

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd February 2014

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

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Charity No. SC002876



“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”

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 5.45 p.m.

There are no Memorials or Feasts this week.

The Bishop has asked **Father Stanislaw** to help out in Motherwell Diocese in the coming months. He will be leaving Fort William on Tuesday and, after celebrating the wedding of some friends in Poland, he will take up his new appointment on the day before Ash Wednesday. We wish him every blessing and know that his gifts and energy will be used for the benefit of all those around him. He will leave for further studies in Warsaw in September. We will have a special collection shortly after Easter to help him acquire the books he will need and allow him to meet at least some of his expenses as he attends the Catholic University of Warsaw. Father Stanislaw has asked that this bulletin convey his sincere thanks to you all for your many kindnesses over the past three years. As a parish community you have helped him enormously, and he will never forget that. We know that you will keep him in your prayers.

We pray for our Faithful Departed, especially **Jimmy Kearney** who died very peacefully in the Belford Hospital, accompanied by the prayer of the Church and the love of Brian, Anne-Marie and all the family. His many friends in the town will miss Jimmy's warm and outgoing personality. May he now rest in the peace of his Saviour and may the Lord comfort his loved ones. We pray also for those whose anniversaries are about this time: **Alexander MacDonald, Jessie MacDonald, Eugene Leddy, Hugh McEleney, Mary Delaney, Alister MacDonald, George MacPherson, Lewis Faryma, Calum MacLean, Elizabeth Mulrooney, Vera MacDonald, Anne MacKintosh, Neil Lindsay, Archie Lindsay, Sister Anne MacLaren, Adam MacPherson and Marion Gillies.** 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 Wednesday of this week.

Thank you for last Sunday's **Catholic Education collection.** It came to a generous £321.46

The Duncansburgh MacIntosh Church of Scotland has invited us all to join with them at the Service of Dedication for their new Suite of Halls next Saturday, at 3 p.m. We are also invited to a "Big Sing" Songs of Praise next Sunday, 2nd March, at 6.30 p.m.

The SCIAF "**Wee Boxes**" will be available for collection next Sunday.

The situation in the **Ukraine** is extremely worrying. We had better add that country to our "prayer for peace" list.

We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies. *(Martin Luther King)*

A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act. *(Mahatma Gandhi)*

Jesus Christ lived in the midst of his enemies. At the end all his disciples deserted him. On the Cross he was utterly alone, surrounded by evildoers and mockers. For this cause he had come, to bring peace to the enemies of God. So the Christian, too, belongs not in the seclusion of a cloistered life but in the thick of foes. There is his commission, his work. 'The kingdom is to be in the midst of your enemies. And he who will not suffer this does not want to be of the Kingdom of Christ; he wants to be among friends, to sit among roses and lilies, not with the bad people but the devout people. *(Dietrich Bonhoeffer)*

Enemies are people whose story you haven't heard, or whose face you haven't seen. *(Irene Butter)*

We cannot love our enemies until we see those twin truths: God loves me. God loves them. *(Mary E. DeMuth)*

John F. Kennedy says: 'Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.' I suggest that forgive your enemies and forget their names too! Don't leave any stone in your head; keep only the flowers, only the names of the good men!" *(Mehmet Murat Ildan)*

It's sad when friends become enemies. But what's even worse is when they become strangers. *(Hayley Williams)*

I have always paid attention to the merits of my enemies, and found it an advantage. *(Goethe)*

If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we should find in each man's life sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility. *(Henry Wadsworth Longfellow)*



"If anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him."

