

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8th September 2013

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

www.stmarysfortwilliam.org



St. Helen and the Holy Cross

Noticeboard

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

Weekday Masses:

Monday	10.15 a.m.
Tuesday	12 noon
<i>(Funeral Mass of Cathie Williamson RIP)</i>	
Wednesday	NO MASS
Thursday	12 noon
Friday & 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.

Friday is the Memorial of St. John Chrysostom; Saturday, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Next Sunday, Father Gerard Hamill will make the annual missionary appeal on behalf of **St. Joseph's Missionary Society** (The Mill Hill Missionaries). We know that you will be as attentive and supportive as always.



Please pray for the eternal rest of **Cathie Williamson** who has died very peacefully in the Belford Hospital. Cathie was a person who bore illness with patience and fortitude and was deeply respected by all who knew her. May her kindness and faith now receive their reward in heavenly peace and joy, and may God be close to her children David and Monica, her sisters Isobel and Marina, and all the family. We pray also for those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Colin Clark, Frank Gribben, Duncan Kennedy, Teddy Brady, Emily MacDonell, Bernice and Eugene Pratt, Janie Taylor, Neil MacDonald, Donald MacNeil and Ena MacDonald.** May they rest in peace.

From Tuesday to Thursday of this week the clergy of the Diocese will gather in Oban for their **annual meeting**. Please pray that their discussions will be positive and fruitful. Mass times at St. Mary's have been changed, as you will have noticed in the noticeboard above.

On Sunday, 29th September, there will be a Mass on the **Green Isle**. A boat will leave from Glenfinnan at 1 p.m. The Mass will be celebrated by Fr. MacAulay. For further information, please 'phone Mairi Weir on 772368.

On the other side of this bulletin you will find a letter appealing on behalf of **the Syrian refugees**. Those who wish to help are invited to put their donations in collection baskets at the back of the church next Sunday, 22nd September.



Some parts of the Church's great mission are very familiar to us, others less so. Fr. Anthony's visit some weeks ago, as well as Fr. Zok's departure, have made us more aware of Papua New Guinea. Few of us know of the Mill Hill Missionaries' work in North Borneo, now part of Malaysia. This is a photo of Monsignor August Wachter, one of the heroes of that mission. Born in Austria on the 8th December, 1878, his childhood desire was to be a missionary. He joined the Mill Hill Missionaries and was sent to Borneo at his own request in 1905. One of his many achievements was the foundation of a local congregation of nuns, flourishing to this day. During the very last days of the Second World War, Monsignor Wachter and six other Austrian priests and a brother were executed by Japanese soldiers. Their shrine is now a place of pilgrimage.



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04 September 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our Syrian brothers and sisters need our help

As you know, Pope Francis has called upon us all to observe a worldwide day of fasting and prayer for peace in Syria on Saturday 7th September. We are writing on behalf of our aid agency, SCIAF, to ask you and your parishioners to give what you can to help those in need.

You will have seen the terrible events unfolding on the news – people fleeing for their lives in terror. Over 100,000 people have already died in Syria and 2 million people are now refugees in the tiny neighbouring countries of Jordan and Lebanon. Living in crowded refugee camps and with local hosts, there is not enough food, clean water, shelter or medical care to go round and as more and more people arrive, things are only getting worse.

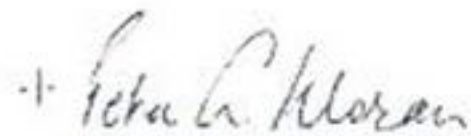
SCIAF is working with sister Caritas agencies to get help to those who need it most. Caritas Jordan is providing life-saving support to refugees and we have already been able to send £75,000 to help them. We are asking your parish to hold a special collection for SCIAF's Syrian Refugee Emergency Appeal, so that we can do more.

Pope Francis has said, 'We cannot sleep peacefully while babies are dying of hunger and the elderly are without medical assistance'.

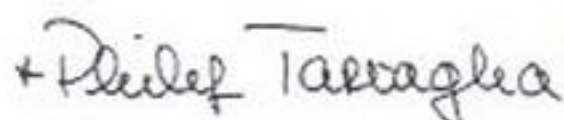
With your generosity, SCIAF can provide both comfort and care. More and more people are now coming into Jordan with injuries from the war, to add to the newborn babies, elderly people and those with severe medical problems particularly at risk. Many of the refugees are also trying to deal with the terrible things they have seen or are constantly worried about their family members who are still in Syria. Our Caritas agencies are providing much needed health care and counselling support, but so much more is needed.

Please ask your parishioners to join with their brothers and sisters across Scotland to pray, to fast and to give what we can for those who desperately need our help.

Yours devotedly in Christ,



+ Peter A. Moran
Bishop Emeritus of Aberdeen
President of SCIAF



+ Philip Tartaglia
Archbishop of Glasgow
President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland

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