

**BIRTHDAY MASSES:** .....*Ad multos annos!*

***Please note this is for guidance only and may change at the last minute.***

***Apologies for any inconvenience***

***Weekday Services (16<sup>th</sup> December – 21<sup>st</sup> December)***

**Monday** ..... Morar: 10.15am  
**Tuesday** ..... Mallaig: 5.00 pm  
**Wednesday** ..... Arisaig: 10.15 am  
**Thursday** ..... Mallaig: 10. 15 am  
**Friday** ..... *tba Funeral Mass of Georgina Glenn RIP*  
**Saturday** ..... Arisaig: 10.15 am

***Sunday Masses 21<sup>st</sup> December/22<sup>nd</sup> December (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent -***

***A)***

Saturday (Vigil-Mass) 6:00 pm ..... Morar  
 Sunday 10:00 am ..... Arisaig  
 Sunday 11:30 am ..... Mallaig

***Christmas Services: Wed 24<sup>th</sup>/ Thu 25<sup>th</sup> December 2019***

Christmas Night Mass (*Carols begin 8.40pm!*) 9:00 pm ..... Arisaig  
 Christmas Day Mass 10:00 am ..... Arisaig  
 Christmas Day Mass 11:30 am ..... Mallaig

***Sacrament of Reconciliation (unless announced otherwise):***

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

**ANNIVERSARIES/MM:** Kelly Murphy 12.12.2017; Susan MacLellan; Patricia Argue 18.12.1998; John Gillies 2.12.1977;

*Eternal rest...*



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Parish website: [catholicroughbounds.org](http://catholicroughbounds.org) or [facebook.com/catholicroughbounds](https://facebook.com/catholicroughbounds)

# 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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (A)**

**15<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

*R) Come, Lord, and save us.*

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

## THIRD (GAUDETE!) SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2019



**VISITORS:** We welcome all the Visitors to the Parishes!

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning “rejoice.” This Sunday is so named because “Rejoice” is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.” Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

**This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.**

**The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.**

**Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.**

**FR STAN IS BACK AND HOPEFULLY NOT GOING AWAY FOR A WHILE:** I must admit that I am just as surprised as you to see me back here as myself. I had a lot of complications post surgery, which caused me to have many doubts whether I could actually come back. When I was readmitted with some complications yet again post surgery, I even called the Bishop to tell Him that next week he is going to be on his own! Well, it took me a lot of pleading and explaining to the surgeon that I have to be back and this is it. Here I would like to thank all those who made it possible to happen. I am so grateful for all your help, prayers and support. I was overwhelmed by your kindness. The Nuns back in the Convent in Poland were also exceptional. I can recall more than one occasion where their swift actions prevented some tragedy. Only last Sunday my Condition improved enough to tell my parents what was happening. My Mother's reaction was calm and – it is not the first time you did it to us! They were very concerned but understood that this course of action was the best for everyone. The fact that I am back early, however, does not mean that I am back to normal. It will take a while to heal and so I have to apologise and ask for patience. There could be moments when I can be slightly late for Service, I would have to use the bathroom during the service or cut it short (I will do my best not to miss out on long Homilies that you love so much).

**BISHOP MCGEE:** Our Bishop will be with us next weekend to renew the bonds of episcopal friendship with you. He will celebrate all the weekend Masses. As the old Latin phrase says... *Ubi episcopus, tibi ecclesiae* (*Where is a Bishop, there is a Church*). Bishop McGee will take the opportunity to Bless the New Vestry and the Confessional in Morar and also Bless the Graveyard Extension in Arisaig.

**SUPPLY:** Many thanks to Fr Willy and Fr Kieran for looking after the Parishes so well.

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES:** This year, Arisaig is hosting the Shepherd's Mass. I am sure that we will all try to make an effort to come to this special liturgy.

**FR FRANCIS:** Fr Francis Agadauja msp will be transferred by his Missionary Society of St Paul from our diocese to a parish in Westminster Archdiocese. Francis will move on January 2nd 2020. Bishop McGee wrote: "While I am sad and disappointed at losing Francis I am very grateful to the Society for sending us both Francis and Fr Noel. The Society hopes to send us another priest next year." Bishop Hugh Gilbert of Aberdeen will appoint a priest to look after Kingussie, Aviemore and Granton for the foreseeable future.

**MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS:** Many thanks to all who attend Music Rehearsals. The final rehearsal will be on **Thursday 20th** in Morar at 7pm. My special thanks go to Lilian MacDonald for leading the practise and guiding us with her musical skills.

**CRIB ASSEMBLY TEAMS:** Preparations are already ongoing for our Crib and Christmas decorations. Many thanks for your help with this wonderful display of the Birth of Christ!

**CURRY NIGHT:** In my absence, decision was made to postpone Curry Night till later day in January.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION:** Our next Special Collection will be at the Crib for Missionary Children.

**BINGO NIGHT:** I heard it was a big success! Thank you so much to all the organisers, to Sine and Gavin for letting us use the West Highland Hotel. I am so pleased to see the Community working in such great spirit.

**CHRISTMAS TURKEYS:** Will be arriving to the Chapel House on 23<sup>rd</sup> of December and delivered shortly after to winners of our free draw.

**END OF TERM CHRISTMAS SERVICE:** This year, High School end of term service will take place in Church of Scotland on the 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. We wish all our Primary and Secondary Students a good and peaceful break over Christmas.

**FOOD BANK NEEDS OUR HELP:** Please, continue with your generosity!

**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.*

#### **ARISAIG PARISH:**

**MULTI FUEL FIREPLACE:** Still free to take...

#### **MORAR PARISH:**

**CHRISTMAS HAMPER:** Please buy a Raffle Ticket at the back. As always, we have a lovely Hamper.

**NEW VESTRY/CONFESSIONAL:** All the works are finished. Ready to be blessed!

**WINTER IS HERE:** If you would like to make a donation for Heating and Lighting in Memory of your loved ones, please feel free to do so. I will include the names in our newsletter and of course the Parish Community will pray for our faithful departed. I am very grateful for your generosity.

*Housebound visits this week.....Mallaig, Morar and Arisaig after New Year*