

Weekday Masses (19 December - 24 December)

Monday..... Morar: 10:00 am
 TuesdayMallaig: 05:00 pm
 WednesdayArisaig: 10:00 am
 ThursdayMallaig: 10:00 am
 Friday Morar: 10:00 am
 Saturday.....Arisaig: 10:00 am

Exposition

Friday Morar: 10:30 - 11:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Campbell)

Monday (19 December) Mallaig 7:00 pm
 Tuesday (20 December) Arisaig 7:00 pm
 Wednesday (21 December) Mallaig 7:00 pm
 Any other time on request

Housebound visits this week

Wednesday.....Mallaig from 10.30 am

Sunday Masses 24 / 25 December (THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - A)

Saturday (Christmas Night) 8:30 pm..... Mingarry
 Saturday (Christmas Night) 10:00 pm Morar
 Sunday (Christmas Day)10:00 am.....Arisaig
 Sunday (Christmas Day) 11:00 am..... Glenuig
 Sunday (Christmas Day) 11:30 am..... Mallaig

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Susan MacLellan (Mallaig) 13.12.2014; Pat Argue 18.12; Jessie Ann MacDonald 20.12; *Eternal rest...*

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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

4th Sunday of Advent (A)

18th December 2016

R) Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us'. Alleluia!



ADVENT FERIA

A day on which the people, especially the slaves, were not obliged to work, and on which there were no court sessions. In ancient Roman times the *feriae publicae*, legal holidays, were either *stativae*, recurring regularly (e.g. the *Saturnalia*), *conceptivae*, i.e. movable, or *imperativae*, i.e. appointed for special occasions. When Christianity spread, the *feriae* were ordered to take a rest from work, to celebrate the feasts instituted for worship by the Church. The faithful were obliged on those days to attend Mass in their parish church; such assemblies gradually led to mercantile enterprise, partly from necessity and partly for the sake of convenience. This custom in time introduced those market gatherings which the Germans call *Messen*, and the English call *fairs*. They were fixed on saints' days (e.g. St. Barr's fair, St. Germanus's fair, St. Wenn's fair, etc.)

Today the term *feria* is used to denote the days of the week with the exception of Sunday and Saturday. Various reasons are given for this terminology. The Roman Breviary, in the sixth lesson for 31 Dec., says that Pope St. Silvester ordered the continuance of the already existing custom "that the clergy, daily abstaining from earthly cares, would be free to serve God alone". Others believe that the Church simply Christianized a Jewish practice. The Jews frequently counted the days from their Sabbath, and so we find in the Gospels such expressions as *una Sabbati* and *prima Sabbati*, the first from the Sabbath. The early

Christians reckoned the days after Easter in this fashion, but, since all the days of Easter week were holy days, they called Easter Monday, not the first day after Easter, but the second feria or feast day; and since every Sunday is the dies Dominica, a lesser Easter day, the custom prevailed to call each Monday a feria secunda, and so on for the rest of the week.

The ecclesiastical style of naming the week days was adopted by no nation except the Portuguese who alone use the terms Segunda Feria etc. The old use of the word feria, for feast day, is lost, except in the derivative feriatio, which is equivalent to our Holy Day of Obligation. Today those days are called ferial upon which no feast is celebrated. Feriae are either major or minor. The major, which must have at least a commemoration, even on the highest feasts, are the feriae of Advent and Lent, the Ember days, and the Monday of Rogation week; the others are called minor. Of the major feriae Ash Wednesday and the days of Holy Week are privileged so that their office must be taken, no matter what feast may occur.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: Rehearsal will take place on Monday, 19th December at 7pm in Morar Church.

ORGANIST: Mr Joseph McHenry, an Organist from Glasgow, will be staying in Arisaig over Christmas. Although he lives in the Glasgow area, he has agreed, as a personal favour, to come and play at all our Christmas Services in Arisaig, Morar and Mallaig. I am very grateful for his assistance and willingness to travel the distance.

CHRISTMAS CRIB: Many thanks to everyone involved in the assembly. All the Cribs look beautiful. The representation of the scene of the nativity is a tradition that is almost a thousand years old. In the year 1223 St Francis decided to celebrate the feast of Christmas in a new way. His aim was to help people to better call to mind the poor surroundings in which Jesus was born and to make the wondrous event of the incarnation more real to the people of the time. In the town of Greccio, with the help of a local landowner, a nativity scene was set up with a stable, animals and straw. People came at night from the town with candles and torches to attend holy Mass by the crib and seeing the scene, be reminded of God's love for us in sending his only son to be born in the poverty of a manger.

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 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. Cumin, Morar - 10pm | St. Agnes, Glenuig - 11am |
| | St. Patrick's, Mallaig - 11.30am |

Christmas Carols Singing 15 minutes before each Mass

ARISAIG PARISH:

INTERNET: Our internet connection has been restored! Many thanks for your prayers and support. Long may it last!

GRAVEYARD PATH: The works to improve the path leading from the old to the new graveyard started on Monday. 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 Janina and Leon Krasucy, Maria and Zbigniew Pamula (Fr Stan's grandparents).

HIGH SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE: This will take place in Mallaig on Friday, 23rd December at 12.10pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

CHURCH HEATING IN MORAR: Still awaiting news from Alba Air Energy for the installation of the heating.

RAFFLES: The 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: Many thanks to all those present last Friday in Mingarry Hall. There was a really good turnout and we enjoyed the time together!

COLLECTIONS:

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Morar/Mallaig: | |
| 11.12..... | £369 (Gift Aid £229) |
| Arisaig: | |
| 11.12..... | £314.10 (Gift Aid £171) |
| Mingarry: | |
| 11.12..... | £200 (Gift Aid £100) |

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

CAROLS:

Tuesday, 20th December 7.30pm – Peninsula Carols at St. Agnes, Glenuig.
This is an ecumenical Advent celebration looking forward to Christmas. ALL WELCOME!



CHRISTMAS WISHES

I realise that we still have a week until Christmas, but at the same time many of you will be away to spend Christmas with your families. Therefore, to those who will be away, I wish that the coming Saviour be a source of grace and peace in your lives. Travel safely and pass on my best wishes to your families!

Fr Stan