

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

28th April 2013

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

Charity No. SC002876



Noticeboard

Sunday Masses:

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

Weekday Masses:

10.15 a.m., except on Wednesday, when Mass will be at 12 noon (*Funeral Mass of Margaret Graham RIP*).

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

May Devotions

Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Monday is the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena; Thursday, the Memorial of St. Athanasius; Friday, the Feast of the Apostles Philip and James.

Our sincere thanks to **Mgr. Basil Loftus** for looking after the parish in Fr. MacKinnon's absence. By all accounts, he enjoyed his time with you. Thank you for making him feel so welcome!

We pray for our Faithful Departed. We remember especially **Margaret Graham** who has died peacefully in Moss Park Nursing Home, aged 83. We give thanks to all that was love and faith in Margaret's life and we ask the Good Shepherd to lead her to her eternal home. We extend our prayer and sympathy to Marion, Irene, Helen and all the family. Margaret's Funeral Mass will be on Wednesday at 12 noon. We remember also those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Ted Timbrell, Billy Brooks, Roddie MacDonald, Helena Nickel, Benny Delaney, Alexina MacEachan, Peter MacDonald, John MacDonald, Angus MacDougall, Richard Davies, Monsignor Neil McGrory, Marie MacLean and Jim Grace**. May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Traditionally, the month of May is devoted to Our Lady. The first of our **May Devotions** will be on Wednesday at 7 p.m. After the Rosary, we will have a period of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction.

Holy Communion will be taken to the housebound from Monday to Wednesday of this week.

You will remember that the two Catholic midwives, **Mary Doogan** and **Concepta Wood**, lost their case against NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde. The two women could not accept indirect involvement in abortions taking place in hospitals where they worked. Appeal judges have now ruled that their right to conscientious objection means that they can now refuse to delegate, supervise or support staff involved in abortions. Many of you have actively supported the two midwives and will be pleased to know that the boundaries required for conscientious objection to be truly respected have now been clarified in law. Thank you for your support and prayer.

Please remember that there is an extension to the Parish Library in the corridor that leads to the sacristy. It contains many of the books that belonged to the late **Charlie MacDonald**. These books are testimony to the depth and the scope of Charlie's reading.

EASTER FLOWERS



The Daffodil

The daffodil is a symbol of rebirth, a sign of the new beginnings that come with spring. Naturally, it would become the most popular Easter flower. There is a legend that the daffodil first appeared on the night of the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, to comfort Our Lord in his hour of sorrow. Many cancer charities throughout the world have chosen the daffodil as a symbol of hope. One American charity worker said: "You see a daffodil and know there's hope and with hope, there's a cure. They're a burst of sunshine, a ray of hope. Even if it is still cold outside, you know there's warmth and light ahead."



The Lily

Christ himself described the beauty of this flower: "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin and yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." Sometimes called the "white-robed apostles of hope," lilies are also said to have been found growing in the Garden of Gethsemane after Our Lord's Agony. They are easily associated with the pure light of the Risen Lord. They are also Our Lady's special flower. In Christian art the angel Gabriel is often depicted with a lily in his hand as he comes to Mary in the Annunciation. There is a legend that when Eve left the Garden of Eden she shed real tears of repentance, and from those remorseful tears sprung up the first lilies.

Potpourri

I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born. *(Ronald Reagan)*

I should have been an abortion. The only reason I wasn't was that my father was a Christian.
(Neko Case, American singer and songwriter)

And think not that you can direct the course of love, for love, if it finds you worthy, directs your course.
(Khalil Gibran)

There is more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than for bread. *(Mother Teresa)*

Tell me who admires you and loves you, and I will tell you who you are. *(Charles Augustin Sainte-Beuve)*

'We'll be Friends Forever, won't we, Pooh?' asked Piglet.
'Even longer,' Pooh answered."
(A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh)

I am a missionary, heart and soul. God had an only Son, and He was a missionary and a physician. A poor, poor imitation of Him I am, or wish to be. In this service I hope to live; in it I wish to die.
(David Livingstone)

You must learn to trust your own experiences, observations and intuitions rather than believe that you have to get everything out of books. *(Etty Hillesum)*

In the past, missionaries have travelled to far countries with the message of the gospel - with great hardship and often with the loss of life. In contrast, we can reach millions instantly from the comfort of our homes by merely hitting the 'send' button on our computers, or with iPads, or phones. *(Ray Comfort)*

We will never forget them nor the last time we saw them this morning as they prepared for their journey and waved goodbye and 'slipped the surly bonds of earth to touch the face of God.' *(Ronald Reagan)*

The trouble with a kitten is that eventually it becomes a cat. *(Ogden Nash)*

Middle age is when you're sitting at home on a Saturday night and the telephone rings and you hope it isn't for you. *(Ogden Nash)*