



**12<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.**

**Third Sunday of Lent, A.**

RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles

Fr Roddy McAuley, Parish Priest

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

Email: [dunoon@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:dunoon@rcdai.org.uk) Website: [stmunsdunoon.org](http://stmunsdunoon.org)

Charity registration number - SC002876

Masses during the Week

Tuesday: 10.00am.

Wednesday: 10.00a.m.

Thursday: 10.00a.m.

Friday: 10.00am. St. Patrick.

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.

**Stations of the Cross:** Sunday at 3.00p.m. and Friday at 7.00p.m.

**Marion Pallister** will deliver a talk on behalf of SCIAF in our parish hall on Wednesday of this week, 15<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00p.m. Please come along if you can.

**Fr. Roddy Johnston** will give a talk in the parish hall at 7.00p.m. on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March to which all parishioners are welcome.

The **Diocesan Chrism Mass** will be held in St. Columba's Cathedral, Oban on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30p.m. It is during the Chrism Mass that the Holy Oils used in the sacraments are blessed and the priests renew their promises. A minibus will be organised to take parishioners to and from Oban. Please sign your name on the sheet in the church porch if you are keen to go. It is envisaged that the minibus will take twelve passengers.

Thank you to all who came along to the parish mission led by **John Pridmore**. It was, and will be, a time of grace and blessing for our parish and hopefully the fruits of the mission will be seen in the weeks and months to come. May God continue to bless John in his ministry.

**Led by the Spirit:** After last year's Synodal Process meetings, we now start on the Diocesan Discernment Process Consultation Phase 1, "What is God's will for our Diocese?" The Consultation booklet and resources are available on the dedicated website [www.ledbythespirit.rcdai.org.uk](http://www.ledbythespirit.rcdai.org.uk) Our parish meeting date is Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30 p.m. and 7.00p.m. in the church hall. Please try to make it to one of these meetings and get involved.

**Mrs. Karen Wheatley** will be moving permanently to Newcastle at Easter and we extend our best wishes and blessings to her and her family. We thank Karen for her leadership role in St. Mun's primary school and for her years of commitment in the music ministry of our parish.

The Special Collection last weekend for the **Diocesan Pastoral Fund** raised £430. Thanks to parishioners for their generosity.

Next weekend there will be the annual special collection for **S.C.I.A.F.** which focuses this year on families in Kabwe, Zambia and the effect hunger has on their daily lives, and their futures.

**Parish walking Group:** Saturday morning at 11.00a.m. meeting in the church car-park. All welcome to come along and meet fellow parishioners and have tea/coffee/cake after the walk.....if you want!

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

## **Reflection from Bishop Brian**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ

The UK Government is correct in wanting to stop criminal gangs trafficking people across the English Channel. However, I am convinced that the strategy proposed is not only unjust to the victims but will also fail. Why do people make these highly dangerous journeys across deserts, mountains and sea? Because they are desperate! Climate change has spelt disaster for many already poor communities resulting in food and water insecurity and, with disappearing resources, the threat of violence. Others are fleeing persecution or war. Typically people do not make these desperate journeys unless they conclude that they have no choice.

Along with arms and drugs the third largest illegal enterprise in the world is human trafficking. I have attended several Santa Marta Conferences at the Vatican where the Church and Law enforcement agencies from across the world learn about and then plan cooperation against human trafficking. Time and time again speakers, primarily from Africa and Asia, spoke of how it was the horrendous conditions in their home countries that forced people to search for a fresh start elsewhere. They insisted that the vast majority would prefer to remain at home if it were feasible to do so. They asked for help to overcome the injustice, war, poverty and hunger that plagued their lives and then their countries would be much more attractive to stay in.

I appreciate that such a radically different policy is not as catchy as simplistic slogans which demonise the poor. However last week, when I was in Ethiopia, I saw proof with my own eyes that it does work. The plight of the world's poor is an affront to a humanity created in God's image and likeness. As disciples, are we happy with that?

Bishop Brian