



Sixteenth Sunday of the Year A
19th July, 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 Reception into the church of Nicki Crossley. Feast of St Mary Magdalene.

Thursday: 10am Feast of St Bridget of Sweden.

Friday: 10am

Saturday: 6pm Vigil

Sunday: 10am

Confessions: Saturday at 5.30pm

Rosary: After Mass on Thursday morning.

Eucharistic Adoration: After Mass on Wednesday morning.

Scripture Readings:

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13.16-19. God has both the knowledge and the power to root out evil people if he so desired, but this reading talks about god's leniency, and how we ought to imitate it.

Second Reading: The Holy Spirit helps us to pray when we can't find the words to express what is on our minds.

Gospel Reading: The Church, and indeed the world, is like a field in which wheat and weeds grow side by side until they are separated at the harvest time.

Faslane Christian Peace Witness Vigil: 1st August, 11am to 12.30pm

Join Justice & Peace Scotland in August at Faslane Naval Base for our annual Christian Peace Witness Vigil as we pray and advocate for a world without nuclear weapons.

Organised by J&PS, the gathering – this year at the North Gate - will be a time of prayer, reflection, readings, and song led by senior Church leaders from across Scotland. Members of the Iona Community and the Quakers will also join us to call for nuclear disarmament and peace.

As Christians, we are called to be peacemakers and to uphold the dignity of every human life. Nuclear weapons are fundamentally incompatible with this call as their existence threatens indiscriminate destruction and a future built on fear and power-wielding rather than on fraternity amongst nations. A free bus service will be provided for the day, with pick-ups in Edinburgh and Glasgow. For details and to reserve places, please email: office@justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk.

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

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.

Reflection:

An elderly gardener spent every spring tending a magnificent rose garden. One afternoon, a neighbour noticed that among the roses were patches of rough-looking plants and weeds. "You really should pull those out," the neighbour said. "They're spoiling your garden." The old gardener smiled. "I've learned something over the years," he replied. "When I rush to pull every weed, I often tear up the roots of the roses beside them. So now I spend most of my time watering the roses. The stronger the roses become, the less room the weeds have to

grow."Weeks later the garden burst into glorious colour. Visitors barely noticed the weeds because the beauty of the roses captured everyone's attention.That is how God works with us.

god waters our goodness with his grace. God strengthens what is beautiful within us. God calls us not to spend our lives obsessing over every fault—our own or someone else's—but to keep growing in love. As love deepens, many of the weeds lose their grip.

Our world can sometimes seem overgrown with the weeds of violence, division, loneliness and hatred. Families too can carry old hurts. Every parish has its disappointments. Every life has regrets. Yet Christ does not abandon the field. Christ walks among the wheat every single day. Quietly, patiently and faithfully.

The final harvest belongs to God, not to us. Until then, we are called to sow kindness instead of resentment, forgiveness instead of revenge, hope instead of despair. Every smile offered, every prayer whispered, every act of mercy, every hand held, every tear wiped away is another stalk of wheat growing in God's Kingdom.

So today let us leave the judging to God and the loving to ourselves. For the Divine Gardener has never lost faith in his field—and he has certainly never lost faith in you. (Anon.)