



7th May, 2023.

Fifth Sunday of Easter, 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: 11.00am.

Wednesday: 10.00a.m.

Thursday: 10.00a.m.

Friday: 10.00a.m.

Saturday 6.00p.m. Vigil Mass.

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

Confessions: Saturday at 5.30p.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday after Mass.

Rosary: After Thursday morning Mass in our Lady's chapel.

Fr. Philip has been asked by Bishop Brian to take up an appointment as Parish priest in service to the parishes of Lochgilhead/Inveraray and Taynuilt/Dalmally beginning the weekend of 13th/14th May. This weekend will be Fr. Philip's last weekend with us in Dunoon. We thank God for Fr. Philip's ministry among us in Our Lady and St. Mun's and we pray that God will continue to bless him as he takes up his new appointment. A date will be arranged for Fr. Philip to return to the parish for a presentation.

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. We pray that God may continue to bless them on their journey of faith.

The Pastoral Council of the parish has been dormant for a while due to Covid, but it will resume again with a meeting in the parish hall on Wednesday, 31st May at 7.00p.m. The present members of the Parish Council are: Margaret Reilly Wood, Ruth McManus, Isabel Goodfellow, Jim Maclean, Helen Carty, Phil Breslin.

The primary purpose and responsibility of the Council is to guide and determine the direction of the parish by providing leadership, leading pastoral planning, initiating and directing policies which flow out of the parish's mission. Council members care about parish life in other communities of the Diocese, share in the concerns of the Church universal, and strive to bring the Gospel message to all people and places within the parish. Furthermore, to work co-operatively with the Parish Priest and parishioners in all areas of parish life to assist the entire parish community to achieve the mission of the Church in the local community. The Council is accountable to the parish community for its work and will give high priority to ensuring regular communication with the parish via the parish bulletin.

As part of **St. Mun's Primary School** Laudato Si programme, the children are going to make a mural of caring for our planet. They will use recycled bottle tops to make the mural. Please hand in any bottle tops to the collection point in the school reception.

Journeying with Mary – Prayer Service in Preparation for the Synod: Carfin Grotto - Feast of the Visitation Wednesday 31st May 2023 7pm. At the invitation of Pope Francis the Bishops' Conference of Scotland is hosting an hour of prayer at the National Marian Shrine, Carfin, for the success of the Synod. All are most welcome. Personal reflections will be shared on four aspects of Mary's life interspersed with silence, hymns and the Rosary while pilgrims journey between various Marian stations. Tea etc will be available at 8pm. The Prayer Service will be livestreamed on beingCatholic.com

A request has come in for assistance with **baby clothes and a cot**. If any parishioner is able to help in this regard, please contact Fr. Roddy.

If you have any old or **spoiled laptops or phones** lying around at home, Fr. Philip can repair them and donate them to people back in Africa. Please see the poster at the back of the church and contact Fr. Philip if you are able to help.

Rev. David Railton, Rector of Holy Trinity Church, has organised a prayer walk and he has extends an invitation to all parishioners. The walk will start outside the Grammar school on Tuesday, 23rd May at 10.30am and end up at the Boat house. Please see the posters on the church noticeboard for more details.

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.

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

A Reflection:

“Saints give little thought to changing the world around them because they are too busy changing the world within them.” All the saints were conscious of their own sinfulness and this forced them to rely more on the grace of God than on their own strength. The miraculous catch of fish convinces Peter of the holiness of Jesus and makes him so aware of his own sinfulness. The prophet Isaiah sees the holiness of God as a beautiful reality that highlights his own sin and makes him aware of his dependence on God.

It is always reassuring to see and to know that Jesus travels into people’s lives, not away from them. Jesus entertains sinners, he enters their homes, meets their families, eats at their table, listens to their stories, and calls them to a new way of life. Throughout his life Jesus is never far from sinners. And on the cross, he died between two of them. There is a marvellous teaching here for all of us. Jesus doesn’t write us off because we are sinners. Jesus has other plans because he believes that sinners have a future, not just a past. Even though St. Paul admits his own destructive past in persecuting the Church, he is convinced that the love of Christ has overcome that. God’s presence can give every moment light and make every day a blessing. The sunrise, the sunset, the beautiful scenery around us here in Lochaber, the bulbs beginning to bloom, the gift of life.....they are all whispering the same message.....the message of God....and God’s message to each of us is, “I am here, beside you and within you, sustaining you, and offering you light and life, joy and peace now.”

The prophet Isaiah moves from fearful man to bold preacher. Paul to persecutor of Christians to prophetic apostle. Peter from fisherman to martyr. They remembered the words of God, “Do not be afraid.”