

Weekday Services (26th June – 1st July)

Monday Morar: 10.15 am
Tuesday Mallaig: 5.00 pm
Wednesday *St. Irenaeus* Arisaig: 10.15 am

Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul (29th June)

Wednesday (*Vigil-Mass*) Mallaig: 7:00 pm
Thursday Arisaig: 10:15 am
Thursday Mingarry: 12:00 noon

Friday *Funeral Mass of Christina Johnstone* Arisaig: 2.00 pm
Saturday Arisaig: 10.15 am

Sunday Masses 1st / 2nd July (13th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR - A)

Saturday (*Vigil-Mass*) 6:00 pm Morar
Sunday 10:00 am Arisaig
Sunday 11:30 am Mallaig
Sunday 2:00 pm Glenuig

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Devotions:

Morar: No exposition this week

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 24th June 10:30 am Arisaig
Any other time upon request

Housebound visits this week..... no visits

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Donald MacLellan (Riverside); Jessie Gillies (Bracara) 17/06;
Freya Holmes MacDonald 17/06/2011; Eilidh MacLeod (Barra).

Eternal rest...

Parish Priest: Fr Stanislaw J. Pamula, Chapel House, Morar, Mallaig. PH40 4PB.
Tel. (01687) 462201 E-mail: catholicroughbounds@gmail.com
Parish website: catholicroughbounds.org
facebook.com/catholicroughbounds

R.C. Diocese Argyll & Isles – Arisaig, Morar and Mingarry Missions:
Charity Reg. No. SC002876.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

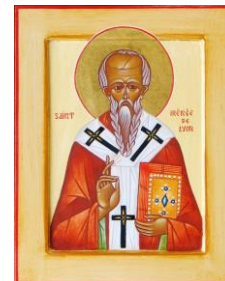
CATHOLICROUGHBOUNDS.ORG
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Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St Cumin, Morar
St. Mary's, Arisaig – Our Lady of the Angels, Mingarry
St. Patrick's, Mallaig - St. Agnes, Glenuig

12th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A) **25th June 2017**
R) In your great love, answer me, O Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of truth will be my witness; and you too will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

Wednesday – St. Irenaeus

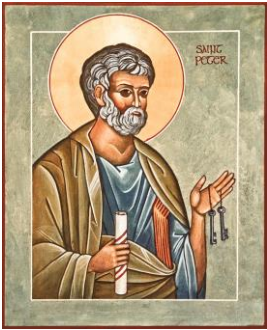
Irenaeus was born in Smyrna, in Asia Minor (now Izmir in Turkey) and emigrated to Lyons, in France, where he eventually became the bishop. It is not known for certain whether he was martyred or died a natural death. Whenever we take up a Bible we touch Irenaeus's work, for he played a decisive role in fixing the canon of the New Testament. It is easy for us, now, to think of Scripture – and the New Testament in particular – as the basis of the Church, and harder to remember that it was the Church that had to decide, early on, what was scriptural and what was not.



Before Irenaeus, there was vague general agreement on what scripture was, but a system based on this kind of common consent was too weak. As people meditated on the intolerable event of the Redemption, dissensions and heresies inevitably arose, and reference to scripture was the obvious way of trying to settle what the truth really was. But in the absence of an agreed canon of scripture it was all too easy to attack one's opponent's arguments by saying that his texts were corrupt or unscriptural; and easy, too, to do a little fine-tuning of texts on one's own behalf.

So Irenaeus went through all the books of the New Testament, and all the candidates (such as the magical pseudo-Gospels, and the entertaining and uplifting novel the Shepherd of Hermas). He did not simply accept or reject each book, because his enemies could have said that he was doing it to bolster his own arguments: he gave reasons for and against the canonicity of each book. Irenaeus's canon of scripture is very nearly the modern one (he does not quote from three of the short universal epistles), but more important is the fact that he started the tradition of biblical scholarship.

Irenaeus had to fight against the Gnostics, who believed that the world was irredeemably wicked, and against the Valentinians, who claimed to be possessors of a secret tradition that had never been written down but passed from master to disciple through the ages. This pessimism and this arcane elitism remain with us even today, and each generation must renew the fight against them. Let us pray for the inspiration of St Irenaeus in our battle.



Thursday – Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul (Holyday of Obligation)

Whatever else St Peter may be, he is not the model of a wise and noble hero. He walks on the water – but then panics and starts to sink. He makes the first profession of faith – and moments later blunders into error and is called Satan by the Lord. He refuses to be washed, and then, when the purpose is explained to him, demands to be washed all over. And, of course, he betrays his master soon after having been warned that he will and having sworn not to. If Peter is the rock on which the Church is built, what a fissured and friable rock it is! How much better, we think, to have chosen the Sons of

Thunder, for their energy; or Judas Iscariot, for his financial acumen; or John, because he was loved the best.

The choosing of Peter teaches us a lesson. The Church’s foundation-stone and its first leader is not all-wise, all-knowing, good, heroic, and beautiful. He is a very ordinary man who makes about as many mistakes as we would in his place, and kicks himself for them just as thoroughly afterwards. If St Peter had been a hero, we could easily have despaired of ever becoming like him. If St Peter had been great, and noble, and good, we could have told ourselves that the Church is for the saints, despaired, sat down, and not bothered. But the Church is not just for saints: it is for confused, impetuous, cowardly people like us – or St Peter. The rock crumbles, the ropes are frayed, the wood is rotten – but, although that improbable building, the Church, is made of such inferior materials, it grows (on the whole) faster than it collapses, and it is grace that holds it together.

In the end, it was grace that gave the coward the courage to bear witness when it counted, grace that gave the fool the wisdom he needed to set the infant Church on her way, grace that taught the impetuous man patience and forbearance.

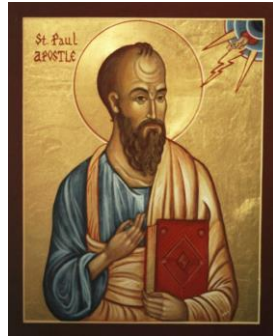
We none of us admire ourselves, however much we would like to; let us not try to admire St Peter either, but admire instead the grace he was given, and pray that, weak as we are, we may be given it too, and may use it.

St Paul is not an attractive figure today. We are still knee deep in the overripe fruit of late romanticism: we admire men who feel, not think; who enchant people into following them, not argue them into submission.

There is even, nowadays, a fashion for saying that Paul invented Christianity as we know it, that he set out with the cynical aim of fashioning an enduring institution; and that the real Christianity, the Christianity of Christ, is something quite different from and far nicer than the Christianity we know. Yes, Paul’s mind did shape the early Church. Yes, without him things would have been different. And all the information that we have in the New Testament is entirely consistent with the whole thing being a Pauline conspiracy.

But so what? “Consistent with” is a treacherous phrase. The evidence of my eyes is entirely consistent with there being an invisible lion in my fireplace, because you can’t see invisible lions; but I still don’t believe there is one. I trust the world, I have faith in it, and invisible lions are not part of that faith. I trust God, I have faith in the Holy Spirit – I say so out loud on Sundays – and I believe that God called Saul because he needed him, and that the renamed Saul did and said what needed to be said and done.

Paul is not some cold and remote intellectual – just read the Epistles, and see if that stands up. Paul is always reminding people of his weakness – look, I know what I ought to do, and I keep on doing the opposite – look, I have this thorn in my flesh and God



absolutely refuses to take it away. Paul is not all mind – he does have his troubles too. But yes, Paul does have a mind, and that raises problems in an age that doesn’t, that uses “clever” as a term of abuse. Remember, though, that we are commanded to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength. Perhaps we cannot love St Paul very much nowadays; but let us at least pray for the grace to love God with our minds, as he did.

FR WYNNE: We welcome **Monsignor Wynne** to Arisaig today and we are delighted to have him at Mass. Please join us at Astley Hall immediately after Mass.

VISITORS WELCOME! We welcome **Fr Pawel Nowak** and **Leszek Gula**, two of my friends from the University. They are both PhD (Doctor of Dogmatic Theology) candidates at the University of Cardinal Wyszynski in Warsaw where I studied. They arrive Monday night and will be staying till 7th July!

SPECIAL COLLECTION: Next week, **2nd July** we will be holding a Special Collection for **Peter’s Pence**. This is to cover our Annual Donation to the Holy See to help with all the Papal Works! Thank you for your generosity.

ARISAIG PARISH:

CHRISTINA JOHNSTONE: Christina lived down in England but her parents came from Arisaig. It was her intention to be buried in Arisaig. Requiem Mass will take place on Friday at 2pm.

WEDDING: Congratulations to **Jennifer MacDonald** and **Robert McKnight** who got married last Saturday at St. Mary’s. It was a privilege for me to minister at this ceremony and we wish the Married Couple many blessings!

MORAR PARISH:

FIRST COMMUNIONS/CORPUS

CHRISTI: Again congratulations and many thanks to our young Communicants! Thank you for help with the Liturgy (Church, Sacristy, Altar Servers) and for preparing nice refreshments afterwards!

BETTY MACBETH RIP: Thank you for your support and prayers during the Funeral Mass in Morar last Tuesday.

DONALD MACLELLAN RIP: Last Friday I got very sad news about Donald’s (Riverside) passing. He will be buried from Morar. He was a man close to the Kingdom of God, very protective over his church in Morar. We will remember him in our prayers. Funeral details will be announced in due course.

MINGARRY PARISH:

END OF SCHOOL YEAR:

Congratulations to some of our young parishioners who are finishing Primary School on Monday. I will attend the ceremony and hand out a Bible Gifts to them!



COLLECTIONS:

Morar/Mallaig:	
18.06.....£528 (Gift Aid £270.50)
Arisaig:	
18.06.....tba
Mingarry:	
18.06.....£116 (Gift Aid £60)