

Parish Services

BIRTHDAY: Margaret Andow 03.09 *Ad multos annos!*

Weekday Services (7th September – 12th September)

Video Streamed Mass on Parish Facebook.

Public Masses: You need to book your attendance on Sunday in advance!

Weekday: you have to leave your contact details at the door

Monday Morar, 10am

John Gillies RIP

Tuesday *The Birthday of the BVM* Arisaig, 10am

Ian MacDonald RIP

Wednesday Morar, 10am

Jessica and Allan MacKinnon

Thursday Arisaig, 10am

Barbara Pamula – Birthday Intention

Friday Morar, 10am

For a certain family

Saturday Arisaig, 10am

Teddy Leonard RIP

Sunday Masses 12th/13th September (24th Sunday in Ordinary Time A)

Vigil Mass (Saturday) St. Cumin's, Morar: 6pm

Pro populo

Sunday St. Mary's, Arisaig: 10am

John MacDonald RIP

- **Sacrament of Reconciliation (only by prior arrangement, in Morar)**
- **Housebound:** Please contact me to arrange a visit. You have to make the contact first, as I do not want to put any pressure on those who are shielding from the virus or feel anxious or distressed.

- **COLLECTIONS:**

Morar/Mallaig:

30.08 £248 (Gift Aid £151)

Average income from Standing Orders per month - £400

Arisaig:

30.08 *no details provided*

ANNIVERSARIES/MM: John MacDonald (Gorten, Arisaig) 04.09; Georgia Allen 06.09; Ian MacDonald (Birthday Anniversary) 08.09; Donald Gallacher 08.09; Jessica and Allan MacKinnon; Teddy Leonard; John Gillies; Margaret Ann MacPherson 08.09; Anne O'Donoghue 14.09.

..... *Eternal rest...*



Parish Priest: Fr Stanislaw J. Pamula, Chapel House, Morar, Mallaig. PH40 4PB. Tel. (01687) 462201 or (01687) 450223

E-mails for Arisaig Parish: arisaig@rcdai.org.uk (RCDAI Arisaig Mission, Sort Code 83-91-25 Account No. 65626995, The Co-operative Bank plc) or

for Morar Parish morar@rcdai.org.uk (RCDAI Morar Mission, Sort Code 83-91-25 Account No. 65628087, The Co-operative Bank plc)

Parish website: www.catholicroughbounds.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/catholicroughbounds

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

CATHOLIC ROUGH BOUNDS PARISH NEWSLETTER®

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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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

6th September 2020

R) For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!



The Catholic Church celebrates the **Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary** on its traditional fixed date of September 8, nine months after the December 8 celebration of her Immaculate Conception as the child of Saints Joachim and Anne.

The circumstances of the Virgin Mary's infancy and early life are not directly recorded in the Bible, but other documents and traditions describing the circumstances of her birth are cited by some of the earliest Christian writers from the first centuries of the Church.

These accounts, although not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about the birth of Mary.

The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac."

Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves extensively and rigorously to prayer and fasting, initially wondering whether their inability to conceive a child might signify God's displeasure with them.

As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah, as an angel revealed to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honor their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth, and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the Protoevangelium of James, Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when she was one year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel."

"And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' . . . And he brought her to the chief priests, and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be for ever.'"

The protoevangelium goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life, and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph.

Saint Augustine described the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary as an event of cosmic and historic significance, and an appropriate prelude to the birth of Jesus Christ. "She is the flower of the field from whom bloomed the precious lily of the valley," he said.

The fourth-century bishop, whose theology profoundly shaped the Western Church's understanding of sin and human nature, affirmed that "through her birth, the nature inherited from our first parents is changed."

SCIAF COLLECTION: Special Collection for SCIAF will take place on 6th September. I have attached a letter from the Charity to this Newsletter.

APPEAL FOR HELP: I am grateful for all your financial support. Fundraising has been done entirely on Parish level and we continue to pay our monthly levies, which have been increased now to 75% of pre-covid state. Despite our Masses being available to the Public, our income has actually fallen even further. **At the moment, the Parishes are running a deficit, which means there is more money coming out as going in.** This situation is a real financial struggle on the Parish.

NEW LIGHTING IN MORAR: My thanks to Michael Lunny for his help with installing new lighting in Morar Church. I hope you will notice the difference. We have spent a significant amount of in the Church making sure that new lighting is going to be functioning for a long period of time. Consumption would increase slightly, even though we used LED's.

MOBILE BOOSTER: My thanks to Alistair Neil and John MacKay for their help with installing a new mobile phone booster. This investment is a continuation of providing relief to our internet load during Mass streaming when the house is occupied. It was a significant expense but should provide mobile phone signal and 4G for our guests. John has also been very busy trying to locate and fix the leaks in the Chapel House in Arisaig. With guests visiting we have 'limited windows' to schedule and perform any repairs. I hope that Chapel House in Morar and its significant leak will be next to fix.

GARDEN/GRASS/VESTRY: My thanks to all who are helping with keeping Church grounds so tidy and clean. There are a lot of people, who of course limited by the Pandemic, have been helping out. I will offer a Special Mass on the 19th September (Vigil) for all our Parish Volunteers. May God bless you for your kindness and hard work!

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: We will be meeting shortly to discuss the long-term upkeep of our Church buildings. We are suffering greatly from the loss of income and have to look for ways to limit our spending. This might involve some radical choices to be made. Perhaps it is time to consolidate and look at the option of releasing our Parish properties. Please, feel free to express your views to our Committee members: (Mairead and Catriona MacDonald, Mary Morrison and Maureen MacNeil) in Morar and (Lilian, Pat and Merac MacDonald) in Arisaig. Recommendations will be submitted to the Bishop and the Diocese.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: We congratulate Teresa MacKenzie on her 90th Birthday which she celebrated on 28th August. Teresa, now housebound, has been for many years has an indispensable help to many priests in Morar and was what was described to me as the First lay Finance Committee in Morar and possibly in the whole Diocese. We congratulate Teresa and keep her in our prayers! *If you would like you Parish to remember someone on their Birthday, please let me know in advance. Do not presume that someone already told me.*

RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC MASSES: We are allowing people to participate at Daily Mass. Booking is required for Saturday-Vigil in Morar and Sunday Mass in Arisaig. Please

go to events section of our Parish Facebook to book your free ticket. You can also call the Chapel House, but you should use the online facility first. There is a limited number of people allowed. **St. Patrick's, Mallaig; St. Donnan's, Eigg; St. Columba's, Canna; remain closed to the public.**

Booking is not required for Weekday Mass, however maximum capacity limit still applies. You have to leave your name and phone number on the list as you walk in for Weekday Mass. THIS RULE DOES NOT APPLY TO SATURDAY-VIGIL and SUNDAY MASS WHERE BOOKING IS STILL REQUIRED IN ADVANCE.

Please note that until the COVID-19 threat is over, Sunday Mass attendance is not obligatory. I would like to assure you that we are doing all we can to make our spaces safe to the public following the guidelines. I am sure that in time we will be accustomed to the new regulations.

Make note of any changes on Parish Facebook Page or notices. For safety, Parish will only be distributing the Newsletter in electronic version.

CHURCHES: We are open from Monday till Saturday between 10am and 3pm by booking only. You have to **call or email** in advance to receive your time slot. Here is some important information regarding re-opening for private prayer:

- Do not visit the Church if you feel sick or have developed any Symptoms of **COVID-19**.
- **Face coverings** should be worn by all those in the Church whether during private prayer or Mass. If no face coverings are available, the mouth and nose should be covered by a scarf or other cloth covering. In accordance with Scottish Government guidance, the following are not required to wear a face covering in the church: children under the age of five years; and those who have a health condition where a face covering would be inappropriate because it would cause difficulty, pain or severe distress or anxiety, or because you cannot apply a covering and wear it in the proper manner safely and consistently.
- **CCTV** is in operation and will be shared with authorities, if necessary, to allow for contact tracing.
- Please use the **Sign-in book** to log your entry. This will allow contact tracing. Please, sanitise the pen with available wipes after you use it. Please, contact us immediately if you become sick and have visited the Church recently.
- Use **Sanitiser** upon entry and exit. My thanks to #HighlandSoapCompany for donating us the Sanitiser.
- Please note that there is a **one-way system** in the Church. Do not cross the sealed off areas. Choose your seat and do not change it or wander around the church unnecessarily.
- **Funeral Masses** may take place in churches, with appropriate stewarding and sanitising procedures in place. The number of mourners should be agreed in

consultation with the parish priest and limited according to government guidelines. The Bishops' Conference of Scotland suggests a maximum of 15 mourners. Funerals in our Parishes will only be taking place in St. Mary's, Arisaig. There will be an option to live-stream Funeral Masses.

Fr Stan

Update on numbers permitted to attend Funerals Weddings and Baptisms - 10 July 2020

Today the Scottish Government announced that the maximum number of attendees at a funeral, wedding or baptism has been set to 20.

Churches can re-open for Mass from 15th July 2020 - 09 July 2020

On 9th July 2020, the Scottish Government announced that Churches MAY re-open to worshippers for services with effect from 15th July 2020. Before a church can re-open, it must observe the following requirements:

- social distancing must be observed
- face-coverings must be worn by those attending (except under-5s)
- a maximum attendance of 50 people at Mass is being required for now - to be reviewed on 30th July (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE LIMITED THE CAPACITY TO 30 PEOPLE IN ST. MARY'S)

for each service, the parish must retain details of names and contact details of all attendees.

Health protocol for distribution of Holy Communion - 09 July 2020

Clergy distributing Holy Communion should:

- sanitise their hands immediately prior to distributing Holy Communion
- wear a face covering while distributing Holy Communion
- direct congregants to receive Holy Communion in their hand by stretching out their arms with one hand on top of the other, then taking steps to the side to place the host on the tongue.

Booking system for Mass – We are still required to use Eventbrite as a booking system for Mass. Please, do not be shy in securing your place. Do not think that because you attended last week, you cannot do it again. If I see that our Church is at full capacity, I will make allowances for another Mass.

AMAZON SMILE: Are you a shopper on Amazon? You can now support your Parish by using smile.amazon.co.uk. Please, remember to use the link below. Half-Percentage of each transaction will be returned to our Parish in each quarter as a Charitable Donation. There is no price increase for you! Remember, only purchases at smile.amazon.co.uk (not amazon.co.uk) support charity. You can find it under SC002876 or RC Diocese of Argyll...