



First Sunday of Advent – A

30th November, 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

Monday 7pm Solemnity of St Andrew

Tuesday: 10am

Wednesday: 10am St Francis Xavier

Thursday: 10am

Friday: 10am

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:

Isaiah 2:1-5 Isaiah gives a prophecy of a time of peace when all people will worship the one God.

Romans 13: 11-14 Paul advises the Romans to live decent lives.

Matthew 24: 37-44 We're told to stay alert, because we don't know when the Master is coming.

The **Advent season** begins this weekend. Carlo Carretto, the renowned spiritual writer, spent many years living alone as a hermit in the Sahara desert. He wrote a number of books from that place of solitude, including one entitled, "Letters from the Desert". He wrote, "Be patient, learn to wait – for each other, for love, for happiness, for God". The Advent season is about learning to wait. It is about not opening the Christmas gift too early. A feast can only be celebrated properly after there has been fasting. A race can only be run well after proper training. Christmas can only be celebrated after a fruitful Advent.

House Masses continue in the parish. If any parishioner would like Mass celebrated in their home, please see Fr Roddy. A house Mass is an ideal setting for a small group of people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to enjoy a time of sharing afterwards. It would be up to the person hosting the Mass to invite a small number of family/relations/neighbours/friends and to have a simple tea/coffee/biscuit afterwards.

Last weekend the **Second Collection** to support the work of the Scottish Catholic Education service raised £435. Thank you

There will be a "**Healing service**" in the parish on Wednesday, 17th December at 7pm. Please come along if you can. Every person has his/her own wounds and scars. During the service, parishioners will be invited to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. The Sacrament of the Sick is a healing one which is really about what God wants to do in us and through us and for us in this wonderful encounter. It tells us that God is love, and love is always oriented toward healing and wholeness.

Travelling Crib: The Advent practice of "The Travelling Crib" is growing in popularity and this year our parish community will use it. The Travelling Crib is taken home by a family who plays host to the nativity characters for the night, reading the Christmas story and saying a short prayer together, both provided. The next day the Crib is passed on to the next person on the list. This journey symbolises Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus. If you would like the travelling crib to come into your home, please sign your name on the sheet provided in the church porch. What do you do when

the crib arrives in your home? Firstly, unpack it from the box and set up the crib scene somewhere in your home. Choose someone in your family to light a candle. Read the short story of the birth of Jesus, which you'll find in the box. Say the prayer, which you will find in the box. Return the box and contents for the next family to use.

Boxes of **Christmas cards** are available for sale from the church porch.

Date for your Diary: St Mun's Primary School have their Nativity Play on Wednesday, 10th December at 11am. Please come along and support our teachers and pupils.

The Bingo evening previously cancelled due to bad weather in early October has now been re-scheduled for **Friday, 5th December, 2025, 7pm for 7.30pm** start in the Parish Hall. All tickets already bought for the original date are still valid for 5th December. For those that may still wish to come along and don't have a ticket, then tickets will go on sale as from Vigil Mass on 22nd November onwards (**£5 each**). Come along, give it a go, enjoy the evening and have a laugh! B.Y.O.B., Raffle, Nibbles and Teas/Coffees and Cake during interval.

SCIAF Real Gifts. As well as continuing to provide aid for those most in need SCIAF has launched its 'Real Gifts' campaign. Have a look on their website for Christmas gifts that provide life changing benefits to others. <https://www.sciaf.org.uk/>

The **Dunoon Community Orchestra Concert** will be held today (Sunday) at 3pm in our church hall. All welcome.

Cowal Pop-Up Songs of Praise: Lochgoilhead Village Hall, PA248AQ on Saturday, 29th November, 2-3pm. All welcome.

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 Mass on Sunday. All welcome.

Reflection:

The Good Old Days: "Pity the poor children of today, with their calendars stuffed with chocolates, never to know the thrill of opening a small cardboard door and discovering behind it a picture of a bell". (Brian Bilson).

"If you want light to come into your life, you need to stand where it is shining". (Anon).