

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 Services (8 May - 13 May)

Monday..... Morar: 10:15 am
Tuesday.....Mallaig: 10:15 pm
WednesdayArisaig: 10:15 am
ThursdayMallaig: 10:15 am
Friday Morar: 10.15 am
Saturday.....Arisaig: 10.15 am

Sunday Masses 13 / 14 May (Fifth Sunday of Easter - A)

Saturday (Vigil-Mass) 6:00 pm..... Morar
Sunday 10:00 amArisaig
Sunday 11:30 amMallaig
Sunday 2:00 pmMingarry

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Devotions:

Morar: Friday, 5th May, after morning Mass till 11 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 13th May 5:00 pm Morar
Any other time upon request

Housebound visits this week..... Mallaig, Thursday or as announced

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Nan MacInness (Mallaig) 16.05.2012; Ronald MacDonald (Dalnabreac) 12.05; Ishbel MacLellan (Morar) 08.05.2014; Bella McNeil (Mallaig) 07.05; Margaret Ferguson 24.04; Robert Ferguson (North Uist) 07.05; Cathy Ablett (Milton of Campsie) 06.05; Margaret MacDonald (Arisaig) 10.05.1964; Lizzie Orr (Mallaig) 12.05.1978; Duncan McDonell (Bracara) 12.05.2014;

Eternal rest...

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Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)

7th May 2017

R) The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

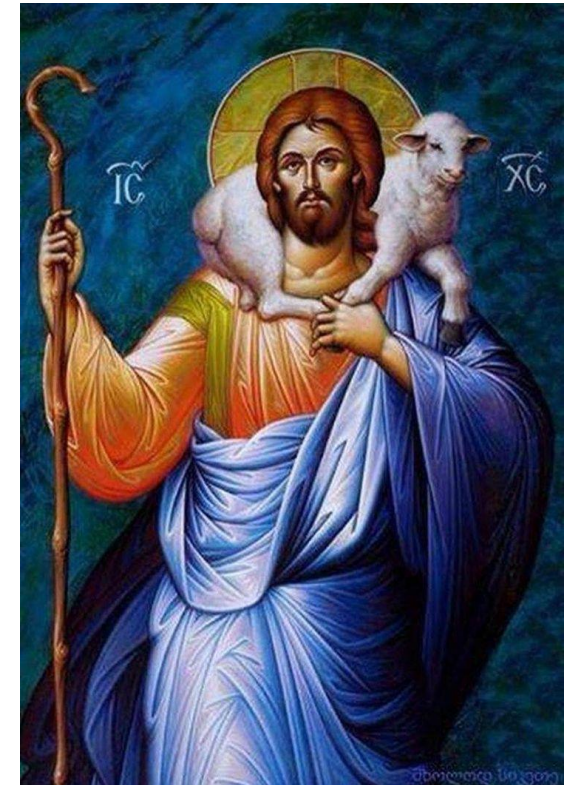
Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Dear brothers and sisters,
Today is Good Shepherd Sunday and is our Church's World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated life.

The priests in our diocese call Easter time the Confirmation Season because over a thousand children from our parish communities come to our Cathedral to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.

I love visiting our Primary Schools at this time and meeting our teachers and young ones and, like Pope Francis does, I encourage them to ask me whatever



question they like. As you can imagine they ask anything and I am often caught unawares and we have a great laugh. One question is what is the best bit of being a Bishop? Is it having the chance to meet the Pope or other famous people?

My answer is that, for me, the best bit of being a bishop, the best bit of being a priest and the best bit of being a member of the Church is getting the chance to sit quietly and restfully before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. No matter what is going on in my life or how busy I am I try to spend half an hour every day with Jesus there. It's the best bit of being a bishop and of my daily journey of faith.

Over the years I have prayed in hundreds of churches all over the world and found peace spending time before the Blessed Sacrament. Whether I got to Jesus worried about a sick priest or our diocesan finances or our young people I always find strength and comfort in His Presence in the Tabernacle.

In the Gospel Jesus calls Himself a Shepherd but he also speaks about gatekeepers. He says the gatekeeper opens the gate for the Shepherd, lets Him go in and out freely and supports Him in His ministry and mission. The gatekeeper makes sure the gates are open and the obstacles are removed from His path.

I think our priests are like Jesus' gatekeepers. When they celebrate the Sacraments or pray for us or give good witness in their lives they prepare the way for Jesus, our Shepherd, to come into our world and our lives. They do not just open the gates of our church buildings but also the gates of our hearts.

Please join with me in praying every day before the gates of our Tabernacles that more young men will join in this precious task and that we will be blessed with good, generous and gifted 'gatekeepers' for generations ahead. Pray also for our young women to give themselves to Jesus as sisters in the religious life because we need good sisters them just as much as priests and already a few are coming to talk to me about the religious life. I am delighted at this.

I should add that the second best bit of being a bishop is ordaining young men to be priests and seeing young women consecrated as religious sisters and watching all of them serve you with love, generosity and compassion. Please be sure of my prayers and blessings,

+John

GREEN ISLE: Mass will be celebrated on the Green Isle on Sunday, 4th June, 2017. The boat will depart from Glenfinnan Pier at 1pm sharp and will return at approximately 6.30p.m. giving people about one hour on the Island.

To secure a place on the boat, please contact Mairi Weir on 01397 772368 or mairiweir@aol.com. The cost is £25 per person to be paid in advance. Cheques should be made out to Lochsheil Cruises or cash to be paid by 29th May. Please send payment to Mairi Weir, Camus Na Ha, Fort William, PH33 7NN.

Twenty-five people maximum will be allowed on the boat. Please bring a packed lunch with you and waterproof clothing in case of inclement weather.

The approach up to the island is a bit steep. Walking sticks are recommended. Teas and coffee are available on the boat.

SCIAF COLLECTION: Many thanks for your generosity to SCIAF Wee Box Collection. Our Boxes have raised in all three parishes **£1220.97**.

BREAK: I hope to take a break from 15th till 19th May. I have to be at the University to sign some papers and decided to link it with a short visit to my parents. Fr Willy Slavin will be staying in Arisaig during these days. He will also celebrate Mass on Eigg on 17th May.

MAY DEVOTIONS: May is traditionally a month dedicated to Our Lady, as part of our May Devotions we will be singing a Hymn before each Weekday Mass and end with Regina Caeli. We also recite a Litany of Loreto on Friday. Please make an effort to participate in these.

ARISAIG PARISH:

PARISH COUNCIL: We will meet on Monday, 7th May at 7pm.

CHURCH CLEANING: Thank you for putting your names on the list. Maybe someone else would like to help out?

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: The new Rota is now in place.

NEW COFFEE MACHINE: My thanks to Alistair MacLean, for his kind donation of a new coffee maker. This will be now part of our kitchen hospitality in the Chapel House!

MORAR PARISH:

VISITORS: Last Tuesday, in Morar, we had a nice visit from a group from Innsbruck Diocese in Austria. They were staying in Morar Hotel and wanted to celebrate a Mass with their Diocesan Administrator, Fr. Jakub Bürgler. They enjoyed their wee visit and the beauty of our church. I was also able to reconnect through him with some of my colleagues in Innsbruck. The world is such a small place!

HEATING & LIGHTING: In memory of **Margaret MacDonald** (Arisaig).

NEW FENCE: My thanks to Hugh MacDonald for his work with the fence in Morar. Finally we got rid of that 'shabby' old look of the Parish grounds!

MINGARRY PARISH:

FR SLAVIN: Fr Willy will celebrate Mass in Mingarry next Sunday.

COLLECTIONS:

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| Morar/Mallaig: | |
| 30.04..... | £441 (Gift Aid £133) |
| Arisaig: | |
| 30.04..... | £307 (Gift Aid £196) |
| Mingarry: | |
| 30.04..... | £220 (Gift Aid £155) |