

Solemnity of Christ the King, A
22nd November, 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 The Vietnamese Martyrs
Wednesday:	10am
Thursday:	10am
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: Ezekiel 34:11-12.15-17. God is portrayed, not so much as a judge of his people, but as someone who cares for them as a good shepherd cares for his sheep.
Second Reading: 1 Cor. 15;20-26.28. At the end of time Christ will reign as universal King, having all hostile forces, including death.
Gospel: Mt 25:31-46. We don't know exactly how the last judgement will happen, but we do know what the followers of Jesus will be judged on.

Discerning Mission: Seventy delegates from across our diocese continue to meet for two hours on a Monday evening as our Diocesan Discernment for Mission group. Please keep them and their deliberations in your prayers. The link for the weekly materials is: https://www.ledbythespirit.rcdai.org.uk/discerning-mission/ The materials can be accessed quite easily via the diocesan website.

The parish **Pastoral Council AGM** will be held on Wednesday, 16th December at 7pm in the church hall. The Council serves as a listening body, attentive to the voice of God and the lived experience of parishioners. It asks, "Where is the Holy Spirit leading us? What are the needs, hopes and struggles of our community?" A pastoral council is not primarily about voting or managing. Its heart is prayerful discernment, seeking God's will together with humility and trust. Jim Maclean will retire as the Chairperson of the Council after almost ten years of faithful service. We thank Jim for his hard work and commitment over the years and for his faith-fulness in serving on the Pastoral Council. Please consider coming along to the AGM and playing an active role in the Pastoral Council of the parish.

Flower arranging: Thank you to our parishioners who have given and who give of their time to look after flower arranging in our church throughout the year. Two of our volunteers have just retired from this ministry and we thank them. More volunteers are required to help with this important and valuable ministry. If more people come forward to volunteer, a rota can be organised to share the work. Please see Fr Roddy if you can help out.

St Andrew's Parish, Rothesay and Joe Walsh Travel are organizing a pilgrimage to the SHRINES OF LITHUANIA on 12th – 19th July 2027. The cost including B&B accommodation in central 4 star hotels,

flights, coaches, entrance fees and guides will be approximately £1375. If you think you might be interested in joining please get in touch with Fr Jarek Kwiecien (phone number 07300489060) by Sunday 29th November.

Fr Sandy Culley will celebrate the fortieth anniversary of his Ordination to Priesthood on Wednesday, 2nd December and a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated in St. Mary's Church in Fort William at 6pm. Mass will be followed by a get together in the Railway Club in Inverlochy. All are very welcome to both celebrations. Some parishioners have suggested that it would be good to have a special collection for Fr. Sandy considering the many years he spent in our parish. Parishioners will have the opportunity to contribute to this collection this weekend.

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.

Pause for Thought

The parish priest of a small town arrived at the church encouraged and motivated to celebrate another evening Mass, but the hour passed and the town did not come. After fifteen minutes delay, three children entered, after twenty minutes two young people entered. So the priest decided to start the Mass with the five people . Over the course of Mass, a couple came in who sat on the last benches of the church.
When the priest preached and explained the Gospel, another half-dirty person came in with a rope in his hand. Disappointed and not understanding the cause of the weak involvement of the faithful, the priest celebrated Mass with love and preached with enthusiasm and zeal.
On his way back home he was robbed and beaten by two thieves who stole his folder where his Bible and other valued belongings were. Arriving at the parish house and bandaging his wounds, he described that day as:
The saddest day of my life, a failure of my ministry, and the most unfruitful day of my ministry; but... never mind, I do everything with God and for God.
After five years, the priest decided to share this story with parishioners at church. When he was finished telling the story, a couple in that parish stopped him and said, ″ Father, the couple in the story that sat at the back was us. We were on the brink of separation because of several problems and disagreements in our home. That night we finally decided to divorce, but first we decided to come to church one last time as a couple and then each one would follow their path. Meanwhile, we left the thought of divorce aside after listening to your homily that same night. As a result, today we are here with our home and family restored ".
As the couple spoke, one of the most successful entrepreneurs who helped in the livelihoods of people of that church saluted, asking to speak. And giving him the opportunity, the entrepreneur said, ″ Father, I am the person who came in half dirty with a rope in my hand. I was on the verge of bankruptcy, lost in drugs, my wife and my kids had left home on account of my behaviour. That night I tried to kill myself but the rope broke so I went out to buy another one. When I got on my way, I saw the church open, I decided to come in even though I was really dirty and had a rope in my hand. That night, your homily pierced my heart and I walked out of here a changed person. Today I'm off the drugs, my family came home and I became a successful businessman".
At the gate of the sacristy entrance, the Deacon shouted, ″ Father, I was one of those thieves that stole your belongings. The other one died that same night while we were doing the second robbery. In his briefcase, there was a Bible. I read it every time I woke up in the morning. After all this reading, I decided to apply it to my life and participate in this church."
The priest was shocked and started crying along with the faithful. After all, the night he regarded as a night of failure was the most fruitful of his ministry.