

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23rd June 2013

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

www.stmarysfortwilliam.org



'The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously and be rejected.'

Noticeboard

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

Weekday Masses: 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.

Exposition in honour of the Sacred Heart Monday, 6-7 p.m.

Monday is the Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist; Friday, the Memorial of St. Irenaeus; Saturday, the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul (NOT a Holiday of Obligation this year).

Fr. Joseph Kasule will arrive from Uganda this Monday. We know that you will welcome him as always.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Flora Currie, Mary Fitzsimons, Angela Brown, Donald MacDonald, Ed Deary, John McKay, Mary MacDonald, Janie Wilson, Joan Morrison, Alexander Rennie, Ellen Jane and William O'Hare, Johnny MacBeth, Shirley MacLean, Margaret MacKay and Brigitta Paulus.** May their souls and the souls of all the Faithful Departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

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

There will be a Mass at **Cille Choirill** next Sunday, at 3 p.m.

Our sincere thanks to all those who support the parish through Gift Aid! In the last financial year, you helped us gain a very welcome £4,744.00. There is another way in which you might help. There are special diocesan collections in the course of the year. If you use the special collection envelopes at the back of your booklet, then the Diocese itself can make a claim. The Bishop's Fund collection scheduled for July could be the first opportunity to do so. We will have that collection on the 6/7 July.

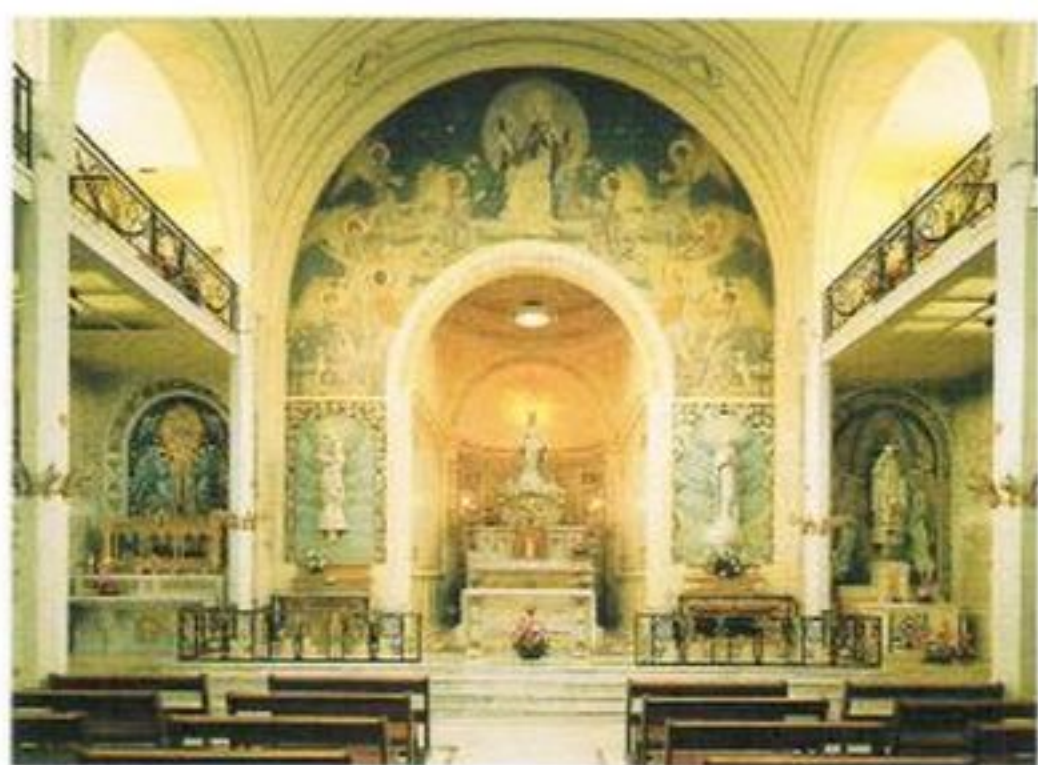
And thank you for all the **SCIAF Wee Boxes** you handed in. They raised a total of £1,105.66. Well done, St. Mary's!

Jamie Manson has handed in some photos taken at the summit of Ben Nevis. You can see them at the back of the church. We congratulate Jamie and all who took part, and we thank the parishioners who have given support.



Those among you who know and love Lourdes will be upset at the scale of the flooding that has hit both shrine and town. The Grotto itself may be accessible soon, but some chapels, the baths and other facilities may remain closed for months. Numerous hotels and shops have also been damaged. The French president, M. Hollande, has visited the town and declared Lourdes and its surrounds a disaster area. He has promised all the help that the state can give. Already, a group of 3,000 people from northern France have had to cancel their annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, and many more cancellations may follow. This is far worse than last year's flood, and an appeal has been launched by the Church in Lourdes. "Sanctuaires Notre-Dame de Lourdes" will soon take you to the official website, with details of how you can help.

Some of our young parishioners have returned from a High School visit to Paris. They would have seen many of the famous landmarks of this great city. Here are some places less familiar to most tourists.



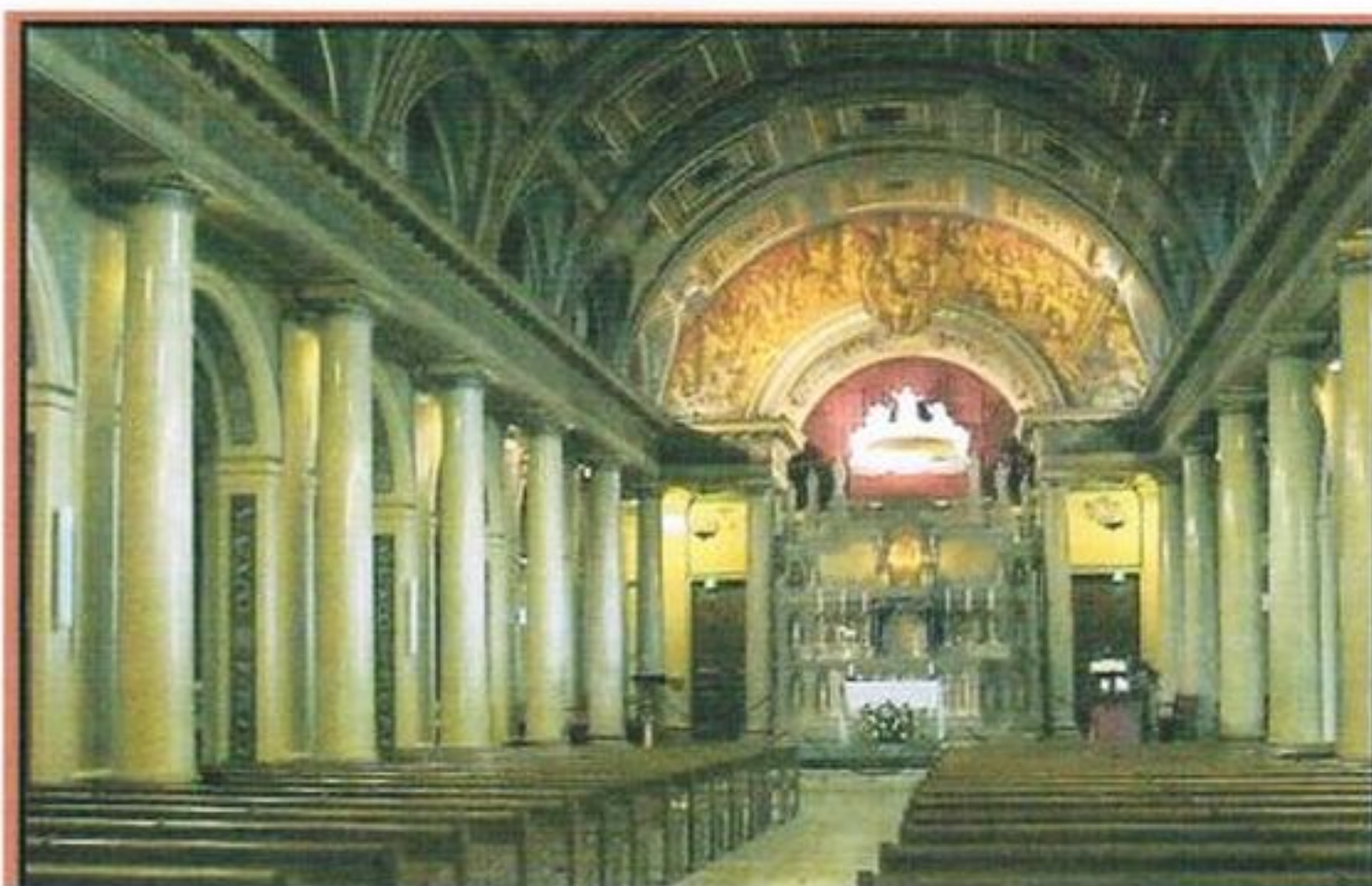
This is the Miraculous Medal Chapel in the Rue du Bac, south of the Seine. It was here that Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Labouré. Millions of people have worn the medal that was the outcome of this apparition. It is not some sort of talisman or good luck charm! It is a reminder that we can put ourselves with confidence under Our Lady's protection. The incorrupt body of St. Catherine can be seen to the left of the altar.



A short distance away from the Rue Du Bac is the headquarters of the Vincentian Fathers, founded by St. Vincent as missionaries at home and abroad. St. Vincent de Paul's body can be seen above the altar of its chapel. (Below) St. Vincent sent two of his Irish priests to our diocese to help keep the Catholic faith alive. He also founded the Daughters of Charity to look after the poor, Rue du Bac being the location of their Mother House. The word "Bac" comes from a ferry boat that used to cross the Seine.



This is the body of St. Vincent de Paul, often visited by the Scots seminarians in Paris. They also went to the "braderies" – rummage sales for clergy and seminarians – sometimes held at the Vincentian residence.



St. Julien-le-Pauvre was perhaps Fr. MacKinnon's favourite church in Paris. It was built in the 12th century on the foundations of a 6th century church. The oldest tree in Paris is beside it. St. Julien-le-Pauvre is just across the Seine from Notre Dame. Nowadays, it is the parish church of the Arab-speaking Catholics of the Melkite Rite. They have the same liturgy and customs as the Orthodox Church, but are in communion with the Pope. Christianity arrived early in Paris. Its first bishop was St. Denis, martyred in the 3rd century. The part of the city called "Montmartre" – famous for its artists- means "the "Mount of the Martyr."



St. Julien- le-Pauvre

It was in Montmartre that Paris's first underground sewage system in was built in 1370. Since then, successive French governments have enlarged the system to keep up with the city's expanding population. The great French microbiologist, Louis Pasteur, had a special interest in sewage: he lost three of his children to typhoid. Covering 1,300 miles, the system even conducts tours and has its own museum! A major renovation of the Paris sewage system was begun in 1991, the first five years work alone estimated to cost 152,000,000 euros. What brought on this sudden interest in sewage? It was the very unpleasant smell permeating the whole of Fort William on Friday evening. It seems that the people of Inverloch in particular have endured this for a long time. Obviously, something needs to be done. It's not a great advertisement for the "Outdoor Capital of Britain", nor is it respectful of the ratepayers of the town.