

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 (28th August – 2nd September)

Monday *St Augustine* Morar: 10.15 am
Tuesday *The Passion of St. John the Baptist* Mallaig: 5:00 pm
Wednesday Arisaig: 10.15 am
Thursday Mallaig: 10.15 am
Friday Morar: 10.15 am
Saturday Arisaig: 10.15 am

Sunday Masses 2nd/3rd September (22nd Sunday of the Year - A)

Saturday (Vigil-Mass) 6:00 pm Morar
Saturday (Vigil-Mass) 8:00 pm *Private Mass* Morar
Sunday 10:00 am Arisaig
Sunday 11:30 am Mallaig
Sunday 2:00 pm Glenuig

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Devotions:

Morar: Friday after Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 2nd August after morning Mass Arisaig
Any other time upon request

Housebound visits this week Mallaig, by Thursday

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Sarah Jane MacKinnon 28.08.2010; Donald Iain Morrison Mordi (Mallaig) 27.08.2004; Donald Ewan Morrison (Oban) 01.09.1999; Donald Peter Morrison (South Uist) 02.09.2001

Eternal rest...

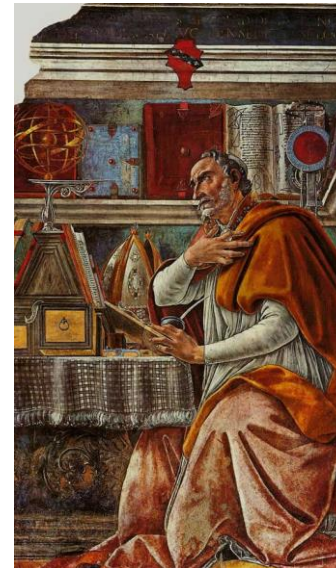
Parish Priest: Fr Stanislaw J. Pamula, Chapel House, Morar, Mallaig. PH40 4PB.
Tel. (01687) 462201 E-mail: catholicroughbounds@gmail.com
Parish website: catholicroughbounds.org
facebook.com/catholicroughbounds

21st Sunday of the Year (A)

27th August 2017

R) *Your love, O Lord, is eternal: discard not the work of your hands.*

Alleluia, alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!



Monday – St. Augustine

He was born in Thagaste in Africa of a Berber family. He was brought up a Christian but left the Church and embraced the Manichean heresy, later seeing how nonsensical it was and becoming a Neoplatonist instead. He led a wild and dissolute youth. He took a concubine by whom he had a son, Adeodatus. He had a brilliant legal and academic career. At length, through the prayers of his mother, and the teaching of St Ambrose of Milan, he was converted back to Christianity. He was baptized in 387, shortly before his mother's death. He returned home to Africa and led an ascetic life. He was elected Bishop of Hippo and spent 34 years looking after his flock, teaching them, strengthening them in the faith and protecting them strenuously against the errors of the time. He wrote an enormous number of works: the Office of Readings has many extracts from them. He was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1308.

Tuesday – Passion of St John the Baptist

John the Baptist is the only saint in the calendar (apart from St Joseph) who has two feasts to himself. One, in August, celebrates his death, and one, in June, celebrates his birth. And this is as it should be, for as Christ himself said, John was the greatest of the sons of men.

The greatest, but also the most tragic. A prophet from before his birth, leaping in the womb to announce the coming of the incarnate God, his task was to proclaim the fulfilment of all prophecies – and thus his own obsolescence. And he did it: with unequalled courage he spread the news that he, the greatest of all



men, was the least in the kingdom of heaven. His disciples, and the devil, would have preferred him to fight, to build his sect, to defeat this upstart whom he himself had baptized, to seize his place in history. But he did not – and so, rightly, he has his place, and he has glory in heaven.

We envy the great and the talented, and sometimes we think that they themselves are beyond envy. But when they come across someone with greater gifts, as one day most of them will, they will see for the first time what it means to feel like us. Let us pray that they, like John the Baptist, may pass that test.

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! My parents are really enjoying their stay, they will be leaving on 2nd September as my Father wants to go to Krakow to visit his mother's grave on the 1st Anniversary. My friends in Arisaig are leaving today. They are very grateful for all the hospitality and kindness they received while in Arisaig. We pray for good weather for all our visitors.

HOUSEBOUND: I am very sorry that I have not been able to visit the housebound for yet another week. First it was Fr. MacKay's funeral and now this past week I was full of the cold. I did not want to pass it on to our most vulnerable. I hope you will forgive me as I will try to make up for it in the coming week.

ALTAR SERVER'S TRIP: At the end of September/beginning of October I would like to take our Altar Servers for a wee day-trip to some nearby attraction. We will hire a small bus for this occasion. This is to thank them for their service at the altar. There will be a retiring collection at the back of our churches to help cover the costs of the trip.

ARISAIG PARISH:

SKIP DAY: I am so grateful to all for your help with clearing out the house. I was so impressed by the number of people that turned up to give us a hand. Many thanks also to our catering department for lovely baking and sandwiches.

VISIT TO EIGG: I believe Bishop McGee enjoyed his trip to Eigg.

DONATION: Many thanks to an anonymous donor for a very kind and generous donation toward the new Signs/Posts. This is much appreciated. So far these special donations were able to cover the cost of 1.5 sign – but do not worry, they will not be cut in half!



and an opportunity to meet the children.

MORAR PARISH:

BAPTISM: We welcome **Theodore Farah MacKellaig** among the community of Christians. We congratulate his parents and grandparents. The Baptism took place last Saturday.

SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES: With the beginning of the new School Year I will be making my appearances in Mallaig School more often. I am very grateful to Dawn McPhie for her kind invitation

COLLECTIONS:

Morar/Mallaig:	
20.08.....	£425 (Gift Aid £279.50)
Arisaig:	
20.08.....	£275.65 (GA £118.90)
Holiday of Obligation.....	£139.70 (GA £58.20)
Mingarry:	
20.08.....	£130.10 (Gift Aid £50)

Who was Oscar Romero?

Oscar Romero was Archbishop of San Salvador. He was assassinated on Monday March 24th 1980 as he was celebrating Mass in the chapel of the Divine Providence cancer hospital where he lived. Thirty five years later, he was declared a martyr of the Church, killed out of hatred of the faith, and was beatified on May 23rd 2015.

Born on August 15th 1917, Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez was sent to study for the priesthood in Rome and was ordained in April 1942. He embraced a simple lifestyle; he was a popular preacher who responded with real compassion to the plight of the poor. He gave dedicated pastoral service to the diocese of San Miguel for 25 years – a greatly-admired workaholic in a cassock!

There followed seven years of pastoral famine in the capital city, San Salvador, as an ecclesiastical bureaucrat. Ordained Auxiliary Bishop in 1970, he gained a reputation as a stubborn and reactionary prelate. Seemingly unsympathetic to the new social justice thrust of the Latin American Church, he was suspicious of the clergy and the Base Christian Communities of the archdiocese working alongside the exploited rural poor, promoting social organisations and land reform.

A brief spell back in the countryside as Bishop of Santiago de Maria opened Romero's eyes as he reconnected to the semi-feudal misery and hardship of the campesinos and witnessed the murderous repression being suffered at the hands of the security forces. In February 1977 he was the surprising choice to be the new Archbishop of San Salvador.

Over the next three years the social and political conflict in El Salvador intensified with electoral fraud blocking change, and peaceful protest being met with massacres and death squad killings. From his Cathedral pulpit Archbishop Romero became the voice of the voiceless poor. There, in a society of cover-up and lies, he spoke the truth of what was happening in the countryside; he denounced the killings, the torture and the disappearances of community leaders; he demanded justice and recompense for the atrocities committed by the army and police and he set up legal aid projects and pastoral programmes to support the victims of the violence. With the emergence of armed guerrilla groups on the far left, civil war loomed. Archbishop Romero, rejecting the violence perpetrated by the left as well as the right, strained every nerve to promote peaceful solutions to his nation's crisis. He was vilified in the press, attacked and denounced to Rome by Catholics of the wealthy classes, harassed by the security forces and publicly opposed by several episcopal colleagues.

The death threats multiplied; the atmosphere was charged. Archbishop Romero realised he was going to be killed. And he came to accept it. At 6.26pm on March 24th 1980, with a single marksman's bullet, he fell at the foot of a huge crucifix. He died a Eucharistic martyr, a martyr to the option for the poor, a martyr to the Magisterium of the Church – and now recognised as Blessed Oscar Romero.