



19th February, 2023.

Seventh Sunday of the Year, A.

RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles

Fr Roddy McAuley, Parish Priest

Our Lady and St. Mun's, Dunoon. Tel: 01369 702125.

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Charity registration number - SC002876

Masses during the Week

Tuesday: 10.00am.

Wednesday: 10.00a.m. (St. Mun's primary school) and 7.00p.m. in the church. Ash Wednesday (Day of Fasting and Abstinence).

Thursday: 10.00a.m.

Friday: 10.00am.

Saturday: 6.00p.m. Vigil Mass.

Sunday: 9.00a.m. and 11.00a.m.

Confessions: Saturday at 5.30p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday morning after Mass.

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

The beautiful season of **Lent** begins this week with **Ash Wednesday**. The forty days of Lent remind us of two Biblical events: the forty years spent in the desert by the Israelites before deliverance to the Promised Land, and Christ's entering the desert to fast for forty days, where he was tempted by the devil. The call during Lent is to focus on three things: fasting, prayer and almsgiving (giving to others). It is a time for personal reflection, renewal and reform, a time to be 'led by the Spirit' as Jesus was. Lent prepares for Easter....we fast before we feast, we enter the desert before we are delivered. People often ask what determines the date of Easter. The Council of Nicaea, in 325 A.D. determined that Easter should be celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon of Spring. To determine the beginning of Lent, count back six Sundays before Easter. The Wednesday before the first of these Sundays is Ash Wednesday.

The **Parish Lenten programme** this year will provide all parishioners an opportunity to enter into the spirit of Lent, using it as an opportunity to be 'led by the Spirit' as Jesus was. Marion Pallister will deliver a talk on behalf of SCIAF in our parish hall on Wednesday, 15th March at 7.00p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be held in the parish twice weekly during Lent.

As well as the parish Mission, Fr. Roddy Johnston will give a talk in the parish hall at 7.00p.m. on Wednesday, 22nd March to which all parishioners are welcome.

Led by the Spirit: Bishop Brian has identified six areas which he would like each parish within the Diocese to reflect on and give feedback on: Universal call to Holiness, Evangelisation, Catechesis....teaching of the Faith, formation of laity and clergy, a more welcoming, open church and transparency in governance. A date for us to gather and do that will be confirmed soon. The format will be similar to that of the Synod consultation which we took part in last year. The discernment process which Bishop Brian is asking of us is called, "Led by the Spirit" and there is a dedicated website for you to find out more: www.ledbythespirit.rcdai.org.uk

Our parish **three day Mission** will be celebrated in our parish from Monday, 6th March – Wednesday, 8th March, given by John Pridmore. John is an ex-gangster and international bestselling author of the book, "From Gangland to Promised Land".

St. Mun's Primary School: "We are reviewing our Vision, Values and Aims and have delivered initial sessions to our children and staff. We would like to invite members of our parish to an online session where you can help us shape our future vision - which will underpin our strategic direction for the immediate future. This is essential as we aim to meet the needs of our children and community.

This session will be delivered via Google Meet on Tuesday, 21 February 2023 from 6 pm to 7 pm.

If you would like to attend this session, please complete the details below. A link to attend the meeting will be

sent to supplied email addresses on the morning of Wednesday, 22 February 2023. Please enter your email address carefully in the form below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/vzE2isnAky>

Please complete this registration from by 5 pm on Monday, 20 February 2023.

We hope you can join us at this live session.

The Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF) have an appeal for the Syria- Turkey earthquake disaster where you can donate through the website - there's a special donate page for Syria-Turkey: <https://www.sciaf.org.uk/get-involved/appeals/475-2023-syria-turkey-earthquake-appeal> For any parishioner who doesn't have internet access and would like to donate, please hand in your contribution to Fr. Roddy or Fr. Philip and the amount will be forwarded to SCIAF.

There will be a **singing practice**, led by Isobel McNeill, this Tuesday evening, 21st February, in the parish hall at 7.30p.m. Isobel is looking forward to seeing as many as possible there.

Now that the weather is improving a little bit (Is it?), the **parish walking group** will resume on Saturday morning, 25th February, at 11.00a.m. meeting outside the church. All welcome to come along.

Online Ignatian Lenten Retreat: The Ignatian Spirituality Centre are again running an online Lenten retreat and will provide a free App and free booklets to those who would like them. Retreat details and how to get the booklets can be seen here: <https://www.iscglasgow.co.uk/lent23.html>

The A.W.A.Y. Group (A Well A Year): Mainly due to Covid, the group has not been active in recent years. However, the group hopes to resume their activities on 26th February when there will be a Soup and Sandwich lunch in the Church hall after the 11 o'clock Mass. Tickets will be on sale from Wednesday, 15th February and will be £4.50 per person and £1.50 for children under twelve years of age. Please see Susan or Jim Maclean for tickets or phone Margaret Lacey on 701881.

There will be **Tea/Coffee** in the Church hall after 11a.m. Mass on Sunday. All welcome.

Mission Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We pray that our Parish Mission may be a time of grace and renewal for all.

We ask you to bless all the families in our Parish especially those who are experiencing difficulties.

Bless the old, the young, the poor, the sick, the unemployed and those in sorrow or despair.

Help us dear Lord to grow in faith and love of you and of each other.

Amen