

Fr Paul Hackett s.j.: Fr Paul, Our Lady of the Rosary and St Columba, Kingussie will be retiring from parish ministry this coming Easter Week. Fr Paul has spent many years in ministry to our diocese and we wish him every blessing as he ministers during his last Lent and Easter Triduum among us. May God Bless him with a very long and happy retirement. Bishop Brian invites you to join Fr Paul for a Mass of Thanksgiving in Our Lady of the Rosary and St Columba's Church, Kingussie on Tuesday 3rd April at 6pm.

Electrical Safety Inspection: this has now been completed for all 3 churches and produced unsatisfactory reports for all 3 churches. The last inspection was 1995. There are many minor and some major safety issues to be addressed. At the moment I am awaiting the estimate for the necessary work. I want to include in this work some subtle changes to lighting in St Margarets; the current halogen spots are 5,000 watts usage, the equivalent led usage will be reduced to 200 watts, so this will mean a significant reduction in power use over the long term and reduced maintenance. Perhaps we can look at some fundraising event/social event to help offset some of the costs?

World Day of Prayer: An ecumenical prayer service was held at St Mary's Church, Fort William on Friday 2nd March. The service this year was written by Christian women of Suriname. Once under Dutch rule, Suriname is the smallest country in South America and Dutch is spoken by the majority of the population.

The theme this year was "All God's creation is very good", and women from various churches of Lochaber came together at St Mary's in worship. Through scripture readings, prayers, hymns and narrations on life as experienced by the women of Suriname, a thought provoking and meaningful service focussed on the wonder of God's creation. It also acknowledged the suffering, negligence, greed and destruction of our world and asked how we personally can find in our lives effective ways to express our care and help protect the earth for future generations.

Thanks to Lorna MacGregor for representing our parish and taking the part of a Surinamese woman in the service. Lorna also made a large cake representing the colourful Suriname flag which everyone enjoyed afterwards.

St Margaret's- Roybridge, St Joseph's- Spean Bridge,
St Finnans- Invergarry, Cille Choirill-Roybridge

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Parish Administrator : Fr. Danny Convery - Tel: 01397 712 238

Fourth Sunday of Lent

11th March 2018

Masses

Mon,Wed	- St Margarets	10am
Tue,Thu	- St Joseph's	10am
Thu	- St Finnans	6.30pm
Fri	- St Margaret's	7pm
Sat Vigil :	- St Josephs	6.30pm
Sunday:	St Finnans:	9.15 am
	St Margarets:	11.30am

**Confessions: before Vigil Mass,
Sunday 11.30 Mass, also on request.**

“God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life”

John 3:15, Sunday's Gospel

Welcome!

To all who are visiting our parish – a warm welcome!

Please sign our visitors' book.

Next Sunday: 18th March Fifth Sunday of Lent

Roybridge

Readers: Catrina MacDonald, Mark Reynolds

Prayers: Tony Sargent

Ex Mins: Rory MacDonald, Catrina MacDonald, Margaret Sargent

Spean Bridge:

Reader: Alison

Prayers: Marianne

Ex Mins: David, Liz

Anniversaries: we pray for all our loved ones whose anniversary occurs at this time.

We pray for the sick: for those at home, in hospital, those who have asked for our prayers. We pray that all our sick will be comforted and strengthened.

Mother's Day: All-loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers young and old.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict; May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away. We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion. We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen

Celebration of Marriage: we congratulate Ryan Toal and Nicola Jane MacPhee on their marriage which will take place next Saturday 17th March in St Margarets. "The union of man and woman in marriage [is] a unique, natural, fundamental and beautiful good for persons, communities, and whole societies." Pope Francis. We pray for God's blessing on Nicola and Ryan and their family life together, may God's grace strengthen and protect them always.

Bishop Joe will be here to celebrate the marriage and Fr Danny will be in Glasgow to celebrate his younger brothers marriage to Nadia. Bishop Joe has kindly offered to celebrate the evening mass in St Josephs.

Ordination of Deacon Vincent Toal: the Holy Spirit is having a busy time in March!! We offer our congratulations to Deacon Vincent, who will be ordained by Priest by Archbishop Tartaglia on 19th March, St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow. We pray for Vincent in the words of St Paul (Phil 1:6) ' I am quite confident that the One who began a good work in you will go on completing it until the Day of Jesus Christ comes' What a joy for Mrs Toal, Bishop Joe and all Vincent's family, we share their joy and pray that God will complete the 'good work' began in Vincent. Well done Vincent!!

There is a lovely article in the Glasgow Flourish about Vincent's journey; you can read it on the notice boards in each Church.

Mass in St Josephs on Tuesdays: throughout Lent, this has been changed back to the usual time of 10am with Stations of the Cross before mass.

Lentent Journey: we are now half way through lent and this Sunday we celebrate 'Laetare Sunday' which means 'rejoice'. We are reminded of the joy of anticipation of celebrating the Feast of Our Lord's Resurrection. Sometimes the priest wears rose coloured vestments (not pink!) to express this joy.

Call a Halt! How are your Lenten commitments holding up? If our Lenten resolve has weakened then bear in mind the following expression: If our day is not working out then we can call a halt at any moment of the day, even 5 minutes to midnight, call a halt and hand the remaining 5 minutes of that day to God and ask for his peace and serenity. Likewise we can call a halt to any weakened Lenten intentions and begin again with confidence. Take inspiration from the Scottish Minister of Transport Humza Yousaf, who is Muslim but has given up his favourite drink 'Irn Bru' for lent in solidarity with his Christian friends and is donating any money saved to Aid to Church in Need (ACN) who support Christians who are being persecuted in Muslim majority countries. Inspiring!

Lenten Devotions: this Sunday evening 5-5.30pm, evening prayer with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Pastoral Council: meeting this Tuesday 13th March, 7pm.

News from the Vatican: Pope Francis has signed the decree paving the way for the canonization of Pope Paul VI and Oscar Romero Blessed Paul VI (Giovanni Battista Montini), Supreme Pontiff; born in Concesio, Italy, on 26 September 1897 and died in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, on 6 August 1978

Blessed Oscar Arnolfo Romero Galdámez, archbishop of San Salvador; born in Ciudad Barrios, El Salvador, on 15 August 1917 and killed in San Salvador, El Salvador, on 24 March 1980.

It's a good time to pray to these Saints to ask for intercession.

Scottish Border Collie Pups: a parishioner from a neighbouring parish has asked to make this known. Pups are from working stock, available to a good home, cost negotiable. If interested then let Fr Danny know.

Special Collection: next weekend for Sciaf