

St. Mary's, Inverness

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The Parish Bulletin

3rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

We invite you to
WATCH ONLINE
Mass from St Mary's
FACEBOOK
Sunday at 11:00

Mass Readings:

1stReading: Nehemiah 8: 2-6, 8-10

Psalm: 18: 8-10

2ndReading: 1 Corinthians 12: 12-30

Gospel: Luke 1: 1-4, 4: 14-21

Sunday 23 January	3rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Presbytery Repairs	Mass 09.00 Live Stream Mass 11.00 Polish Mass 17.00 Mass 18.30
Monday 24 January	Memorial of St Francis De Sales	Mass 10.00
Tuesday 25 January	The Conversion of St Paul End of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity EXPOSITION: LITANY AND PRAYERS	Mass 10.00 10.30 – 13.00
Wednesday 26 January	Memorial of St Timothy and St Titus	Mass 12.30
Thursday 27 January	Memorial of St Angela Merici	Mass 10.00
Friday 28 January	Memorial of St Thomas Aquinas	Mass 12.30 Exposition / Vespers 13.00 – 16.45
Saturday 29 January	3 rd Week of the Year	Confession 10.00 Mass 10.30 Mass 18.00
Sunday 30 January	4th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Presbytery Repairs	Mass 09.00 Live Stream Mass 11.00 Polish Mass 17.00 Mass 18.30

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Organist required
Contact Office
Pianist?

Dear Friends,

21 Jan 22

The Story : I regret that I am a hoarder - tables, drawer, cupboards all filled with stuff. Not throwing anything away just in case there is a future use for it has resulted in the need for a real rummage, and a clearance. I started with piles of books, in a box in the corner of an over-filled room. Guess what? Opening a book, seeing that it was given to me by a friend years ago I began to glance through it. That was the beginning of the end of my clearance. I settled into a chair to read the book. It was 'Smiley's People' by John le Carré. Well it's on the bedside table now, along with 'Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy' by the same author. I think that I have probably every book that he wrote, and with some, several copies, as I accumulated gifts. Yes, there needs to be a clearance, but only after I have sorted them out, and refreshed my memory of the characters and plots. Beside the bed also is a Biography of le Carré, which helps to put some of his stories in their historical context and to understand something of the experience on which the writer drew. Anyone interested in discussing le Carré over a coffee?

When we begin to read the scriptures, or hear them read, we perhaps ought to go over them again, recalling favourite or interesting passages. The gospel writers all had access to different streams of material about Jesus, some from the spoken tradition and some from different written sources. Each Gospel writer wrote from his own perspective, from his own experience of the traditions about Jesus and each shaped their narratives to meet the needs of their readers. Searching for understanding of the Gospel narratives is a task best done prayerfully, accepting the power of the Gospel just as it has come to us. It is useful to let the creative imagination go to work by seeing the stories as they are written, trying to hear the different

voices, scanning the horizons of our minds to visualise it all. How near can we get to it? This approach to the Scriptures enables us to be ruminative, slowly chewing away at the message, and then having a conversation with ourselves. When in a quiet place, we sit and relax and ask the Spirit of God to speak to us in the depths of our understanding we may engage simply with a gem from the story, an insight from Jesus, or the Tradition, which can fill our minds, our hearts and our souls.

'Tell me the old, old story of Jesus and his love' can be a prayerful request as we seek the teaching of Jesus and what his Life means for us. This comes from a favourite hymn of the evangelical tradition:

Tell me the old, old story,
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love;
Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child,
For I am weak and weary,
And helpless and defiled.

Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story,
Of Jesus and His love.

We are all 'weak and weary' at times and we acknowledge the need for the help of God as we face our daily tasks and routines. We may not feel particularly 'defiled' as in the words of the hymn, but most of us would recognise that we have smeared the loveliness of God's goodness in different ways. We live in a world that has been tainted by individual selfishness and greed and this has an impact on every-day life. It is a useful exercise to examine just how we are touched by the world's defilement, its

corruption, greed, and violence. The story of Jesus opens out a new future for us, not just individually, but all of us together. The **'Way of the Synod'** is an opportunity given to us by the Holy Father to explore, to listen, to discuss and encourage each other within the Gospel Tradition, 'the old, old, story of Jesus and His love'.

Every Blessing

Aye

Fr James

Fr Laurence has arrived and is settling into the Presbytery and Parish. I know that everyone will make him welcome in these Highland parts. He has written an 'introduction' to himself', explaining something of his hopes and aims during his two years with us. It seems exciting and worthwhile and I look forward to supporting him in all his endeavours, as I know that you also will want to be encouraging of this generous hearted priest.

Our Lady of Lourdes : Healing Day : Startherrick on Friday 11 February : Please see the advertisement for this ; an invitation and a welcome.

Covid 19 : we are maintaining our present protocols : Masks, sanitising, contact details, seating safely. We will now be issuing Mass Books and Hymn Books - these will be stored safely and returned to use after a safe period. Holy Communion will still be given into the hands, and the Sacrament should be consumed near to the Font on the circuitous route back to the seats.

Servers: Deacon Patrick will be contacting all servers and their families about the Enrolment of Servers. There will be a blessing of all servers at the 1100 Mass on Sunday 6 February

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am delighted to be joining you at St Mary's and thank you to those who have welcomed me so far. I have very fond memories of coming here five years ago to visit my good friend Fr Domenico and, going back a further fifteen years, I was a novice under Bishop Hugh at Pluscarden. So I'm not a complete stranger to these parts!

After working as a teacher of English in Sardinia (you may have guessed from my surname that I am half-Italian) and of RE in the south of England, I began my seminary training at the Beda College in Rome in 2010. There I specialised in Islamic Studies and was ordained for the Diocese of Salford in 2014. Most of my time as a priest since then has been spent in hospital chaplaincy work, covering three hospitals in central Manchester, as well as assisting in a parish. I thank God for the immense privilege of being able to work so closely alongside the sick and dying, especially over the last two years of the pandemic, and will treasure all the experiences gained there in my heart. I now look forward to this new chapter in my priestly life and hope I can make a positive contribution at St Mary's in the time that I spend here.

As I owe so much of my own spiritual formation to it and particularly because it is celebrating its centenary this year, I am very keen to begin my ministry in Inverness by re-establishing the Legion of Mary in the parish. When it's done well, the Legion provides an easy and concrete way to assist the priest and the parish community as well as growing in personal holiness. In order to introduce this, I will give a talk about the Legion and its founder sometime over the coming weeks, once I have made contact with other local Legionaries, who will need to provide support for the group in its early stages.

I very much look forward to serving you alongside Fr James and Fr Dominic. Please pray for me as I pray for you.

God bless you!

Fr Laurence.

Diocesan Synod

Synod gatherings will soon be taking place in your parish/pastoral area. These gatherings are an opportunity for all members of the church to meet and reflect on how we journey together and to discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us. All are welcome to participate in this conversation. We ask that you invite your own family members and friends to come along, particularly those who have not been in regular contact with the church. Their voice, too, is to be heard and welcomed. The diocesan synodal team.
Deacon Tony & Sister Imelda Ann op, Diocesan Synodal Team
Email: synod@rcda.scot Website: www.rcda.scot/synod/

Communication about the Synod



Everyday this month, we will explore each of the themes you could discuss as part of this time of community gathering and discernment. For help, we will also suggest questions on these topics that you may wish to consider. Watch out for our daily posts on <https://www.facebook.com/RCDA.scot> to get ready for your local synod meeting! The diocesan synodal team

Aid to the Church in Need

Many thanks to Fr James and the Parishioners of St Mary's for your wonderful gift to Aid to the Church in Need, we really appreciate your compassion and generosity. We gratefully acknowledge the sum of **£880** received by us at CAN UK which we are assigning according to your wishes.

The Crib

The Crib will remain in place until 2 Feb 22, the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. This marks the end of Christmas-tide.

The Friday Adoration



After the 1230 Mass every Friday the Blessed Sacrament is Exposed for Adoration. At 1600 hrs Vespers is said with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

This has been supported by some regular parishioners. It is our practice to have several 'watches', and it is appreciated when people 'sign-up' for one of the slots. The 'watches' are for one hour, but some may prefer a shorter time, and should please feel welcome.

To assist with this a Chart giving the Watches is available for people to sign up for a period.

The Watches are: 1300-1400/1400-1500/1500-1600/1600-1645, including Vespers

This particular period of Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is to pray for the lapsed.

**Organist required
Contact Office
Pianist?**

St. Vincent de Paul Society(SVDP)

Requests for assistance and support can be made by contacting Mark Jones in confidence or any SVDP member. Mobile number: 07988 670 997 Visit www.ssvpscotland.com

LENT 2022 : Recovery of the Lapsed.

Under the Prayerful Patronage of St Francis Xavier, the great Missionary, every Friday from 3 Dec 21 until Friday 4 March will be a Day of Prayer, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 1200 noon, and after Mass, until Evening Prayer and Benediction at 1600 hrs. Please consider seriously this commitment. We are inviting the whole Catholic community of St Mary's and our friends, to pray with us for the recovery of the lapsed, and the support of those searching for Faith. Please may we form 'teams for prayer' ; the clergy and sisters will be seeking out those who are prepared to commit to this. This is all very much a CALL to Mission, the Lord Jesus wants us all to be one with Him and He with us.

I commend this to your pastoral hearts and your customary generosity.

Catholic Truth Society

We have put some CTS books back in display racks. Please try not to handle them too much in consideration for others. Payments for the books can be put in the Wall box marked CTS on the left, just by the entrance to the Church from the porch.

Parish Mass Books

Copies of the Parish Mass Book, are available to purchase for your own use at a cost of £5. These can be obtained from the Parish office or by asking any of the volunteers.

Catechism, refreshments, and fun for Age 12-17 on a Friday evening from 6-9 p.m.

This is being run by the St Andrew's Community who are now resident in the Highlands. All welcome.

**THE IGNATIAN YEAR:
20 May 21 until 31 July 22.**

THIRTY-SIXTH REFLECTION

**THE MISSION TO SOUTH AMERICA : BRASIL, ARGENTINA, THE
GUARANI & PARAGUAY**



~PARISH FINANCES~

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:

St Mary's no.1:	£645
Second Collection:	
Justice and Peace	£274

Following the receipt of the December bank statement we are now able to provide an update of our present financial situation for the No. 1 working account.

Balance as of 30/11/21	£1,475.92	Expenditure	
Income		Diocesan Expense	1,808
Offertory	3,064	Power costs	1,195.94
Direct Debit & Standing orders	1,950	Council tax	358
Cash Donations	677	Office expenses	1,032.64
Clergy support	330	Insurance	195.30
Candles	166	Church expense (Live stream, Sanctuary lights Battery & Altar servers gifts)	162.49
Piety Stall	175	House Expense	20.82
CTS	10.50	Maintenance	5.39
Scottish Catholic Magazine	44	Provisions	466.32
Mass Books	50	Salaries	1914.43
Printing Donations	55	Mileage & Supply	116.40
Fund raising (Mask donations, soap & Christmas Paper)	59	Bible Alive	36
Convent Gas Payment	124.14	Scottish Catholic Magazine	46
T/F from Hall account for Power costs	552.98	Funeral fees	100
Hire of Marian room.	30	Total expenditure	£7,457.73
Funeral fees	300	Balance at 31/12/21	£1,605.81
Total Income	£7,587.62		

As of 30/12/21 our No. 2 Account for Fabric had a balance of £2,957.17 following payment for all the electric and fire alarm upgrades. We still have a small balance of £699.91 for General expenses.

We have recently had problems with the bank accepting cheques for our account, this has now been resolved but going forward they will only accept cheques made out as follows:

RCD – Inverness St Mary's

If you wish to make any payments or donations to the Parish in future please ensure the wording is correct.

We are grateful to all who have maintained their contributions to the Parish, by way of Direct debits and Standing orders or by the weekly Offertory collection. We are also grateful to those who have sent Cash donations to the Parish Office or by way of the Donation Box. Please consider creating a Regular Standing Order or Direct Debit. This is the easiest way of maintaining your regular contributions. Information can be obtained from Carol MacLean or leave a message with your contact details by phoning or emailing the Parish office. Telephone 01463 233519.

You can also help by using the Gift Aid Scheme if you are a UK taxpayer. It costs you nothing, but the parish receives 25p for every £1 you contribute no matter how small your contribution. Further information is available from Carol as above.

+ Sick +

+ Christopher Brown + Mary Cumming + Kate Fraser + George Taylor + Maureen Rattray +
 + Florian Alvaran + Ian Cameron + Leslie Allan + Evelyn Farry + Catherine Stewart + Louise Hendry +
 + Hilary Smith + Mary Grant + Leslie Murray + Sabrina MacAllen + James Connelly + Ruth & John Huggett +
 + Louise Bestau + Emmy MacNicol + Claude & Hilary Hayward + Patrick Daniel Finnerty +
 + Joyce Connelly + Ann Cameron + Alexandra (Sandra) MacDonald + Isobel Kelly +
 + Winifred Kelly + Roddy Corbett + Tommy Robertson + Hazel Collins + Lynne Williams + Marjory Trace +
 + Ian Mackenzie + Mary Macdonald + Dale Swanson + Mary Mackinnon + Eilidh Gillespie + Mary Fraser +
 + John and Mary Bell + Helen Mulgrew + Norah Hardie +

+ Anniversaries +

+ Christina Roden + Anne Murray + Nora Biggs + Jean McCulloch + Francis McDermott + Jessie Stewart +
 + James McMuraugh + Mary McKenna + Margaret MacDonald + Una Robertson + Michael Ho Sun +
 + Sr Barbara Campbell + Helen Barbour + John Stewart + Annie Quinn + Williamina McQueen +
 + Joyce Persichini + Mary Duncan + Neil Morrison + John MacKinnon + Ewen MacKintosh +

+ R.I.P. +

~~FOR YOUR PRAYERS~~

**Please continue to pray for vocations to the Priesthood; for our Seminarian
 Aidan Matheson and for the students from Vietnam Anh & Quynh.**

~~SICK OR HOSPITAL VISITS~~

Please contact the Parish Office if you
 require a visit or know of anyone who
 is sick, housebound or in hospital
 and wishes a visit and or Holy
 Communion.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Sacrament of Baptism
 Weddings**

Please contact the Clergy for Details

**Organist required
 Contact Office
 Pianist required**

~~CONTACT DETAILS~~

Fr. James Bell	Parish Priest	01463 233519& 07841758409
Fr. Andrzej Niski	Priest for Polish Community	01463 233519
Fr. Dominic Nwaigwe	Assistant Priest	01463 233519
Fr Laurence Gambella	Assistant Priest	01463 233519
Dcn. Patrick Darbyshire	Parish Deacon	01463 233519
PJ Faferek	Parish Office	01463 233519
Carol MacLean	Finance & Gift Aid Organiser	01463 233519
Christine Cameron	Safeguarding Officer	01463 233519
Daughters of Divine Love Convent (Sr. Mary Vivian)		01463 718690
St Joseph's Primary School		231837



Praying together for one another and cooperating in charity with one another for the sake of this world which God loves so much: this is the most concrete route to full unity.

Pope Francis – Pontifex Twitter

INDULGENCE PRAYER BY ST. POPE PIUS X
O Joseph, virgin father of Jesus, most pure spouse of the Virgin Mary, pray for us daily to the same Jesus, the Son of God, that, armed with the weapons of His grace, we may fight as we ought during life, and be crowned by Him at the moment of our death. Amen.

Words of Jesus to St. Faustina



O my Jesus, I know that a person's greatness is evidenced by his deeds and not by his words or feelings. It is the works that have come from us that will speak about us. My Jesus, do not allow me to daydream, but give me the courage and strength to fulfill Your Holy will.

Jesus, if You wish to leave me in uncertainty, even to the end of my life, may Your Holy Name be blessed.

DIARY:-663.

Medjugorje message.

The Lord gave me knowledge of His will under three aspects, so to speak, but it all comes down to one. The first is that souls separated from the world will burn as an offering before God's throne and beg for mercy for the whole world...and by their entreaties they will obtain blessings for priests, and through their prayers prepare the world for the final coming of Jesus. **DIARY:-1155**

The second is prayer joined to the act of mercy. In particular, they will defend the souls of children against the spirit of evil. Prayer and merciful deeds are all that will be required of these souls, and even the poorest persons can be admitted to their number. And in this egoistic world they will try to rouse up love, the mercy of Jesus. **DIARY:- 1156**

The third is prayer and deeds, of mercy, without any obligation of taking vows. But by doing this, these persons will have a share in all the merits and privileges of the whole [congregation]. Everyone in the world can belong to this group. **DIARY:-1157.**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Aberdeen

**The Parish of The Immaculate Conception, Stratherrick
Day of Prayer, Recollection and Healing
Friday 11 February 2022**



WELCOME

You are invited to participate in prayer, recollection and to share in the Ministry of Healing

PROGRAMME

- 1015>1040: Arrive & Register : Tea/Coffee and Biscuits
1045>1115: Introduction & Address : Fr James Bell
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament {Rosary– The Sorrowful Mysteries}
1120>1130: Break
1130>1155: Exposition : Sacrament of Reconciliation [Confessions]
1200>: The Angelus & Deposition
1215>: Mass with Laying on of Hands & Anointing of the Sick
1300>: Break
1310>1430: Lunch in Steading : This will be provided.
1440>1455: Exposition : Sacrament of Reconciliation [Confessions]
1500>: The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy
1515>: Benediction & Deposition
1520>: Departure
{Cash Donations are welcome to defray the costs}

ALL WELCOME