



Second Sunday of Lent – A
1st March, 2026

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: 10am

Wednesday: 10am

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.

Stations of the Cross: Wednesday at 9.30am and Friday at 7.00 p.m.

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 12:1-4 — God's promise to Abram who became Abraham is described.

2 Timothy 1:8-10 — Paul reminds us that God is on our side, that Jesus rose from the dead for us.

Matthew 17:1-9 — The Gospel gives a glimpse of the glory promised to Jesus after his death and resurrection.

Copies of a **Pastoral Letter** from the Scottish Bishops on the assisted dying for *Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill* are available from the church porch. The Scottish Parliament will cast its vote on the Bill in the coming weeks. True compassion is not found in hastening death but in walking with those who suffer, ensuring they receive the medical, emotional, and spiritual care that affirms their inherent worth. Every person is a gift from God. There is no such thing as a life without value. Our task as a society is not to eliminate suffering by eliminating the sufferer, but to surround every individual with love, support and dignity until their natural end. Please pick up a copy of the Pastoral Letter.

Marion Pallister will deliver a talk on behalf of SCIAF and Pax Christi in our parish hall on Wednesday of this week, 4th March at 7.00p.m. Please come along if you can.

Diocesan Workshop on Conversation in the Spirit: Pope Leo has strongly reiterated the call of Pope Francis for a more discerning and consultative Church. Building on his experience of the Conversation in the Spirit (CiS) method during the Synod of Bishops, Bishop Brian and Catriona Fletcher (Director, Ignatian Spirituality Centre) invite you to a Diocesan Workshop on Conversation in the Spirit on Saturday 21st March from 10am-5pm. CiS will be helpful for members of Pastoral Councils and other groups as well as in settings such as schools and family life. The Workshop is online and so you can join from the comfort of your own home, although people from the same parish or area may wish to gather for company, using the one device. The Workshop is free but you must register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Kl8qed6KS2hY9Gzy7w64g>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The Diocesan **Chrism Mass** will be celebrated in St Columba's Cathedral, Oban on Wednesday, 25th March at 12.30pm. Please sign your name on the sheet in the church porch if you wish to travel on the minibus. More details to follow.

Our **First Holy Communions** will be celebrated this year on Sunday, 7th June during 10am Mass. Please pray for the children from our parish who are preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation and the sacrament of the Eucharist.

Church Heating: As parishioners are aware, the church boiler broke down before Christmas and it was out of service for seven weeks. It has now been repaired at a cost of £1 024.26. During that time, six commercial blow heaters were used to heat the church. Unfortunately, this has resulted in a very high electricity bill of £4 189.98. To help cover these unexpected expenses, a special collection for church heating will be taken on the weekend of 12th April. Any contribution towards this cost would be greatly appreciated.

Our local **World Day of Prayer** service this year will be held in Holy Trinity Scottish Episcopal Church on Friday, 6th March at 2.30pm. There will be a minibus shuttle service from the West Bay Car Park from 1.45pm. Please use this service if you are attending the service as there is limited parking at the church. This year's theme is, "I will give you rest:- Come". It has been prepared by Christian women of Nigeria.

Fr Henry McLaughlin from Edinburgh will visit the parish and celebrate the weekend Masses on Saturday/Sunday 14th and 15th March. Fr Henry spent many years working in Latin America and he is visiting parishes to promote a book, "The Song of the Poor" about Fr Tommy Greenan, who chose to live and work among the poorest of the poor in El Salvador in the 1980s and early 1990s. Following Fr Tommy's death, the book collects an exceptional selection of his writings from El Salvador, presented in powerful, shattering short chapters.

Please see the poster on the church noticeboard about the upcoming **Conforti Liturgy weekend** in May, which is a weekend of liturgy-themed workshops, spiritual talks, liturgical singing, prayer and *get-together* with people from around the parishes of Argyll & the Isles.

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 Gospels show clearly that Peter was a man of action: he always needed to be doing something. So on Mount Tabor, instead of contemplating in silence and wonder the glory of his Lord, he wanted to build three tents. There is a time for stillness, for contemplation, for wonder, for adoration in the presence of God. A time to heed the words of the psalmist: 'Be still and know that I am God'. Sometimes we are too busy. We would be better to be silent, to be listening, to be wondering, to be adoring in the presence of God". (Fr Flor McCarthy)