

Parish Services

BIRTHDAY:

Ad multos annos!

Weekday Services (18th May – 23rd May)

Video Streamed Mass usually at 3pm on Parish Facebook

Monday	Mass in Private
	<i>Donor's Private Intention</i>
Tuesday	Mass in Private
	<i>Donor's Private Intention</i>
Wednesday	Mass in Private
	<i>Sandy MacKellaig RIP</i>
Ascension Thursday	Mass in Private
	<i>Maimie and Bob Trybis RIP</i>
Friday	Mass in Private
	<i>Margaret MacDonald</i>
Saturday	Mass in Private
	<i>Msza Imieninowa – Iwona Mroczynska</i>

Sunday Mass 24th May (7th Sunday of Easter - A)

Easter Sunday 12 noon	Mass in Private
	<i>Lizzy Orr RIP</i>

Sacrament of Reconciliation (only by prior arrangement, in Morar)

Housebound visits this week..... no visits due to Lockdown

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: Frank O'Donoghue; Cathy Walker 07.05; Lizzy Orr (Mallaig) 12.05.1978; Mary (Nan) MacInness; Maime and Bob Trybis; Ronald MacDonald (Dalnabraec); Sandy MacKellaig; Margaret MacDonald.

Eternal rest...



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Parish website: catholicroughbounds.org
facebook.com/catholicroughbounds

RC Diocese Argyll & Isles – Arisaig & Morar Missions:
Charity Reg. No. SC002876.

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)

17th May 2020

*R) Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.
Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.' Alleluia!*



ASCENSION THURSDAY

The elevation of Christ into heaven by His own power in presence of His disciples the fortieth day after His Resurrection. It is narrated in Mark 16:19, Luke 24:51, and in the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

Although the place of the Ascension is not distinctly stated, it would

appear from the Acts that it was Mount Olivet. Since after the Ascension the disciples are described as returning to Jerusalem from the mount that is called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, within a Sabbath day's journey. Tradition has consecrated this site as the Mount of Ascension and Christian piety has memorialized the event by erecting over the site a basilica. St. Helena built the first memorial, which was destroyed by the Persians in 614, rebuilt in the eighth century, to be destroyed again, but rebuilt a second time by the crusaders. This the Moslems also destroyed, leaving only the octagonal structure which encloses the stone said to bear the imprint of the feet of Christ, that is now used as an oratory.

Not only is the fact of the Ascension related in the passages of Scripture cited above, but it is also elsewhere predicted and spoken of as an established fact. Thus, in John 6:63, Christ asks the Jews: "If then you shall see the son of Man ascend up where He was before?" and 20:17, He says to Mary Magdalen: "Do not touch Me, for I am not yet ascended to My Father, but go to My brethren, and say to them: I ascend to My Father and to your Father, to My God and to your God." Again, in Ephesians 4:8-10, and in Timothy 3:16,

the Ascension of Christ is spoken of as an accepted fact.

The language used by the Evangelists to describe the Ascension must be interpreted according to usage. To say that He was taken up or that He ascended, does not necessarily imply that they locate heaven directly above the earth; no more than the words "sitteth on the right hand of God" mean that this is His actual posture. In disappearing from their view "He was raised up and a cloud received Him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9), and entering into glory He dwells with the Father in the honour and power denoted by the scripture phrase.

NEW HOT WATER CYLINDER IN ARISAIG: Sadly, we are going to have to replace our hot water cylinder in Arisaig. Jamie and Henry Young will do the emergency repair. I have opted in for a system that will provide a mains hot water pressure in the house. The new cylinder will be capable to support a Solar Panel in the future. The cost of the Solar Panel has been too much to handle (£4000) but I was thinking if an opportunity arises, we could install it in the future and provide 50% of hot water from Solar Energy. Repairs will take place in the coming weeks as the lockdown eases. I can assure you that I visit our properties on regular basis to make sure that everything is up and running.

Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally

I would be grateful if you could put this notice in your bulletin/website:

Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the Pandemic is making us aware of the value of our families and making it possible for us to pray together in lockdown at home. He encourages simple Rosaries and joining online Rosary initiatives to pray to Our Lady for deliverance from Covid-19 and he has composed two prayers for this intention. You are invited to join in an initiative that follows on the Pope's request, the **Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally**, from 9am to 9pm. Our diocese of Argyll and the Isles has been asked to pray a **Rosary at 5pm**. Bishop Brian will lead an online Rosary at 5pm (diocesan website/YouTube) but he also encourages you to pray at home as a family or individually or to create local groups (e.g. in Gaelic, neighbours, parish, in Polish etc).

Financial Implications

As we are all aware the lockdown is placing our parishes and diocese under financial pressure.

When Churches do reopen the numbers permitted to attend a Mass, due to social distancing regulations, will be greatly reduced. No baskets or equivalent will be passed around for the Offertory Collection. Offertory Envelopes may be placed in boxes as people leave Church but typically retail Collections never realise as much as Offertory Collections do

Church life cannot return to normal until a vaccine is created and widely implemented which means that we will continue to face restrictions until the start of 2021, at the earliest.

It is therefore imperative that we strategically plan and adapt.

The most obvious benefit for parishes will be to significantly increase Standing Orders which would guarantee regular income for your parish. Parishioners can do this themselves on-line. I know that many of you have already been working on increasing Standing Orders in a sympathetic manner and I ask that you all begin to do so. You may find it helpful to involve your Parish Finance Committee.

For three months the diocese will have reduced parish payments to the levy by 50% and for a previous month it was cut by 25%. However, the diocese cannot maintain this level of reduction indefinitely. The diocese has made savings of just over £2,000 per month but with the present arrangement the amount the diocese receives from the levy has fallen by £9,000 per month. Therefore, the diocese is losing approximately £7,000 per month. The diocesan budget is based on 'break even' and there will be a cash flow problem.

The Trustees are committed to continue supporting parishes, but the question is how best to achieve this. We want to protect every parish and the diocese in a way that is balanced, just and fair. The Treasurer is already providing the Trustees with weekly updates highlighting any parishes which may have low reserves. If you have any financial concerns about your parish then please speak with Duncan.

Our intention is for the diocese to both save more money (e.g. furloughing of staff, other cost reductions) as well as increasing income through fundraising (a Working Group has already been examining this).

Regarding parish levies, the Trustees will continue with a reduction of levies but what is the best way to do it? Should the levy reduction be tailored to mirror a parish's financial position. For example,

1 Should the reduction be linked to a parish's Offertory Collection?

2 Should the reduction be linked to a parish's overall income?

3 Should the reduction be linked to a parish's bank balance?

4 Can one parish, which is more comfortable, offer help to another?

The Trustees and Treasurer will meet with the Diocesan Finance Board on June 9th and will put forward several options. However, I would like to learn of your own thoughts first. Please discuss the above with your Parish Finance Committees. If you have any comments and/or questions which you would like to raise on these, or other points, then please contact Duncan or myself.

Fr Stan: I will/have asked our Finance committee members to prepare a response to the Bishop and the Treasurer. If you feel you have any comments you would like us to take into consideration, please provide them in writing. It will be much easier for me to process them rather than speak to you on the phone about it.

Catholic Bishops announce new Covid-19 Working Group

Bishop speaks of "growth and hope after a time of despair"

Wednesday 13 May 2020

The Bishops' Conference of Scotland have announced the formation of a Covid-19 Working Group, which will begin examining how best to meet the long-term pastoral needs of the Catholic community during the pandemic.

A range of approaches, focusing on the liturgical, spiritual and welfare needs of the Catholic community during a time of long-term restrictions will be examined by a newly established **Pastoral Ministry Working Group**. This group will aim to ensure that the Church is prepared for the possibility of extended restrictions on the operation of parishes and dioceses by planning for forms of pastoral ministry which will be viable in the COVID-19 context.

The group will be chaired by Bishop Brian McGee, Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. Speaking about the initiative, Bishop McGee said;

"After our public Masses stopped and our Churches closed with almost no warning, the immediate response from our priests and parishioners across Scotland was both impressive and uplifting. With great ingenuity and creativity, online Masses and devotions were made available throughout the country every day. Through this and other action, many vulnerable and lonely people continue to be supported in safe ways."

"While it will be wonderful when our parishes can reopen, we recognise that Parish life cannot quickly return to normal until a vaccine or a treatment is available. We do not expect this to happen until at least 2021. This means, that even when Churches reopen, parish activities will still be greatly restricted, our Pastoral Working Group hopes to identify and publicise advice or resources to help dioceses and parishes face fresh challenges in a safe manner."

Bishop McGee added;

“Although not denying the difficulties which lie ahead, our Group had a very positive first meeting. Early figures indicate very high numbers of viewers are watching and downloading Masses and devotions online, leading us to believe that with God’s providential care, the spiritual, pastoral and catechetical work we do can actually help renew the Church in Scotland and bring growth and hope after a time of despair.”

ENDS

Church Infection Control Group starts work Thursday 14 May 2020

The Bishops’ Conference of Scotland Covid-19 Working Group, tasked with the creation of an Infection Control Protocol to govern the phased reopening of churches for public worship met for the first time yesterday (Wednesday 13 May). Chaired by Sir Harry Burns, Scotland’s former Chief Medical Officer and Professor of Global Public Health at the University of Strathclyde, the group will focus on two parallel work streams: Infection Control and Liturgical Norms.

The drafting of infection control standards will be overseen by Sir Harry Burns and Professor Stephany Biello, Professor of Neuroscience and Biopsychology and Dean for Learning and Teaching in Science and Engineering at the University of Glasgow, who has joined the group.

The creation of new liturgical advice which will govern the celebration of Mass and other sacraments, will be led by Bishop Hugh Gilbert together with Canon Thomas Boyle, Canon Thomas Shields and Fr. Gerry MacGuinness.

Commenting on the meeting, Sir Harry said;

“I’m very pleased that the Working Group on Infection Control has started to work and delighted to welcome Professor Stephany Biello as a member. Her expertise will be invaluable to the group. We are keenly aware, that the goal of reopening churches will be reached only after careful planning and preparation, always taking account of best infection control practice and in step with Scottish Government guidance.”

“I extend my thanks to all those contributing to the work of the group and assure the Catholic community that Scotland’s bishops are determined to draw on best practice from around the world to allow our churches to be opened again in a phased and safe way.”

ENDS

Peter Kearney
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Note to Editors:

The full membership of the COVID-19 working group is shown below:

Sir Harry Burns, Professor of Global Public Health at the University of Strathclyde
 Professor Stephany Biello, University of Glasgow
 Bishop Hugh Gilbert, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland
 Fr Gerard Maguiness, General Secretary to the Bishops' Conference of Scotland
 Canon Thomas Boyle, St. Mary's Parish, Greenock
 Canon Thomas Shields, St. Fillan's Parish, Crief
 Anthony Horan, Director of the Catholic Parliamentary Office
 Peter Kearney, Director of the Scottish Catholic Media Office

TIMETABLE OF BISHOP MCGEE'S MASSES:

DATE	NAME OF PARISH
Monday 18 th May	Ardkenneth
Tuesday 19 th May	Arisaig
Wednesday 20 th May	Ballachulish
Thursday 21 st May	Benbecula
Friday 22 nd May	Bornish
Saturday 23 rd May	Brodick
Sunday 24 th May	Campbeltown
Monday 25 th May	Caol
Tuesday 26 th May	Castlebay
Wednesday 27 th May	Daliburgh
Thursday 28 th May	Dunoon
Friday 29 th May	Eriskay
Saturday 30 th May	Fort William
Sunday 31 st May	Glenfinnan
Monday 1 st June	Kingussie
Tuesday 2 nd June	Lochgilphead
Wednesday 3 rd June	Mingarry
Thursday 4 th June	Morar
Friday 5 th June	Northbay
Saturday 6 th June	Oban
Sunday 7 th June	Portree
Monday 8 th June	Rothesay
Tuesday 9 th June	Roy Bridge
Wednesday 10 th June	Stornoway
Thursday 11 th June	Taynuilt

Bishop McGee: "For the past month I have been praying daily for a particular parish in our diocese. Many people have appreciated this and so I will continue the practice. I have attached the programme in case you wish to alert your people and participate yourself. During Mass I intercede for the whole parish: the clergy, all who worship in the Parish Church and Chapel(s) of Ease and everyone who lives within the Parish boundaries."