

Parish Services

BIRTHDAY: Malcolm Morrison 10th March!

Ad multos annos!

Weekday Services (2nd March – 7th March)

Monday	Morar: 10.15 am
	<i>Private Intention</i>
Tuesday	Mallaig: 5.00 pm
	<i>Monsignor John Archie MacNeil RIP</i>
Wednesday	Arisaig: 10.15 am
	<i>Iain MacDonald RIP</i>
Thursday	Mallaig: 10.15 am
	<i>Ian MacDonald RIP</i>
Friday	Morar: 10.15 am
	<i>Willie MacDonald RIP</i>
Saturday	Arisaig: 10.15 am
	<i>Iain MacDonald RIP</i>

Sunday Masses 7th/8th March (2nd Sunday of Lent - A)

Saturday (Vigil-Mass) 6:00 pm	Morar
	<i>Malcolm Morrison's Birthday Mass</i>
Sunday 10:00 am.....	Arisaig
	<i>Donald MacDonald RIP</i>
Sunday 11:30 am.....	Mallaig
	<i>Jessie Ann MacDonald RIP</i>

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Morar: after/before Mass on Friday 6th March; Arisaig: after/before Mass on Wednesday 11th March; Mallaig: after/before Mass on Tuesday 17th March.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (unless announced otherwise):

1 st Saturday of the month 10:30 am	Arisaig
3 rd Saturday of the month 5:00 pm.....	Mallaig
2 nd , 4 th , 5 th Saturday of the month 5:00 pm.....	Morar

Housebound visits this week..... Arisaig

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Chrissie McKelvie (Mallaig) 02.02.1997; Hugh McKelvie (Mallaig) 11.02.2002; Willie MacDonald 21.01.1967; Iain MacDonald (Cnoc na faire) 25.02.1975; Ian MacDonald (the Land) 05.03.2012; Monsignor John Archie MacNeil RIP 03.03.1993; Mary Gribbens (Mallaig) 02/03/2007; Katy Morrison (South Uist) 03/03/1993; Rachel Morrison (Mallaig) 01/03/1993.

Eternal rest...



Parish Priest: Fr Stanislaw J. Pamula, Chapel House, Morar, Mallaig. PH40 4PB.
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Parish website: catholicroughbounds.org
facebook.com/catholicroughbounds

RC Diocese Argyll & Isles – Arisaig & Morar Missions:
Charity Reg. No. SC002876

PARISH NEWSLETTER

CATHOLICROUGHBOUNDS.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/CATHOLICROUGHBOUNDS

Parish of St. Mary's, Arisaig & St. Donnan's, Isle of Eigg
Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St Cumin's, Morar;
St. Patrick's, Mallaig & St. Columba's, Isle of Canna

First Sunday of Lent (A)

1st March 2020

R) Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

MEMORIAL CONCERT

3pm Sunday March 1st
St Mary's Church Arisaig

Commemorating the sinking of the **Glenart Castle** hospital ship and the lives of all of those from this village whose lives have been lost in war

Please contact Fiona MacDonald to notify us of your attendance
fiona@bravehound.co.uk | 07980 631 110 | www.bravehound.co.uk

This is a free event but donations to support future events will be warmly received

Supported by the **J S Innes Charitable Trust**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: On 22nd March an annual Collection for SCIAF. Mission Appeal will take place on 28th/29th of March.

VISITORS: We welcome all the Visitors to our area. Hope you have a nice and pleasant stay. If you like our Parishes, please follow our page on Facebook!

FOOD BANK NEEDS OUR HELP: Winter is here and the demand for assistance of this form is growing. A lot of people during the summer months depend on seasonal jobs to provide for themselves and their families, however, when winter comes, these jobs are unavailable, and houses need to be heated children and vulnerable people fed. Please, consider buying a few extras and leaving them in the Coop for the most vulnerable ones.

BREXIT: As Britain has left the European Union there will be some changes coming in regard to the Status of EU Citizens living in Britain. Scottish Catholic Parliamentary Office has prepared a leaflet to help your EU neighbours and friends with transition. Please, take a copy and pass it on if you know someone who needs assistance.

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE: At the moment the risk from Coronavirus remains low in Scotland but we should be planning if the situation deteriorates. Presently there is no reason for stopping the reception of Holy Communion on the tongue and from the chalice or stopping the handshake at the Sign of Peace. Obviously, if the virus takes a hold in Scotland then our normal practices would need to change.

Please, ensure Ministers of the Eucharist sanitise their hands before and after distributing communion (we should be doing this anyway as a matter of course.) This can be done by washing hands discreetly before proceeding to the sanctuary or using good quality hand gel discreetly.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday, 6th March 2020, 7pm, Church of Scotland Hall, Mallaig. All welcome. Refreshments after the service. 'Rise, take your mat and walk' Written by Christian women of Zimbabwe.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE: We congratulate soon to be Canons... Fr Roddy Johnston, Fr Michael Hutson, Fr William MacLean and Fr John Paul MacKinnon. Their installation is to take place in Oban on 10th March. All welcome.

ST MARGARET'S DEANERY MASS FOR SAFEGUARDERS:

Protecting the vulnerable is a core Gospel value. The Catholic Church understands that safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is a core principle of the Christian life. Furthermore, a transparent and stringent safeguarding policy within our Diocese allows her to minister and evangelise more effectively.

Bishop Brian appreciates the work of parish volunteers, Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators, Trainers, Clergy, members of DSAG (Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Group), DRAMT (Diocesan Risk Assessment Management Team) and the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor and Secretary. He invites everyone involved in any level of Safeguarding to join him for the Deanery Mass in St John's, Caol on Wednesday 11th March at 7pm to reflect on your ministry and to ask for God's blessing. There will be hospitality afterwards. Everyone, including those not formerly involved in Safeguarding, are most welcome.

GENDER RECOGNITION REFORM (SCOTLAND) BILL:

The Scottish Government is currently consulting on new legislation around the ability to legally change gender. The Catholic Parliamentary Office has prepared a four-page briefing to help people engage with the consultation process. The briefing can be accessed via the link, below. Please do consider responding to the consultation. Please note the consultation closes on 17th March.

<https://repolitics.org/briefing-gender-recognition-reform-scotland-bill/>

SCIAF BOXES: This year we did not receive our packages with Lenten Boxes. I do not know the reason why. I tried calling SCIAF but received no response. If you would like to receive your boxes, you can contact them directly at 0141 354 5555 or email sciaf@sciaf.org.uk

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK: There are a lot of people not well at the moment and require our constant prayers and support.

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear us for Your sick servants for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, that being restored to bodily health, they may give thanks to You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

TRIP TO BUDAPEST: We would like to thank everyone in the parish for their very generous donations and we are extremely grateful for all they have contributed to the trip. We would also like to thank Fr Stan, Mrs Andow and Lindsay for putting up with us for the five days. All of us thoroughly enjoyed the trip and it was an experience all of us will never forget. Throughout the 5 days we did over 70,000 steps trying to keep up with Fr Stan (Apparently Fr Stan will now be starting a new speed walking group when he comes back 😊) but it was all worth it. We truly loved meeting the Hungarian church group and enjoyed being entertained by them through their group activities as well as their traditional Hungarian dances and songs. We also enjoyed teaching them some of our traditional ceilidh dances. Our favourite parts were sightseeing around Budapest on the cruise and going on little buses around Buda Hill which was very entertaining. The castle was beautiful even though it was a trek to get up to it which some of us struggled with. Ice skating was also very funny especially when Ruaraidh began to look very similar to Bambi on ice 😊. The girls went to the thermal baths which we all found very relaxing and it was a nice break from the boys. We loved the dinners each night especially night 1 when we were greeted with a Hungarian band and got to join in which was great fun. On night 2 we got to a beautiful restaurant which had views over the whole city and we had a

very entertaining walk back to our beautiful hotel. Over all the trip was amazing and we are very hopeful that the young Hungarians will come visit us in the future.



Monsignor Thomas Wynne RIP

It is with great regret that I inform you of the death of Monsignor Thomas Wynne. May he rest in peace.

Father Tom was greatly loved by so many people. He ministered for an incredible 60 years in Oban, Rothesay, Kingussie, Oban, Arisaig and Roy Bridge – retiring at 86 years of age! Even then he still helped out in parishes until a few weeks ago. He was a great servant of our diocese of Argyll and the Isles.

Father Tom's remains were received into his home parish of St Mary's, Fort William on Thursday 27th February and his Requiem Mass was celebrated on Friday 28th at 11 am.

Bishop McGee offered his grateful thanks on behalf of the diocese to Monsignor Wynne's nephew, Deacon Tom Wynne and his wife Sheena for the care which they, together with their wider family provided to him.

ARISAIG PARISH:

PARISH COUNCIL: It is time to hold a Parish Council meeting. I suggest Thursday, 5th March at 6pm in the Club Room. Finance Committee will meet before to go through our last year's accounts and present the summary at the meeting.

HELP NEEDED: I am very sorry to be asking again. I am very grateful to Iain MacQueen for all that he is doing preparing the Church for Masses on a Sunday but we simply cannot put all that work on one man's shoulders. We also need some help to set up for Masses during the week. It really does not take much and would be greatly appreciated. I will not be here forever and making sure that there are several people involved with daily running of the parish would ensure smooth transition when the need arises. It is also easier for the Supply Priests to adapt. Please, speak to me if you can offer some help.

CHURCH TOWER: This is my second appeal for help to clear the loft on the choir level and move all the items stored there to the garage. Please, especially men, if you could help to shift all the stuff to the garage, it would be greatly appreciated.

FR ROSS CRICHTON: We welcome Fr Ross, who is passing through our Parishes this weekend. He kindly offered to celebrate Sunday Mass in Arisaig.

MORAR PARISH:

PARISH COUNCIL: It is time to hold a Parish Council meeting. I suggest Tuesday, 3rd March at 6pm in the Chapel House. Finance Committee will meet before to go through our last year's accounts and present the summary at the meeting.

CHURCH LOTTERY: Have you bought your ticket today? It is a great way of showing support.



HEATING&LIGHTING: In Memory of Ian (the Land) MacDonald

COLLECTIONS:

Arisaig:	
16.02	TOTAL £220.42 (Gift Aid £74.02)
23.02	TOTAL £292.30 (Gift Aid £112.30)
Morar and Mallaig:	
16.02	TOTAL £401 (Gift Aid £268.50)
23.02	TOTAL £330 (Gift Aid £257)

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
FOR LENT 2020**

"We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God" (2 Cor 5:20)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year the Lord grants us, once again, a favourable time to prepare to celebrate with renewed hearts the great mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus, the cornerstone of our personal and communal Christian life. We must continually return to this mystery in mind and heart, for it will continue to grow within us in the measure that we are open to its spiritual power and respond with freedom and generosity.

1. *The paschal mystery as the basis of conversion*

Christian joy flows from listening to, and accepting, the Good News of the death and resurrection of Jesus. This *kerygma* sums up the mystery of a love "so real, so true, so concrete, that it invites us to a relationship of openness and fruitful dialogue" (*Christus Vivit*, 117). Whoever believes this message rejects the lie that our life is ours to do with as we will. Rather, life is born of the love of God our Father, from his desire to grant us life in abundance (cf. *Jn* 10:10). If we listen instead to the tempting voice of the "father of lies" (*Jn* 8:44), we risk sinking into the abyss of absurdity, and experiencing hell here on earth, as all too many tragic events in the personal and collective human experience sadly bear witness.

In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation *Christus Vivit*: "Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love, and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew" (No. 123). Jesus' Pasch is not a past event; rather, through the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer.

2. *The urgency of conversion*

It is good to contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God's mercy has been bestowed upon us. Indeed, the experience of mercy is only possible in a "face to face" relationship with the crucified and risen Lord "who loved me and gave himself for me" (*Gal* 2:20), in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent. Even more than a duty, prayer is an expression of our need to respond to God's love which always precedes and sustains us. Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will.

In this favourable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. *Hos* 2:14), so that we can at last hear our Spouse's voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us. May we not let this time of grace pass in vain, in the foolish illusion that we can control the times and means of our conversion to him.

3. *God's passionate will to dialogue with his children*

The fact that the Lord once again offers us a favourable time for our conversion should never be taken for granted. This new opportunity ought to awaken in us a sense of gratitude and stir us from our sloth. Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God's unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us. In the crucified Jesus, who knew no sin, yet for our sake was made to be sin (cf. *2 Cor* 5:21), this saving will led the Father to burden his Son with the weight of our sins, thus, in the expression of Pope Benedict XVI, "turning of God against himself" (*Deus Caritas Est*, 12). For God also loves his enemies (cf. *Mt* 5:43-48).

The dialogue that God wishes to establish with each of us through the paschal mystery of his Son has nothing to do with empty chatter, like that attributed to the ancient inhabitants of Athens, who "spent their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new" (*Acts* 17:21). Such chatter, determined by an empty and superficial curiosity, characterizes worldliness in every age; in our own day, it can also result in improper use of the media.

4. *A richness to be shared, not kept for oneself*

Putting the paschal mystery at the centre of our lives means feeling compassion towards the wounds of the crucified Christ present in the many innocent victims of wars, in attacks on life, from that of the unborn to that of the elderly, and various forms of violence. They are likewise present in environmental disasters, the unequal distribution of the earth's goods, human trafficking in all its forms, and the unbridled thirst for profit, which is a form of idolatry.

Today too, there is a need to appeal to men and women of good will to share, by almsgiving, their goods with those most in need, as a means of personally participating in the building of a better world. Charitable giving makes us more human, whereas hoarding risks making us less human, imprisoned by our own selfishness. We can and must go even further, and consider the structural aspects of our economic life. For this reason, in the midst of Lent this year, from 26 to 28 March, I have convened a meeting in Assisi with young economists, entrepreneurs and change-makers, with the aim of shaping a more just and inclusive economy. As the Church's magisterium has often repeated, political life represents an eminent form of charity (cf. Pius XI, *Address to the Italian Federation of Catholic University Students*, 18 December 1927). The same holds true for economic life, which can be approached in the same evangelical spirit, the spirit of the Beatitudes. I ask Mary Most Holy to pray that our Lenten celebration will open our hearts to hear God's call to be reconciled to himself, to fix our gaze on the paschal mystery, and to be converted to an open and sincere dialogue with him. In this way, we will become what Christ asks his disciples to be: the salt of the earth and the light of the world (cf. *Mt* 5:13-14)

Francis

Rome, at Saint John Lateran, 7 October 2019
Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

*Basilica of Santa Sabina
Ash Wednesday, 26 February 2020*

We begin the Lenten Season by receiving ashes: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return (cf. *Gen 3:19*). The dust sprinkled on our heads brings us back to earth; it reminds us that we are dust and to dust we shall return. We are weak, frail and mortal. Centuries and millennia pass and we come and go; before the immensity of galaxies and space, we are nothing. We are dust in the universe. Yet we are *dust loved by God*. It pleased the Lord to gather that dust in his hands and to breathe into it the breath of life (cf. *Gen 2:7*). We are thus a dust that is precious, destined for eternal life. We are the dust of the earth, upon which God has poured out his heaven, the dust that contains his dreams. We are God's hope, his treasure and his glory.

Ashes are thus a reminder of the direction of our existence: a passage *from dust to life*. We are dust, earth, clay, but if we allow ourselves to be shaped by the hands of God, we become something wondrous. More often than not, though, especially at times of difficulty and loneliness, we only see our dust! But the Lord encourages us: in his eyes, our littleness is of infinite value. So let us take heart: we were born to be loved; we were born to be children of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, may we keep this in mind as we begin this Lenten season. For Lent is not a time for useless sermons, but for recognizing that our lowly ashes are loved by God. It is a time of grace, a time for letting God gaze upon us with love and in this way *change our lives*. We were put in this world to go from ashes to life. So let us not turn our hopes and God's dream for us into powder and ashes. Let us not grow resigned. You may ask: "How can I trust? The world is falling to pieces, fear is growing, there is so much malice all around us, society is becoming less and less Christian..." Don't you believe that God can transform our dust into glory?

The ashes we receive on our foreheads should affect the thoughts passing through our minds. They remind us that, as God's children, we cannot spend our lives chasing after dust. From there a question can pass into our hearts: "What am I living for?" If it is for the fleeting realities of this world, I am going back to ashes and dust, rejecting what God has done in my life. If I live only to earn money, to have a good time, to gain a bit of prestige or a promotion in my work, I am living for dust. If I am unhappy with life because I think I do not get enough respect or receive what I think is my due, then I am simply staring at dust.

That is not why we have been put in this world. We are worth so much more. We live for so much more, for we are meant to make God's dream a reality and to love. Ashes are sprinkled on our heads so that the fire of love can be kindled in our hearts. We are citizens of heaven, and our love for God and neighbour is our passport to heaven. Our earthly possessions will prove useless, dust that scatters, but the love we share – in our families, at work, in the Church and in the world – will save us, for it will endure forever.

The ashes we receive remind us of a second and opposite passage: *from life to dust*. All around us, we see the dust of death. Lives reduced to ashes. Rubble, destruction, war. The lives of unwelcomed innocents, the lives of the excluded poor, the lives of the abandoned elderly. We continue to destroy ourselves, to return to ashes and dust. And how much dust there is in our relationships! Look at our homes and families: our quarrels, our inability to resolve conflicts, our unwillingness to apologize, to forgive, to start over, while at the same time insisting on our own freedom and our rights! All this dust that besmirches our love and mars our life. Even in the Church, the house of God, we have let so much dust collect, the dust of worldliness.

Let us look inside, into our hearts: how many times do we extinguish the fire of God with the ashes of hypocrisy! *Hypocrisy* is the filth that Jesus tells us in today's Gospel that we have to remove. Indeed, the Lord tells us not only to carry out works of charity, to pray and to fast, but also to do these without pretense, duplicity and hypocrisy (cf. *Mt 6:2.5.16*). Yet how often do we do things only to be recognized, to look good, to satisfy our ego! How often do we profess to be Christians, yet in our hearts readily yield to passions that enslave us! How often do we preach one thing and practice another! How many times do we make ourselves look good on the outside while nursing grudges within! How much duplicity do we have in our hearts... All this is dust that besmirches, ashes that extinguish the fire of love.

We need to be cleansed of all the dust that has sullied our hearts. How? The urgent summons of Saint Paul in today's second reading can help us. Paul says: "Be reconciled to God!" He does not simply ask; he begs: "We beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God" (*2 Cor 5:20*). We would have said: "Reconcile yourselves with God!" But no, Paul uses passive form: *Be reconciled!* Holiness is not achieved by our efforts, for it is grace! By ourselves, we cannot remove the dust that sullies our hearts. Only Jesus, who knows and loves our heart, can heal it. Lent is a time of healing.

What, then, are we to do? In journeying towards Easter, we can make two passages: first, *from dust to life*, from our fragile humanity to the humanity of Jesus, who heals us. We can halt in contemplation before the crucified Lord and repeat: "Jesus, you love me, transform me... Jesus, you love me, transform me..." And once we have received his love, once we have wept at the thought of that love, we can make the second passage, by determining never to fall again *from life into dust*. We can receive God's forgiveness in the sacrament of Penance, because there the fire of God's love consumes the ashes of our sin. The embrace of the Father in confession renews us from inside and purifies our heart. May we allow ourselves to be reconciled, in order to live as beloved children, as forgiven and healed sinners, as wayfarers with him at our side.

Let us allow ourselves to be loved, so that we can give love in return. Let us allow ourselves to stand up and walk towards Easter. Then we will experience the joy of discovering how God raises us up from our ashes.