

PARISH NEWSLETTER

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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

Weekday Masses (12 December - 17 December)

Monday..... Morar: 10:00 am
Tuesday *St Lucy*..... Mallaig: 05:00 pm
Wednesday *St John of the Cross*..... Arisaig: 10:00 am
Thursday Mallaig: 10:00 am
Friday Morar: 10:00 am
Saturday..... Arisaig: 10:00 am

Exposition

Friday Morar: 10:30 - 11:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday (17 December) Mallaig 5:00 pm
Any other time on request

Housebound visits this week

Wednesday Morar Parish from 10.30 am

Sunday Masses 18 / 19 December (4th Sunday of Advent - A)

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

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Mary MacKellaig 8.12; Margaret Culley 9.12; Joe MacLeod 11.12; Donald Anthony McDonnell 11.12.01 *Eternal rest...*

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3rd Sunday of Advent (A)

11th December 2016

R) Come lord, and save us.

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Tuesday - St Lucy



Lucy's history has been lost and all we really know for certain is that this brave woman who lived in Syracuse lost her life during the persecution of Christians in the early fourth century. Her veneration spread to Rome so that by the sixth century the whole Church recognized her courage in defence of the faith.

Because people wanted to shed light on Lucy's bravery, legends began to crop up. The one that has passed the test of time tells the story of a young Christian woman who vowed to live her life in service of Christ. Her mother tried to arrange a marriage for her with a pagan and Lucy knew her mother could not be swayed by a young girl's vow, so she devised a plan to convince her mother that Christ was the better partner for life.

After several prayers at the tomb of Saint Agatha, Lucy saw the saint in a dream. St. Agatha told Lucy her mother's illness would be cured through faith, which Lucy used to persuade her mother to give the dowry money to the poor and allow her to

commit her life to God.

While Lucy and her mother were grateful to God, the rejected bridegroom was deeply angered and betrayed Lucy's faith to the governor Paschasius. The governor attempted to force her into defilement at a brothel, but the guards who came to take her away were unable to move her, even after hitching her to a team of oxen.

The guards heaped bundles of wood around her but it wouldn't burn so they finally resorted to their swords, and Lucy met her death.

Though details of her life remain unknown, it is widely known that during her lifetime Christians were persecuted for their faith. They were forced to endure horrific torture and often met painful ends during Diocletian's reign. Though the details surrounding her death remain only as legends, it is all modern-day Christians can rely on.

Wednesday

St John of the Cross

He was born in Fontiveros, in Spain, in about 1542. He spent some time as a Carmelite friar before, in 1568, Saint Teresa of Ávila persuaded him to pioneer the reform of the Carmelite order. This was a difficult task and a dangerous one: he suffered imprisonment and severe punishment at the hands of the Church



authorities. He died at the monastery of Ubeda in Andalusia on 14 December 1591: the monks there had initially treated him as the worst of sinners, but by the time he died they had recognised his sanctity and his funeral was the occasion of a great outburst of enthusiasm. His works include two major mystical poems – he is considered one of the great poets of the Spanish language – and detailed commentaries on them and the spiritual truths they convey. He was canonized in 1726 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1926.

SCIAF APPEAL FOR REFUGEES: Thank you for your generosity in response to SCIAF's appeal.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: All cards available at our stall fulfil the standard postage requirement. Please make use of our stall.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: There was a first choir practice last week for our Christmas Mass. Please consider to join the choir for this event. There will be another rehearsal so there is still a chance to come if you have not done so already.

CRIB ASSEMBLY TEAMS: Please, I kindly ask you to proceed with setting up the cribs in the parishes as it was done in previous years. We have some beautiful Cribs in our parishes to remind us of the Birth of Jesus and we are always very grateful to those, who prepare them beforehand.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH WITH SENIOR CITIZENS: My thanks to Arisaig and Morar Communities for invitations to the event. It was a lovely gathering in Arisaig last week and I am sure it will be the same this week in Morar.

CONFESSIONS: Fr Campbell will be our visiting confessor before Christmas, he will hear confessions on **Monday, 19th December** and **Wednesday 21st December at 7pm** in Mallaig and on **20th December** in Arisaig. Fr Slavin will hear confessions in Mingarry/Glenuig as announced by him on Sunday. Please, take the opportunity to prepare ourselves for the Celebration of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

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| <i>24th December</i> - Christmas Night Mass: | <i>25th December</i> - Christmas Day Mass: |
| Our Lady of the Angels, Mingarry - 8.30pm | St. Mary's, Arisaig - 10am |
| Our Lady of Perpetual Succour and St. Cumins, Morar - 10pm | St. Agnes, Glenuig - 11am |
| | St. Patrick's, Mallaig - 11.30am |

Christmas Carols Singing before each Mass

ARISAIG PARISH:

INTERNET: We are still offline... More prayers needed! I have asked our local Councillor, Alan Henderson, who was kind enough to intervene on our behalf. I hope that this will help to resolve the issues.

SCOTTISH CATHOLIC OBSERVER: This is the fourth consecutive weekend that the papers have not been delivered in time for distribution at the weekend Mass. I do not know where the blame lies, but after speaking to SCO office, I had to cancel our Parish Subscription as they could not guarantee the service on time any longer. If you wish to receive SCO, you can contact them for individual subscriptions at 0141 241 6112.

GRAVEYARD PATH: The works to improve the path leading from the old to the new graveyard will start on Monday, 12th December. I am very grateful to the Community Council for organising the works. Due to the ongoing works the path will be closed to the public in the coming weeks.

MORAR PARISH:

HEATING/LIGHTING: In memory of Ian (the Land) MacDonald and Chrissie Colquhoun.

CHURCH HEATING IN MORAR: I have made an executive decision (please, do not be angry) to accept the offer of removing the units from the house and installing them with an additional, 3rd unit in Morar Church. This should provide enough heat as a primary heat source for the Church. Works should begin this week. My thanks to Alistair Neil who agreed to do some electrical work at short notice to power the units. Please, say a prayer that everything will go well and we will have a nice, warm church for Christmas!

RAFFLES: Christmas Hamper is waiting for our Raffle Winner! You can purchase your tickets for 50p at the back of Morar/Mallaig Church.

MINGARRY PARISH:

SUPPLY PRIEST: My thanks to Fr Willy Slavin for his support and help in the parish.

WHIST DRIVE: On 16th December in Mingarry Hall at 7.30pm we will be raising funds for the Hall.

COLLECTIONS:

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|-----------------------|---|
| Morar/Mallaig: | |
| 4.12 | £401 (Gift Aid £282.45) / SCIAF £260 |
| Arisaig: | |
| 4.12 | £202.54 (Gift Aid £90) / SCIAF £151.38 |
| Mingarry: | |
| 4.12 | £101 (Gift Aid £78) / SCIAF £59 |

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

WHIST DRIVE: On 16th December in Mingarry Hall at 7.30pm we will be raising funds for the Hall.

CAROLS:

Sunday, 11th December 3pm – Astley Hall, Arisaig

Sunday, 11th December 7pm – Strontian Village Hall

Tuesday, 20th December 7.30pm – Peninsula Carols at St. Agnes, Glenuig.

This is an ecumenical Advent celebration looking forward to Christmas. ALL WELCOME!