700622).

We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Joan MacLean, Betty Devlin, Jessie MacFarlane, Bob Trybis, Danny Ryan, Coll MacDonald, Michael McEleney, John MacDonald, Catherine MacLennan, Anne Gall, Iain MacLean, Eilidh MacIntyre, Jan Stage, Lizzie MacBeth, Frank Timbrell and Margaret Doyle.** May they rest in the peace of their Saviour. We remember the workers who so cruelly lost their lives in Algeria and we pray for all those who have lost loved ones. We pray for the safety of those still held hostage and for the families who hold on to hope.

Thank you for your continuing generosity. Last week's **Justice and Peace** collection came to £314.58. The **Crib Collection** total was £154.

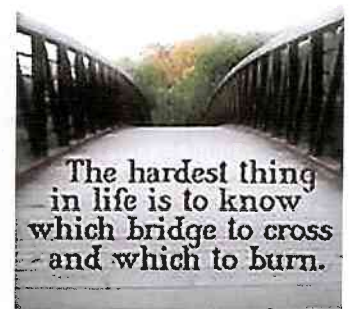
We thank the family of the late Georgia Thomson for the gift of a new CD player in the church sacristy. It was a very thoughtful gesture.

Holy Communion will be taken to the housebound from Monday, 28th to Wednesday, 30th January.

Those who leave Mass early on Saturday night are respectfully invited to be very quiet when in the church porch. St. Mary's is the biggest echo chamber in Fort William! The minutes after receiving Christ in communion are very special for us, as individuals and as the Eucharistic community. We have not received "holy bread": we have received Christ himself and, this side of heaven that is the most sacred encounter of our lives. Catholics have a deep awareness of the holiness of the Mass, from beginning to end, and they conduct themselves accordingly. And you carry the Mass with you whenever you leave your church.



What is this famous building, illuminated in the night? It took over 180 years to complete. Victor Hugo wrote about it. Walt Disney Pictures produced a film loosely based on Hugo's novel. An emperor crowned himself in it. No true French king's coronation ever took place there. Mary Queen of Scots was married there. General Charles de Gaulle marched to it on the day of the liberation of Paris in 1944. This year, it celebrates a very special event. Turn over and find out!



**The hardest thing
 in life is to know
 which bridge to cross
 and which to burn.**

The Most Beautiful Lady in Paris

Should you ever look for the most beautiful lady in Paris, do not go to the catwalks of its famous fashion houses. Go to the place where Paris began, the small island in the Seine called Île de la Cité. There you will find her: the beautiful Cathedral of Notre Dame. This year it celebrates its 850th anniversary. Notre Dame has towered over the best of times and the worst of times in Parisian history. Venerated for centuries, it was desecrated during the French Revolution. Falling into decay, it saw its restoration begin in the 19th century. Visited by millions of tourists, it is also a living community of worshippers. We join with them in their celebration. Notre Dame's website info@cathedraledeparis.com invites children everywhere to send in a drawing of the Cathedral.



The front of Notre Dame. Last year, over 13 million people passed through its doors.



Should you wish to take a photo Notre Dame, this may be the best spot to do so, from the other side of the River Seine. You can glimpse the building's "flying buttresses". These give support to the walls, preventing them from collapsing outwards. As Gothic architecture built walls that were higher and thinner, the resulting stress made these buttresses essential. Notre Dame's builders were among the first to use this technique.



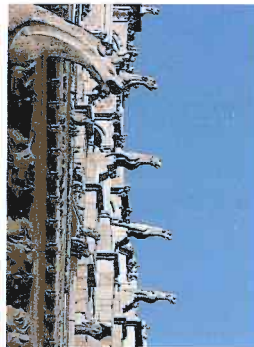
Notre Dame is famous for its great rose windows. Here is the South Rose Window, donated by St. Louis, King of France, about 1260. It has themes from the New Testament, including the life of St. Matthew. It has undergone many repairs over the centuries.



For many centuries, Notre Dame has had a choir school attached to it. Here are some of its Children's Choir. The Cathedral has played an important role in the history of Church music. In the Middle Ages it was a leading proponent of early polyphony.



Should you wish to light a candle in Paris, here is the place to do it! - In front of the Cathedral's medieval statue of Our Lady of Paris.



Here are some of the Cathedral's gargoyles. These are water spouts carved into the shapes of animals or grotesque and even frightening figures. Some see these as symbolising the evil that must remain outside the church. St. Bernard saw them as demonic and preached against them.



Cardinal André Vingt-Trois is the present Archbishop of Paris. His name is certainly unusual! One explanation given is that he is descended from an abandoned child found on the 23rd day of the month. On the Feast of the Presentation (2nd February) he will bless new bells specially cast for this 850th anniversary. The children of Paris are especially invited. The bells of Notre Dame evoke its famous (fictional) bell-ringer, the hunchback, Quasimodo.

Here we see just one part of Jacques-Louis David's large painting of Napoleon's coronation as Emperor in Notre Dame. We see Bonaparte about to crown his Empress, Josephine. Pope Pius VII is seated behind him. Five years later, Napoleon would have the same Pope sent into exile.

