

Gospel Reflection *Mark 13:33-37*

John knew that his role was to bring people to Christ. So is ours. We try to live our lives right so that people will be able to know through us that faith in Christ makes all the difference.

John knew that his baptism was preparatory; it was only 'with water'. Jesus baptised each of us with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit dwells in us; he leads and guides us; we try to be open to his powerful work in our hearts.

Source: Irish Jesuits

Christmas Carols Tuesday 19th December
Church of Scotland, Croyard Road **6:00pm**

ST MARY'S OFFERTORY *(Last Sunday)*

First Collection (Running A/c): **£193.96**
Second Collection (Fabric A/c): **£139.82**

LIGHT OF THE NORTH

The Advent issue of the Light of the North is available, the magazine of the Diocese of Aberdeen. Read about St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Inverness; the future of Polish Catholicism in Scotland and Bishop Hugh's Christmas letter.

<https://bit.ly/LOTNAutumn2023>

ST MARY'S OFFERTORY DONATIONS

(Running Account) A/c name:
**FOR R.C. DIOCESE OF ABERDEEN,
ST MARY'S BEAULY**
Acc: 00711527
Sort Code 80-05-61

(Fabric Account) A/c name:
**RCD OF ABERDEEN – RCD BEAULY
ST. MARY'S**
Acc: 10031469
Sort Code 80-05-61

RC Diocese of Aberdeen,
Reg. Scottish Charity SC005122

TIMES OF MASS IN THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

23 December 2023

St Martin Ullapool - Mass: 11:30am
St Maelrubha's Poolewe -Mass: 11:30am

24 December 2023

Marydale, Cannich – Mass: 9:00am
Fort Augustus – Mass: 11:00am
Beauly – Mass: 11:00am

Vigil:

Marydale, Cannich – Carol/Mass:
6:00/6:30pm
Beauly – Carol/Mass: 8:30/9:00pm
Fort Augustus: Vespers/Carols: 6:00pm
25 December 2023
Fort Augustus – Mass: 11:00am
Beauly – Mass: 11:00am

ADVENT REFLECTIONS:

This Wednesday, 20th December, the location is **St Columba's, Culloden**. The evening will commence at **6:00pm** with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession followed by the Advent Reflection, concluding with Night Prayer, Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

The Reflection will be given by
Fr Andrzej Niski

FATHER MAX'S VACATION

Fr Max will be leaving after Christmas Day for a well-earned rest to visit family and friends in Nigeria. Keep him in your prayers for his safety at all times, and we look forward to his return in mid-January.

ULLAPOOL CHURCH ROOF APPEAL

Bank Sort Code: **80-05-17**
Account Name: **Ullapool & Gairloch
St Martin of Tours**
Account No: **10109462**



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

High St, Beauly, Highland IV4 7AU

Tel: (01463) 782 232 Email: stmarysbeauly@btinternet.com

Website: stmarysbeauly.org



Parish Priest: **Father Maximilian Nwosu**

Email: frizuma3@yahoo.com

Father James Anyaegbu

Email: jamesanyaegbu@gmail.com

Office: secretary.stmarysbeauly@gmail.com

Sunday 17 December 2023

3rd Sunday of Advent Year – B

Gaudete Sunday

Sunday Mass Times

ST MARY'S BEAULY 11:00am
OUR LADY & ST BEAN, MARYDALE 9:00am
(Confessions, 1st Sun) no Mass 2nd Sunday
ST MARY'S ESKADALE
2nd Sunday in the month, 9:00am
ST MARTIN'S ULLAPOOL
1st 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month, 2:30pm
ST MAELRUBHA'S POOLEWE
2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 2:30pm
LOCHINVER : To be arranged
FORT AUGUSTUS Sun 11:00am, Fri 12:30pm

Weekday Mass Times & Devotions

Tues Mass 10:00am (Beauly)
Wed Rosary @ 5:00pm (Marydale)
(each 2nd Wed in the month),
Mass 5:30pm (Marydale)
Mass 7:00pm (Beauly)
Thurs Mass 10:00am (Beauly)
Friday Mass 10:00am (Beauly)
Mass 12:30pm (Fort Augustus)

Confession: call by the Parish House,
phone, or email to make an appointment.

Next Sunday 24th December 2023

4th Sunday of Advent Year – B
Marydale 9:00am, Beauly 11:00am,
Fort Augustus 11:00am (livestream).

Mass Intentions

Sun:
Tues: Chris Page (God's Grace)

Wed:

Thurs:

Fri:

Please pray for the sick of our parishes and all who ask for our prayers.

Liturgical Calendar

Thurs 21 Dec: Opt. Memorial of **St Peter Canisius** (1521-1597) who was born in Nijmegen, He was the first Dutch Jesuit and became their leader in Germany. He restored the Church there after the Protestant Reformation, travelling and preaching and writing a catechism to help ordinary Catholics understand their Faith. He had a great love of Our Lady and is credited with creating the second half of the 'Hail Mary'.

Sat 23 Dec: Opt. Memorial of **St John of Kanty** (1390-1473) was born near Kraków. In 1421 he was ordained a priest and not long afterwards he became a professor of Sacred Scripture. He lived a frugal lifestyle so that he could help the poor, especially among his students. He was also a physicist and advanced the 'theory of impetus' which assisted both Galileo and Newton later.

Sun 24 Dec: Christmas Eve *Wesołych Świąt*
Mon 25 Dec: Christmas Day *Nollaig Chrìdheil*
Happy Christmas

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES (DECEMBER)

Catherine Kennedy, Hamish Wemyss, David Pearson, Angela Montague, Sue Constable Maxwell, Michael McCorry

FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and praise
spring up in the sight of the nations.'

The Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Luke 1:46-50,53-54

Response: *My soul rejoices in my God.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

R/

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.

R/

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy.

R/

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly;
and for all things give thanks to God,
because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt;
think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Is61:1(Lk4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8,19-28

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.

This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,' they asked 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not' he said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord.'

Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, 'Why are you baptising if you are not the

Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with water; but there stands among you – unknown to you – the one who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of The Lord
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

PRAYER BEFORE THE HOMILY

We will make our lives your dwelling place.
We will build your throne in our hearts.
Come Father,
Come Son,
Come Holy Spirit,
O come and take your place in our lives.

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH NO. 3

Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.
