

# Parish Bulletin, St Mary's Inverness

30 Huntly St, Inverness, IV3 5PR

**Tel: 01463 233519** (*All Parish Matters*)

01463 231837 (*St Joseph's School*); 07738291961 (*Hospital Emergencies*)

07988 670 997 (*St. Vincent de Paul Society*)

Email: stmarysinverness@btinternet.com

Website: www.stmarysinverness.co.uk

**Parish Clergy** Laurence Gambella (*Administrator, Hospital Chaplain*);  
Justin Edathil (*Assistant Priest*); Patrick Darbyshire (*Deacon*);  
Andrzej Niski (*Polish Community*)

**Administration** Przemysław "PJ" Faferek (*Office & Site Maintenance*);  
Carol MacLean (*Finance*); Marvia MacCulloch (*Sacristan*);  
Eddie Docherty (*Music*); Christine Cameron (*Safeguarding*).

<b>Sunday 21 January</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> 1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10      Psalm: 24 2nd Reading: 1 Cor 7:29-31      Gospel: Mark 1:14-20	<b>Mass 09.00</b> <b>Live Stream Mass 11.00</b> <b>Polish Mass 17.00</b> <b>Mass 18.30</b>
<b>Monday 22 January</b>	Memorial of St Vincent Pallotti	<b>Rosary &amp; Confessions 11.30</b> <b>Mass 12.00</b> <b>Adoration 12.30</b>
<b>Tuesday 23 January</b>	Tuesday of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Week of the Year	<b>Mass 09.00</b>
<b>Wednesday 24 January</b>	Memorial of St Francis De Sales	<b>Rosary &amp; Confessions 11.30</b> <b>Mass 12.00</b> <b>Adoration 12.30</b>
<b>Thursday 25 January</b>	<b>Feast of The Conversion of St Paul</b>	
<b>Friday 26 January</b>	Memorial of St Timothy & St Titus	
<b>Saturday 27 January</b>	Memorial of St Angela Merici	<b>Confessions 10.00</b> <b>Mass 10.30</b> <b>Vigil Mass 18.00</b>
<b>Sunday 28 January</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> <b>Second Collection: Education</b>	<b>Mass 09.00</b> <b>Live Stream Mass 11.00</b> <b>Polish Mass 17.00</b> <b>Mass 18.30</b>

**Children's Liturgy** – During the 11.00 Mass

**Hospital Mass** - Mass at the hospital will take place on Wednesdays at 15.00.

Please advise Fr Laurence or the Parish Office if you are going into hospital.

## **FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**We continue to pray for priestly vocations and for our Seminarians Aidan & Anh**

### **+ SICK +**

+ Joyce Connelly + Ann Cameron + Isobel Kelly + Winifred Kelly + Roddy Corbett +  
+ Tommy Robertson + Marjory Trace + Eilidh Gillespie + Norah Hardie + Brian Lamond +  
+ John and Mary Bell + Fr Joachim Zok + Lennie Stirling + Heather Taylor +  
+ Danuta Faferek + Justyna Tymecka + Teresa Graczykowska + David Reid +  
+ Joan Murray + Alistair Murray +

### **+ ANNIVERSARIES +**

+ Stephan McQueenie + Catherine Keel + John Corrigan + Patrick Judge +  
+ George MacLennan + Christina Roden + Anne Murray + Nora Biggs +  
+ Jean McCulloch + Francis McDermott + Terrance Rhodes + Jessie Stewart +  
+ James McMuraugh + Mary McKenna + Margaret MacDonald + Una Robertson +  
+ Michael Ho Sun + Sr. Barbara Campbell + Helen Barbour + John Stewart +  
+ Annie Quinn +

### **Stratherrick Day of Reflection in preparation for Lent**

A day of reflection in preparation for Lent will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February from 10.00- 15.30. If you are interested, please speak to Fr. Justin or the parish office.

**Sunday Meal Service:** In order to continue this, a meeting will be held in the Marian Room on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm. If you wish to volunteer, it is very important to attend this meeting, as forms will be filled in on this occasion. If you are unable to attend but would like to be involved, please contact Fr. Laurence or the parish office.

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024,** The Feast of the Conversion of St Paul ends the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with a service of prayer in the church at 6.30 pm, at which we will welcome members of local non-Catholic Christian churches. It is very important to support this event. This will be followed by our Burns Supper including the traditional haggis, neeps and tatties and a ceilidh, but unfortunately this is now fully subscribed. It seems that the hall is in need of substantial repairs, so any funds received for this event will go towards this. A professional assessment will need to be undertaken before the exact cost is known. To attempt to raise some extra funds towards these repairs, we will hold a raffle during the Burns Supper, so any donations of prizes would be appreciated! These can be handed in to the parish office before Thursday evening.

**St Joseph's School:** A member of Staff from the school will speak at all Masses next Sunday 28th January, prior to the Enrolment Week for primary 1 which takes place from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, to highlight the importance of Catholic education. For further information about the school and to view the school handbook please visit the school website [www.stjosephsrcprimary.com](http://www.stjosephsrcprimary.com) Please remember the school in your prayers. A second collection will be taken at all Masses for Catholic Education.

**Sacraments:** If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation or Marriage, please speak to any of the clergy or phone the office to arrange an appointment.

**Deanery meeting Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.**

Due to the Deanery meeting, there will be no Rosary, Confessions or Adoration on this day and Mass will be at 09.00.

**“Death of a Martyr” - written by Michael Gutteridge**

For all those involved, a rehearsal will take place in the Marian Room on 31<sup>st</sup> January at 6.30 pm. It is hoped that a public performance will take place in the near future.

**Church Hall:** The hall is available for hire for private functions. Details can be obtained from the parish office.

**Religious Christmas Cards:** Sr. Anne Marie would be grateful for any religious cards you may have after Christmas. There are boxes at both doors to place them in.

**Heating:** Due to the excessive cost of heating the church, it is important that all doors should be closed after you have entered the church in order to maintain the heat. We would be grateful that you ensure the door is closed behind you.

**Parish Finances:** If you wish to make any payments or donations to the parish, cheques should be made out as follows:

**RCD – Inverness St Mary's**

Please ensure the wording is correct, as the bank will not accept anything other than the above. Donations may still be made in cash! If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aid for any contributions to the parish.

**Collections:      Offertory   £857      White Flower Appeal   £500**

*Dear Friends in Christ,*

*This Third Sunday in Ordinary Time coincides with the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In both the First Reading and the Gospel we hear how God's chosen ones are called to mission, Jonah to preach to the Ninevites and the sibling piscators to become fishers of men. Although it is not mentioned here, in the background, of course, is the story of Jonah and the whale (which is sufficiently aquatic to be considered a fish by many!). Jonah spends three days in the belly of the sea creature in an attempt to escape his mission and most of us have every sympathy for him. At times, fatigue, boredom, frustration and fear can lead us all to think "What's the point?", the classic symptoms of acedia.*

*The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which goes from the old date for the feast of the Chair of Saint Peter (18<sup>th</sup> January) to the feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul (25<sup>th</sup>), jolts us back into mission, halfway between the mission-ingrained seasons of Advent and Lent. The cynicism which Jonah initially showed towards the Ninevites must not find a place in our hearts when dealing with our non-Catholic Christian brothers and sisters. The Week of Prayer is intended to be a time of exchange, a time to learn, a time to be brutally honest about the plank in our own eye, a time to open our eyes to the dangers and destructive effects of tribalism, triumphalism and sense of superiority. None of this has a place in the truly Christian heart.*

*One of my inspirations is Blessed Gabriella of Unity, mentioned in Pope John Paul's 1995 encyclical *Ut unum sint* ("That they may be one"). In many ways, Blessed Gabriella was unremarkable, but her heart was Christ-like. Like the Magi we celebrated two weeks ago and like Andrew last week, she had the eyes of faith to recognise Christ at the right time and without saying a lot, spoke volumes about the depth of her love for our separated brethren. Hidden away in the silence of her Trappist convent, she had heard about her superior, Pia Gullini's, interactions with the Anglican Benedictines from Nashdom, the remnants from the Caldey community (most of which became Catholic, founding Prinknash and then Pluscarden) and about the work of the renowned Lyonnois ecumenist, Fr Paul Couturier. Without needing to know all the details, she saw with the eyes of faith that this was a noble cause needing the greatest love, as Jesus said in the same, "farewell" discourse, to lay down our life for people we consider to be friends. Having been given permission to offer her life for this cause during the Week of Prayer for Unity in 1938, the very next day she fell ill with what turned out to be tuberculosis and, after suffering heroically for just over a year, she died on 23rd April 1939, on the feast of Christ the Good Shepherd, he who seeks out the lost sheep and, coincidentally, the feast of the English patron, St George. What a wonderful reminder to us about the cost but also privilege of true Christian discipleship.*

*In this Week of Prayer, which will conclude with our own ecumenical service on Thursday, let us make our own the prayer of Jesus, "that they...[we, I]...may be one.*

*God bless, Fr Laurence.*