

# 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

**CHRISTMAS MASSES FOR THE DEAD:** Elaine MacKay; Helen & Laurence McGeough; Claire McGeough; Duncan McDonell; Ian MacDonald; Margaret MacEachen; Sandy MacDonald’s Family.  
**CHRISTMAS MASSES FOR THE LIVING (FOR GOD’S BLESSING):** Mae MacDonald; Sandy Macdonald’s Family.

*Ad multos annos!*

**Weekday Services (6<sup>th</sup> January – 11<sup>th</sup> January)**

Monday .....	Morar: 5.00 pm
Tuesday .....	Mallaig: 5.00 pm
Wednesday .....	Arisaig: 10.15 am
Thursday .....	Mallaig: 10.15 am
Friday .....	no Mass
Saturday .....	Arisaig: 10.15 am

**Sunday Masses 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> January (The Baptism of the Lord - A)**

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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Devotions:**

*Morar: after Mass on Friday*

**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

*Housebound visits this week .....* Arisaig

**COLLECTIONS:**

<b>Morar/Mallaig:</b> 27.12 .....	TOTAL £242.50 (Gift Aid £103.50)
<b>Arisaig:</b> 27.12 .....	TOTAL £331 (Gift Aid £258)

**ANNIVERSARIES/MM:**

*Eternal rest...*



Parish Priest: Fr Stanislaw J. Pamula, Chapel House, Morar, Mallaig. PH40 4PB.  
Tel. (01687) 462201 E-mails for Arisaig [arisaig@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:arisaig@rcdai.org.uk) or for Morar Parish [morar@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:morar@rcdai.org.uk)

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

**The Epiphany (A)**

**5<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

*R) All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose  
and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!*

53rd WORLD DAY OF PEACE

**HOMILY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**

“But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman” (Gal 4:4). Born of woman: Jesus came in this way. He did not appear in the world as an adult but, as the Gospel tells us, he was “conceived in the womb” (Lk 2:21). It was there that he made our humanity his own: day after day, month after month. In the womb of a woman, God and mankind are united, never to be separated again. Even now, in heaven, Jesus lives in the flesh that he took in his mother’s womb. In God, there is our human flesh!

On the first day of the year, we celebrate this nuptial union between God and mankind, inaugurated in the womb of a woman. In God, there will forever be our humanity and Mary will forever be the Mother of God. She is both woman and mother: this is what is essential. From her, a woman, salvation came forth and thus there is no salvation without a woman. In her, God was united to us, and if we want to unite ourselves to him, we must take the same path: through Mary, woman and mother. That is why we begin the year by celebrating Our Lady, the woman who wove the humanity of God. If we want to weave humanity into this our time, we need to start again from the woman.

*Born of woman.* The rebirth of humanity began from a woman. Women are sources of life. Yet they are continually insulted, beaten, raped, forced to prostitute themselves and to suppress the life they bear in the womb. Every form of violence inflicted upon a woman is a blasphemy against God, who was born of a woman. Humanity’s salvation came forth from the body of a woman: we can understand our degree of humanity by how we treat a woman’s body. How often are women’s bodies sacrificed on the profane altars of advertising, of profiteering, of pornography, exploited like a canvas to be used. Yet women’s bodies must be freed from consumerism; they must be respected and honoured. Theirs is the most noble flesh in the world, for it conceived and brought to light the love that has saved us! In our day, too, motherhood is demeaned, because the only growth that interests us is economic growth. There are mothers who risk difficult journeys desperately seeking to give a better future to the fruit of their womb, yet are deemed redundant by people with full stomachs but hearts empty of love.

*Born of woman.* The Bible tells us that woman come onto the scene at the height of creation, as a summation of the entire created world. For she holds within herself the very purpose of creation: the generation and safekeeping of life, communion with all things, care for all things. So it is with the Mother of God in today’s Gospel. The text tells us, “But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart” (v. 19). She kept all these things: joy at the birth of Jesus and sadness for the lack of hospitality shown in Bethlehem; the love of Joseph and the amazement of the shepherds; the promise and the uncertainty of the future. She took everything to heart, and in her heart, she put

everything in its right place, even hardships and troubles. In her heart, she lovingly set all things in order and entrusted everything to God.

In the Gospel, Mary does this a second time: at the end of the hidden life of Jesus, we are told that "his mother kept all these things in her heart" (v. 51). This repetition makes us realize that "keeping in her heart" was not something nice that Our Lady did from time to time, but something habitual. Women typically take life to heart. Women show us that the meaning of life is not found in making things but in taking things to heart. Only those who see with the heart see things properly, because they know how to "look into" each person: to see a brother apart from his mistakes, a sister apart from her failings, hope amid difficulty. They see God in all persons and things.

As we begin this new year, let us ask ourselves: Do I know how to see with the heart? Do I know how to look at people with the heart? Do I take to heart the people with whom I live? Or do I tear them down by gossip? And above all, do I put the Lord at the centre of my heart, or other values, other interests, like advancement, riches, power? Only if we take life to *heart* will we know how to take *care* and overcome the indifference all around. So let us ask for the grace to live this year with the desire to take others to heart and to care for them. And if we want a better world, a world that will be a peaceful home and not a war field, may we take to heart the dignity of each woman. From a woman was born the Prince of peace. Women are givers and mediators of peace and should be fully included in decision-making processes. Because when women can share their gifts, the world finds itself more united, more peaceful. Hence, every step forward for women is a step forward for humanity as a whole.

*Born of woman.* Jesus, newly born, was mirrored in the eyes of the woman, in the face of his mother. From her, he received his first caresses; with her, he exchanged the first smiles. With her began the revolution of tenderness. The Church, looking at the Baby Jesus, is called to continue that revolution. For she too, like Mary, is both woman and mother. The Church is woman and mother, and in Our Lady, she finds her distinctive traits. She sees Mary immaculate, and feels called to say no to sin and to worldliness. She sees Mary fruitful, and feels called to proclaim the Gospel and to give birth to it in people's lives. She sees Mary a mother, and she feels called to receive every man and woman as a son or daughter.

In drawing close to Mary, the Church discovers herself, she finds her centre and her unity. The enemy of our human nature, the devil, seeks instead to divide, to highlight differences, ideologies, partisan thinking and parties. But we do not understand the Church if we regard her by starting with structures, programmes and trends, ideologies and functions. We may grasp something, but not the heart of the Church. Because the Church has a mother's heart. And we, as her sons and daughters, invoke today the Mother of God, who gathers us together as a people of believers. O Mother, give birth to hope within us and bring us unity. Woman of salvation, to you we entrust this year. Keep it in your heart. We acclaim you, the Holy Mother of God. All together now, for three times, let us stand and acclaim the Lady, the Holy Mother of God. [with the assembly] Holy Mother of God, Holy Mother of God, Holy Mother of God!

**PARISH RAFFLE:** 3 Hamper Baskets will be prepared to Fundraise for the Trip. You can buy the Raffles from our Youth.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE:** In Scotland the **Day of Prayer for Justice and Peace** takes place on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January, Feast of the Epiphany. The Scottish Catholic Justice and Peace Commission was formed in 1979. It is the Scottish Commission of the Pontifical Council *Justitia et Pax*. From the outset, the Commission combined its function as the Bishops' advisory body on issues of social justice, international peace and human rights with the responsibility for networking existing newly formed local parish groups. This dual direction has continued ever since and gives the Commission a certain balance. Throughout its history, policy has been formulated at all levels under the supervision of the Bishops' conference. The constituency of Justice and Peace is over a thousand people out of an active Catholic population in Scotland of about 225,000. Each of Scotland's eight dioceses is entitled to send an official representative to the National Commission. Also represented are the religious, missionary and secular clergy; youth and ecumenical representatives; and SCIAF – the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund, our sister agency. Along with the Bishop President and Chair and Vice-Chair these constitute the voting strength of the

Commission. This Commission meets quarterly. A Standing Committee which includes President, Chair, vice-Chair, may convene for urgent decisions. The Commission is serviced by a part time National Office staff of two.

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:** Our Special Collection is at the Crib during Christmastide. Today, 5<sup>th</sup> January we will have a Special Collection for Justice and Peace. Letter from Bishop Nolan will be read out. On 26<sup>th</sup> January, we will have a Special Collection for Scottish Catholic Education Service.

**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!

**MASS TIME CHANGE:** Please note the Mass time changes this week.

**FOOD BANK NEEDS OUR HELP:** Winter is here and the demand for assistance of this form is growing. A lot of people during the summer months depend on seasonal jobs to provide for themselves and their families, however, when winter comes, these jobs are unavailable, and houses need to be heated children and vulnerable people fed. Please, consider buying a few extras and leaving them in the Coop for the most vulnerable ones.

**CURRY NIGHT:** Not often I feel like I need to complain in the Newsletter, but I think it is about time to remind us that we still need to fundraise for our trip. Our Youth have volunteered to organise this event but so far, I have seen very little activity from their side. I do not want to put the burden on the Parents but as usual, they stepped in. Many thanks to Nick and Lindsay Murray for helping to coordinate this event. Curry Night will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> January and the menus and details will be available next weekend (11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>). The School has been kind enough to let us use their facilities so that is where the meals will be ready for pick up.

**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:**

**NEW LIGHTERS:** I have ordered good quality lighters for votive candle stands. I hope this time they will remain in place for longer than usual.

**PARISH COUNCIL:** It is about time we hold a Parish Council meeting. I suggest Monday, 2nd March at 6pm in the Club Room. Finance Committee will meet before to go through our last year's accounts and present the summary at the meeting.

#### **MORAR PARISH:**

**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.

**PARISH COUNCIL:** It is about time we hold a Parish Council meeting. I suggest Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6pm in the Club Room. Finance Committee will meet before to go through our last year's accounts and present the summary at the meeting.

**CHURCH LOTTERY:** Have you bought your ticket today? It is a great way of showing support.