

APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION
GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE
OF THE HOLY FATHER
FRANCIS
ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS
IN TODAY'S WORLD

CHAPTER ONE
THE CALL TO HOLINESS
THE SAINTS NEXT DOOR

THE LORD CALLS

13. This should excite and encourage us to give our all and to embrace that unique plan that God willed for each of us from eternity: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (*Jer 1:5*).

FOR YOU TOO

14. To be holy does not require being a bishop, a priest or a religious. We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. That is not the case. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. Are you called to the consecrated life? Be holy by living out your commitment with joy. Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife, as Christ does for the Church. Do you work for a living? Be holy by labouring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain.[14]

15. Let the grace of your baptism bear fruit in a path of holiness. Let everything be open to God; turn to him in every situation. Do not be dismayed, for the power of the Holy Spirit enables you to do this, and holiness, in the end, is the fruit of the Holy Spirit in your life (cf. *Gal 5:22-23*). When you feel the temptation to dwell on your own weakness, raise your eyes to Christ crucified and say: "Lord, I am a poor sinner, but you can work the miracle of making me a little bit better". In the Church, holy yet made up of sinners, you will find everything you need to grow towards holiness. The Lord has bestowed on the Church the gifts of scripture, the sacraments, holy places, living communities, the witness of the saints and a multifaceted beauty that proceeds from God's love, "like a bride bedecked with jewels" (*Is 61:10*).

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

www.rcroybridge.co.uk email : roybridge@rcdai.org.uk

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter

13th May 2018

<u>Masses</u>		
Wed,Fri - St Margarets		10am
Tue,Thu - St Josephs		10am
Sat Vigil - St Josephs		6.30pm
Sunday: St Finnans:		9.15 a.m.
	St Margarets:	11.30am
Confessions: before Vigil Mass, Sunday 11.30 Mass, also on request.		
"To be holy does not require being a bishop, a priest or a religious. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. ..Do not be dismayed, for the power of the Holy Spirit enables you to do this" Pope Francis 'Gaudete et Exsultate		

Welcome!

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

Please sign our visitors' book.

Next Sunday: 20th May, Pentecost

Roybridge

Readers: Richard Sidgwick, Ian Peter MacDonald

Prayers: Ishbel Campbell

Ex Mins: Ishbel Campbell, Nilda Hawke, Margaret Watt

Spean Bridge:

Reader: Alison

Prayers: Lindsay

Ex Mins: Alison, Moira

Scottish Charity Registration Number: SC002876

Anniversaries: we pray for all our loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time that they may be with our resurrected Lord in his eternal kingdom.

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.

World Communications Day: this Sunday. There is a pastoral letter from Archbishop Tartaglia commemorating the 52nd World Communications Day available at the back of the Church.

Special Collection: there will be a special collection at all masses next weekend to support the Churches ministry in promoting goodness and discernment of truth.

Up and Coming:

- **Parish Day Out:** Saturday 26th May, Morar / Mallaig. Well done to all who are up for a wee adventure. We have 25 in total for our day out. **Itinerary:** depart St Margarets 9am, collection of parishioners at Spean Bridge en route. Travel to Our Lady & St Cummins, Morar, where we will celebrate 11am Mass followed by picnic lunch. Walk on the beach and (or) visit to Mallaig. Depart Mallaig 4.30pm. Bring your own picnic lunch. We have our own mini bus and some cars so our schedule is relaxed and at our disposal. Suggested cost: £10 for travel.
- **Cille Choirill:** Mass will be celebrated in our beautiful Church on Sunday 10th June, 3pm; spread the word!
- **Pilgrimage:** the pastoral council are currently planning a pilgrimage for Summer/Autumn 2019, something exciting to look forward to, more details to follow!

Sciaf: there are some Sciaf newsletters available expressing a 'Big Thank You' for the much needed support and with current news.

St Margaret of Scotland Pilgrimage: on Sunday 3rd June in Dunfermline in honour of St Margaret. For more information: 0141 354 5555

Feast of Pentecost: next Sunday we celebrate this important feast. On this day we say 'Happy Birthday' to the Catholic Church and therefore every Christian Church that has it's apostolic origins in the Catholic Church. The word Pentecost is Greek and it means "50th day." Fifty days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, and the beginning of their Earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations.

Pentecost is also a Jewish holiday, which the Jews use to celebrate the end of Passover. Jews celebrate the gift of the law to Moses at Mt. Sinai on this day. But we, as Catholics celebrate the birth of our Church.

At Pentecost, the Apostles and their followers were gathered in a room. At this time, a great wind blew and a flame appeared as a tongue of fire, which separated into many individual flames above the heads of all those present. The Holy Spirit came upon these people and each began to speak in tongues. Despite the fact many had no common language, they were perfectly able to understand one another. Peter then called all those present to be baptized and about three thousand people were baptized that day. These people were among the first Catholics, and Peter is the first pope of the Catholic Church.

The symbols of Pentecost are the flame, wind, and the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit.

And so; next Sunday; A very Happy Birthday to our Church!!

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Apostolic Exhortation, Gaudete et Exsultate of our Holy Father Pope

Francis: The title for the Pope's encyclicals and letters is always taken from the first line of the content. Gaudete et Exsultate means 'Rejoice and be glad! There are 177 chapters in the document. The full text can be found online at: www.zenit.org however, (space permitting) it will be included in the weekly newsletter a few chapters at a time, it is an important and inspiring letter from Pope Francis to all of us, I'm sure you will enjoy it.