



**22nd January, 2023.**

**Second Sunday of the Year, A.**

RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles

Fr Roddy McAuley, Parish Priest

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Charity registration number - SC002876

Masses during the Week

Tuesday: 10.00am. St. Francis de Sales.  
Wednesday: 10.00a.m. Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.  
Thursday: 10.00a.m. Sts. Timothy and Titus.  
Friday: 11.00am. Requiem Mass for Irene McGeorge.  
Saturday: 6.00p.m. Vigil Mass.  
Sunday: 9.00a.m. and 11.00a.m.

**Confessions:** Saturday at 5.00p.m.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesday morning after Mass.

**Rosary:** The Rosary will be prayed after Mass in the Lady Chapel on Thursday.

**Matthew's account** of Jesus' ministry begins today. Matthew recognises that Jesus' location, known in his time as Galilee, but to Isaiah as Zebulun and Naphtali, fulfils the old prophesy about a people in darkness seeing a great light. Jesus announces the Good News that the kingdom of heaven is at hand and calls everyone to repentance (literally, a change of mind), and calls his first disciples. An energetic beginning. How energetic is our response?

**Bishop Brian** continues his consultations within the Diocese and he wants to know how we can best grow in the direction God desires for the future. His thoughts are outlined in his pastoral letter which is available from the church porch if you haven't picked up a copy as yet. The Bishop invites us all to join in this process of discernment. We begin with a two month spiritual preparation during which the Bishop will visit every parish to explain in person his vision and to listen to your comments and questions. He will visit our parish next Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 at 7.00p.m in our church hall. Please come along. More details can be found on the Diocesan Website at [www.rcdai.org.uk](http://www.rcdai.org.uk)

A **three day Mission** will be celebrated in our parish from Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March – Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March. The mission will be given by John Pridmore. John is an ex-gangster and international bestselling author of the book, "From Gangland to Promised Land". The programme for the Mission is as follows:

Mission Evenings: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 7.00p.m.

Evening 1: God's Love: The amazing story of John Pridmore.

Evening 2: God's Mercy/ personal encounter with Jesus.

Evening 3: God's Healing/Healing service.

This is a great opportunity to really get to know the love of God in a new way. One man in his seventies said at the Mission his life changed when he had a personal encounter with Jesus. A fifteen year old girl who attended a mission said for the first time in her life she not only knew God was real but that she knew that God loved her. For those who would like to help in the running of the Mission, there will be a meeting in the church hall on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00p.m.

Thank you to the parishioners who volunteer to **clean the church** on a regular basis. More cleaners are needed to join the rota, and hopefully then there can then be four teams which would mean a once a month task taking about an hour and a half. Please contact Karen on ph.703144 if you are able to help.

**St. Mun's Primary School:** Children and staff at the school are back in the swing of a new term and enjoying learning together. This week, PC William Quinn has been visiting all the classes and working with pupils to help build their self-esteem and confidence. Children learned about celebrating differences and diversity. They have been learning to appreciate each other's God-given talents and to discern how they can help one another to be the best they can be.

A **new kitchen** has now been installed in our parish hall along with a new cooker and fridge. A dishwasher is “on its way”. Thanks to Jim MacLean and Eliot Peterson who installed the kitchen and to the Craft Club and other donors for their very generous donation. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

The **sound system** in the church is about thirty years old and needs to be replaced. “Drummond AV” from Glasgow have been approached and they will install a completely new system, hopefully this coming week. The total cost will be £ 2 191.

**Diocesan Prayer for Discernment:**

God of love, we come before you as the Diocese of Argyll & the Isles, humbly seeking your guidance in determining our way ahead.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, guide us and give us the grace and courage to go where you want us.

Cleansed and enlightened by your Holy Spirit may we follow in the footsteps of your beloved son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we stand at the crossroads and wonder what road to take, help us to discern the path you wish for us.

May we listen with an open heart and embrace your will.

Stir our hearts O Lord to consider what we can all do as individuals and be instruments of your Church’s mission among all people using our talents.