



26th March, 2023.

Fifth Sunday of Lent, 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.

Wednesday: 6.30 pm. Chrism Mass in St. Columba's Cathedral, Oban

Thursday: No Mass.

Friday: 10.00am. Children's Lenten Mass in church.

Saturday 6.00p.m. Vigil Mass.

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

Confessions: Saturday at 5.30p.m.

Stations of the Cross: Sunday at 3.00p.m. and Friday at 6.00p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday at 7.00p.m.

Introduction to the Scripture Readings

The three readings today focus on the question: *'How do we obtain life?'*

Ezekiel 37: 12-14 — Ezekiel says that those committed to God will find life after they die.

Romans 8:8-11 — Paul says that through the Spirit we can find life.

John 11: 1-45 — The Gospel describes the raising of Lazarus and shows that all God's power is found in Jesus, who brings believers the fullness of life.

The **Diocesan Chrism Mass** will be held in St. Columba's Cathedral, Oban this week on Wednesday, 29th 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.

Minibus to Oban: For those who have signed up to go to the Chrism Mass in Oban on Wednesday, the minibus will depart from the church carpark at 3.00p.m. prompt. It has been difficult to source a minibus for this trip, but St. John's Church of Scotland have kindly allowed us to use their minibus, subject to a final mechanical check which will be made on Monday. Should there be any problems with the minibus, those who have signed up will be notified on Monday.

Fr. Gerry McNellis from St. Ninian's parish in Gourock will hear confessions in the parish at 7.00p.m. on Thursday, 30th March. Please use this as an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter.

Please pray for Ava and Emma who will make their **First Holy Communion** on Sunday, 14th May during the 11.00a.m. Mass in our parish. They both celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time during the week and we pray that God may continue to bless them on their journey of faith.

Last weekend's annual special collection for **S.C.I.A.F.** raised £695. Thank you to parishioners for their generosity. This year, the SCIAF Lenten campaign focuses this year on families in Kabwe, Zambia and the effect hunger has on their daily lives, and their futures.

Bunches of **daffodils** are on sale in the church porch in aid of SCIAF. Please put the money in the basket provided.

Laudato Si – Anyone interested in being a Laudato Si Animator can sign up for a course beginning on 19th April. To sign up go to <https://laudatosianimators.org> For more information, please contact Fr Roddy Johnston (vicar-general@rcdai.org.uk)

The Letter – This is a film featuring Pope Francis and representatives from around the world discussing their concerns about climate change. If you haven't yet seen the film, you can do so by following this link <https://www.theletterfilm.org>

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.

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.