



Second Sunday of Easter, C.

27th April, 2025

RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles

Fr Roddy McAuley, Parish Priest

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Charity registration number - SC002876

Masses during the Week

Monday	1.00 pm	Diocesan Mass in St. Columba's Cathedral, Oban, for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis.
Tuesday:	10.00am	St Catherine of Siena
Wednesday:	10.00am	
Thursday:	10.00am	
Friday:	10.00am	St Athanasius
Saturday:	6.00pm	
Sunday:	10.00am	

Confessions: Saturday at 5.30pm

Rosary: After Mass on Thursday morning.

Eucharistic Adoration: After Mass on Wednesday morning.

Scripture Readings:

Acts 5:12-16 — During the Easter season this year, the first reading each Sunday is from the Acts of the Apostles and the second reading is from Apocalypse, the last book of the Bible. Today's excerpt from Acts describes the courage of the first disciples, who were bold enough to meet in the Temple precincts and carry on the healing work of Jesus.

Apocalypse 1:9-13 — John introduces his vision, which he wrote to encourage Christians who were being persecuted.

John 20:19-31 — Jesus appears on the evening of his resurrection, and helps those who doubt to believe.

In the Jubilee year of 2000, Pope John Paul 2nd, proclaimed that from that year forward, the second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as **Divine Mercy Sunday**. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kawalska, who worked throughout her life to make all people aware of the merciful love of God. Sr. Faustina was born and raised in Poland. Following a vocation to the religious life, she joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener and porter. Her contemplation on the mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbour.

Lourdes Pilgrimage: Joint Dunoon and Portree Parishes – Holy Year Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Thursday 8th May – Thursday 15th May. There will be a meeting in the Parish House on Tuesday of this week, 29th April at 6.00pm to go over final arrangements.

Please pray for **Abigail Ledsom** and **Liam Cruickshank** who will be Confirmed and receive their First Holy Communion during the 6.00pm Vigil Mass (Abigail) and 9.00am Mass (Liam) this weekend. May God continue to bless them both on their journey of faith and may we encourage them and show them example.

Children's Liturgy: At a parish meeting held in January to discuss youth participation, re-starting Children's Liturgy was agreed upon and a number of people at the meeting expressed their willingness to help with the organisation of this. There will be a meeting for those who are keen to help, on Wednesday, 30th April at 7pm in the church hall. Barbara Liddell, our parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator will be at the meeting to apply for PVG (protecting vulnerable group) certificates for the volunteers. Children's Liturgy will only be successful if we have willing volunteers.....and children. Please help if you can.

Starting next weekend, **Sunday, 4th May**, there will be two weekend Masses in the parish instead of three. There will be a Saturday Vigil Mass at 6.00pm and a Sunday Mass at 10.00am. Not only will this bring us in line with all the parishes in the Diocese, but it will also bring more people together under one roof. New rotas for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers have been made up.

The **Liturgy Works** weekends will resume again on 19th until 21st September in the Conforti Institute, Coat-bridge. This is a weekend of liturgy-themed workshops, spiritual talks, liturgical singing, prayer and get together with people from around the parishes of Argyll and the Isles. Please see the poster on the church noticeboard. More details from Fr Roddy.

First Holy Communions: Five children from our parish have begun preparations to make their First Holy Communion on Sunday, 22nd June during the 10.00am Mass. Please pray for the children who will take this important step in their journey of faith.

Parishioners and visitors sometimes ask for the Bank details of the parish so that they can set up a Standing Order. Your generosity to our Parish and the charities which we support are much appreciated. Bank details of the parish. Account Name: RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles – Dunoon Mission. Sort Code: 83-91-25 Account Number: 65627554.

Parish Walking Group: Saturday morning at 11am, meeting in the church car-park. All welcome to come along and meet fellow parishioners and have tea/coffee/cake after the walk.

Teas/Coffees: Available in the Church Hall after 11am Mass on Sunday. All welcome.

Reflection on Pope Francis

“One of my favourite images of Pope Francis is of him washing the feet of some of the women in the Rabbaba prison in Rome on Holy Thursday, 2024. It was very moving. Pope Francis washed and kissed their feet and looked up at them with a friendly smile. Most of the women prisoners were in tears. My first thought was that the Pope’s simple gesture of kindness and love would remain with those women for the rest of their lives and who knows from that day on their lives might be transformed.

Pope Francis captivated the world with his humanity. He so often drew our attention and the attention of the world to the core issues of a Gospel faith: care of the poor, mercy not fear of a loving God, simplicity of lifestyle, the giftedness of every person. He had a special place for migrants! It was his personal choice to carry his own bag. He swapped the gift of a stunning Lamborghini for a modest Fiat. He chose not to live in the papal palace. He wasn’t afraid to step out on his own.

In 2015 Pope Francis produced a Papal encyclical called, “Laudato Si” on the environment and climate change which was a groundbreaking document. His voice was a strong and clear one for making the changes necessary for the future of the planet. He had his critics and enemies and he carried a heavy cross. At the same time he was cheerful, he had a good sense of humour and he smiled a lot! I am full of gratitude for the journey we have had with him and I am grateful for all that he has shared with us on his journey.

A final quote from Pope Francis which will always remain close to my heart, is “I see clearly that the thing the Church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the Faithful.....I see the church as a field hospital after battle”.

May Pope Francis rest in peace and rise in glory”.

Fr Roddy