

Seventh Sunday of Easter, C. 1st June, 2025

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 Ugandan Martyrs Wednesday: 10.00am St Boniface

Thursday: 10.00am. Friday: 10.00am

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil Sunday: 10.00am

Confessions: Saturday at 5.30pm

Rosary: After Mass on Thursday morning.

Eucharistic Adoration: After Mass on Wednesday morning.

Scripture Readings:

First reading: Acts 7:55-60. The most striking feature of the death of Stephen is its similarity to the death of Jesus

Second reading: Rev.22:12-14.16-17.20. The last words of the book of Revelation talk about the second coming of Jesus.

Gospel: John 17:20-26. We share in part of the great prayer which Jesus made on behalf of his present and future disciples during the Last Supper.

Children's Liturgy: Children's Liturgy will resume in the parish on Sunday, 7th September.

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

Today is **World Communications Day**. A collection will be taken up for the apostolate of communications.

An **Ecumenical Prayer Walk** organised by Holy Trinity Episcopal Church will take place on Monday, 2nd June from 10.30am until 12.30pm. Please meet opposite Dunoon Grammar School. There will be pauses throughout the walk to pray for our local community, concluding at "The Boat house" coffee house for coffee and cake, all welcome.

A big thank you to all who came along and enjoyed the **Beetle drive** on Friday evening, a fast and furious pace but great fun. Thank you to the organisers and those who very kindly gave donations and raffle prizes. A total of £235 was raised.

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.

The **Liturgy Works** weekends will resume again on 19th until 21st September in the Conforti Institute, Coatbridge. 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 notice board. More details from Fr Roddy.

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 10am Mass on Sunday. All welcome.

Someone has been in touch offering two good quality/hardly used **bunk beds** free to anyone who could use them. Please see Fr Roddy if you and interested.

Pause for Thought:

"Like so many of you, my heart is heavy as I witness the ongoing tragedy unfolding in Gaza. The seemingly endless and ever-escalating violence is an affront to our shared humanity and to God's call for justice. As Christians, we are called to speak out against such profound suffering and injustice.

As Bishop President of SCIAF, I have seen first-hand some of the worst of human suffering, and how the horrors of war leave scars that stretch far into the future. At SCIAF, we serve our brothers and sisters at their moment of greatest need, and help them to build better lives where they can flourish. But we also know that charity alone is never enough. Peace and justice, secured by our leaders, underpinned by principles of love, compassion and solidarity, are the key ingredients to a world where all can live life to the fullest. Each day in Gaza we see callous indifference for these principles, and blatant disregard for the dignity of all people.

As Pope Francis said, "War does not resolve any problem. It only sows death and destruction, increases hate, multiplies vengeance. War erases the future."

For many decades, this war has raged in the Holy Land, escalating in recent years to its most bloody and horrific chapter.

At the heart of this conflict are the innocents caught in the crossfire; displaced, disregarded and broken, used like pawns by their leaders. The actions taken by Hamas on October the 7th and the Israeli Government repeatedly since then amount clearly to acts of collective punishment.

The withholding of food, water and electricity to homes and hospitals, alongside the bombardment of public buildings hosting refugees, and engineered mass displacement must be utterly condemned legally and morally.

We cannot stand by whilst millions of people are treated like cattle. There is no justification for this. The people of Gaza now stand on the brink of famine, and yet aid is still withheld, proposed solutions deeply inadequate, and international humanitarian law consistently disregarded.

God's love is greater than evil so please join me in my prayers for Gaza:

- Prayers for the people, that they do not lose hope, and that their suffering may end and they may know joy and peace again soon.
- Prayers for leaders in Israel and Gaza, that they may truly feel the intolerable pain this war is wreaking and be moved towards agreement as soon as possible of a ceasefire deal, the release of the hostages and anyone else who is unlawfully detained, and a massive increase in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and protection.
- Prayers for our leaders here in Scotland, the UK and those in positions of power around the world, that they may recognise the injustice of the unfolding atrocities in Gaza cannot continue without sanction and use their good offices to do all their can to bring peace to the people of the Holy Land".

+ Brian McGee President SCIAF