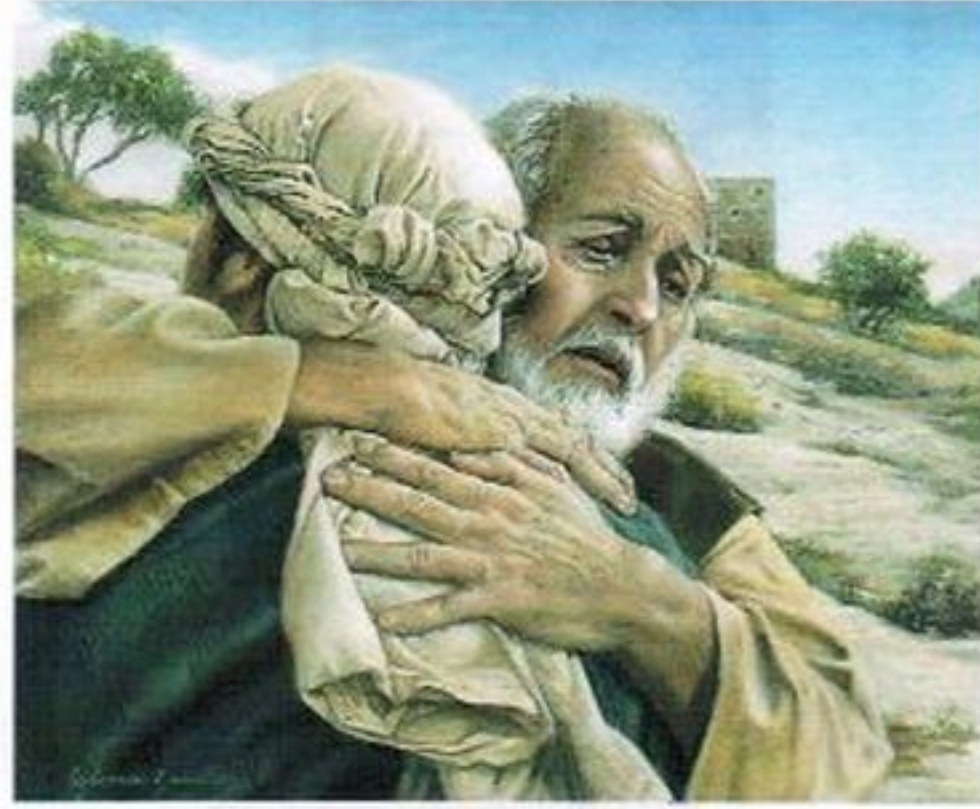


**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**10<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

*St. Mary's, Belford Road, Fort William PH33 6BT. Tel. (01397) 702174*

Charity No. SC002876

[www.stmarysfortwilliam.org](http://www.stmarysfortwilliam.org)



**Noticeboard**

<u>Sunday Masses:</u>	Vigil Mass, Saturday, 6 p.m.
	Sunday Morning Mass 10.30 a.m.
<u>Weekday Masses:</u>	10.15 a.m.
<u>Way of the Cross</u>	Wednesday, 7 p.m. ( <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 6.30 p.m.</i> )
<u>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</u>	Saturday : 9.45 to 10 a.m. 4 to 4.30 p.m. 5.30 to 5.50 p.m.

*There are no Feasts or Memorials this week.*

This Sunday we have what must be one of the most important special collections of the year: the **SCIAF** Lenten collection. We know that you will be as generous as always!

A happy **Mothers' Day** to all the mothers of the parish!

We remember our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Isobel O'Hare, Winnie Thompson, Charlie Fitzsimons, Catherine MacDonald, Lachlan MacLeod, Thora Finan, Thomas Buchanan, Laura Cameron, James Hurney, Jim Girvan, Margaret MacLaren, Flora MacDonald and Tommy Naughton.** May they rest in the peace of their Lord.

Would those who are taking part in the **national pilgrimage to Iona** on the 10<sup>th</sup> June, please collect their letters from Fr. MacKinnon. There is an important form attached, to be sent to Michael Hawke in Oban.

The plans of the **new primary school** scheduled to be built in Caol in two years times are available for viewing in the Alexandra Hotel this Wednesday, from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. The plans can also be viewed in Caol Community Centre on Tuesday, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. It appears that there will be no separate building for the Catholic pupils and staff. If this is the case, the location of classrooms is all the more important, as will be the timing and location of such activities as assemblies and services for the Catholic pupils, for example. A shared building raises many questions about safeguarding the identity of the Catholic school community. These should be addressed well in advance. And we have to face the biggest factor of all: the faith commitment of Catholic parents in Fort William. How many will be willing to support the new school and what will be the consequences of their individual decisions? We will have to reflect on this in the coming months.

Those who would like to go by bus to Oban for the **Chrism Mass** on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, are invited to put their names on the sheet at the back of the church. The sheet for Holy Week readers is also there!!

On the 8<sup>th</sup> March we had **International Women's Day**. We were reminded of the mental, emotional and physical abuse to which so many women are exposed. Increasingly, throughout the world, help is there and more and more women are speaking out in defiance of cultural pressures. Locally, Lochaber Women's Aid is there to help women in abusive relationships (Tel. 01397 705734).

**Carmelite Easter cards** are on sale at the back of the church. It's a good way of sharing Christian faith with your friends.

## Images of Motherhood



### Potpourri

As long as we live within the world's delusions, our addictions condemn us to futile quests in "the distant country," leaving us to face an endless series of disillusionments while our sense of self remains unfulfilled. In these days of increasing addictions, we have wandered far away from our Father's home. The addicted life can aptly be designated a life lived in "a distant country." It is from there that our cry for deliverance rises up.

*(Henri J.M. Nouwen)*

Every parent is at some time the father of the unreturned prodigal, with nothing to do but keep his house open to hope.

*(John Ciardi)*

The moment a child is born, the mother is also born. She never existed before. The woman existed, but the mother, never. A mother is something absolutely new.

*(Rajneesh)*

Any mother could perform the jobs of several air traffic controllers with ease.

*(Lisa Alther)*

There is no way to be a perfect mother, and a million ways to be a good one.

*(Jill Churchill)*

A little girl, asked where her home was, replied, "Where mother is."

*(Keith L. Brooks)*

We must unite. Violence against women cannot be tolerated, in any form, in any context, in any circumstance, by any political leader or by any government.

*(U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon)*

Cruelty, like every other vice, requires no motive outside of itself; it only requires opportunity.

*(George Eliot)*

Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent.

*(Eleanor Roosevelt)*

The foolish and wicked practice of profane cursing and swearing is a vice so mean and low that every person of sense and character detests and despises it.

*(George Washington)*

AND ALSO....

A backward poet writes inverse.

A plateau is a high form of flattery.

A boiled egg is hard to beat.

A calendar's days are numbered.

When a chicken crosses the road it's poultry in motion.