

GOSPEL REFLECTION *Luke 1:39-45*

The Magnificat was a daily prayer of Mary, spoken in good times and bad. We can imagine that she often prayed words like that. Even at times like the passion and death of her son, her faith remained strong that God would care of her and of him. In prayer we can pray our own Magnificat, thanking God for blessings, for good times, for bad times through which God protected us, and for the ways in which we have grown up - in good times and bad. The faithfulness promised to God's people is also promised to each of us now.

Source: *Irish Jesuits*

ST MARY'S OFFERTORY *(Sun 15th Dec)*

Offertory **£246**
Second collection **£ 139.35**

The above figure reflects the collections realised during Mass. However, many opt to donate by Standing Order or Direct Debit instead and eligible Gift Aid can still be claimed by the Church via these payment methods.

Set one up with your online Account using the church's Bank Details provided below (please be sure to include your Gift Aid Envelope Number in the Payment Reference.) Gift Aid forms can be obtained from [James Campbell](#).

Approx. average regular monthly online donations made:

Offertory (church Running Ac.) **£783**
Second Collection (church Fabric Ac.) **£400**

(N.B. Average Monthly figures derived from July 2024's Accounts transactions)

ST MARY'S DONATIONS

1st Collection – Running Account A/c name:
FOR R.C. DIOCESE OF ABERDEEN, ST MARY'S BEAULY

Acc number: **00711527** Sort Code **80-05-61**

2nd Collection Fabric Account A/c name:
RCD OF ABERDEEN – RCD BEAULY ST. MARY'S
Acc No: **10031469** Sort Code: **80-05-61**

ULLAPOOL CHURCH ROOF APPEAL

A/c Name:

Ullapool & Gairloch St Martin of Tours

Account No: **10109462** Sort Code: **80-05-17**

RC Diocese of Aberdeen
Reg. Scottish Charity SC005122

Christmas Mass Times 2024

Tues 24 December

Vigil: St Martin's Ullapool **11:30am**
St Maerubha's Poolewe **11:30am**
Our Lady & St Bean Marydale **6:00pm**
Sts Peter & Benedict Fort Augustus **6:00pm**
St Mary's Beaully **9:00pm**

Christmas Day:

Sts Peter & Benedict Fort Augustus **11:00am**
St Mary's Beaully: **11:00am**

Happy 88th birthday, Pope Francis! Ad multos annos!

The Holy Father was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on December 17, 1936.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GET TO CONFESSION FOR CHRISTMAS

"Look for a good confessor and do a thorough cleaning!" This was Pope Francis' reminder to Catholics to visit the confessional. In this Christmas season, it's too easy to focus on the get-togethers, decorating, gifts, and food, and put our souls last!

The pope, however, emphasised that we should seek not just a merry Christmas but "a happy Christmas in the heart, in the family, also in the conscience. Don't be afraid, you too, to ask for forgiveness if your conscience reproaches you for something; look for a good confessor and do a thorough cleaning! Christmas is a good opportunity to make peace also within ourselves. We are all sinners, all."

Come to Confession on
Monday 23 December
5:00pm - 6:30pm
in St Mary's Beaully church.

The Catholic Church in Scotland

Some statistics (based on returns published in the Catholic Directory for Scotland 2024):

Estimated Population of Scotland (Mar 2022) - 5,436,600
Estimated Catholic Population (2023) - 676,000
Total number of priests - 558
Number of Dioceses - 8
Number of Parishes - 387
Baptisms in 2022 - 5,973
Marriages in 2022 - 1,029
Av. weekly Mass attendance (Nov 2022) - 89,420



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

High St, Beaully, Highland IV4 7AU

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

Website: stmarysbeaully.org



Sunday 22nd December 2024

4th Sunday of Advent - C

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

Christmas Mass Times

Tues Christmas Vigil:
St Martin's Ullapool **11:30am**
St Maerubha's Poolewe **11:30am**
Our Lady & St Bean Marydale **6:00pm**
Sts Peter & Benedict Fort Augustus
6:00pm
St Mary's Beaully **9:00pm**

Wed Christmas Day
Sts Peter & Benedict Fort Augustus
11:00am
St Mary's Beaully: **11:00am**

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

Next Sunday 29th December 2024 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - C

Cannich 9:00am, Beaully 11:00am,
Fort Augustus 11:00am
Ullapool 2:30pm

Parish Priest: **Father Maximilian Nwosu**

Email: frizuma3@yahoo.com

Father James Anyaegbu

Email: jamesanyaegbu@gmail.com

Office: secretary.stmarysbeaully@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Sun: Page Family (God's Grace and Mercy)
Marydale: John Skeffington (Months Mind)
Fort Augustus: Frank McMahan (Months Mind)
Poolewe: Jim McShane (RIP)

Tues: Christmas Vigil

Wed: Christmas Day

Thurs:

Fri:

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

Liturgical Calendar

Mon 23 Dec: } Advent Feria
Tues 24 Dec: }

Wed 25 Dec: **The Nativity of The Lord** - Solemnity

Thurs 26 Dec: Feast of **Saint Stephen**, protomartyr – the first to die a martyr's death for Christ. He was one of the seven men chosen in the Acts of the Apostles. (^:1-7) They are seen as the first Deacons.

Fri 27 Dec: Feast of **Saint John** who was one of the three Apostles, along with his brother St James (the Greater) and St Peter, whom Our Lord took with Him on special occasions. The Book of Revelation and three letters in the New Testament are attributed to him.

Sat 28 Dec: Feast of **The Holy Innocents** arises from the description of King Herod the Great's murder of many children under 2 years old to be sure the 'infant King of the Jews', announced by the Magi, would be no threat to him (Mt 2:16-18).

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES (December)

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

FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

Thus says the Lord:
You, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of
Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the
time
when she who is in labour has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his
God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he
shall be great
to the ends of the earth.
And he shall be their peace.

The Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 80(79):2ac, 3b, 15-16. 18-19. R4

Response: *Bring us back, O God;
let your face shine forth, and we shall be
saved.*

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse up your might and come to save us.

R/

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself.

R/

May your hand be on the man at your right
hand,
the son of man you have confirmed as your
own.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your
name.

R/

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into
the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings
you have not desired, but a body have you
prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin
offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I
said, "Behold, I have come to do your will, O
God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the
book." '

When he said above, 'You have neither
desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and
offerings and burnt offerings and sin
offerings' (these are offered according to the
Law), then he added, 'Behold, I have come
to do your will'. He does away with the first
in order to establish the second. And by that
will we have been sanctified through the
offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for
all.

The Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord;
let it be to me according to your word.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary arose and went with
haste into the hill country, to a town in
Judah, and she entered the house of
Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And
when Elizabeth heard the greeting of
Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And
Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit,
and she exclaimed with a loud cry,
'Blessed are you among women, and
blessed is the fruit of your womb! And
why is this granted to me that the mother
of my Lord should come to me? For
behold, when the sound of your greeting
came to my ears, the baby in my womb
leaped for joy. And blessed is she who
believed that there would be a fulfilment
of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

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. 1

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again.

Communion Antiphon

Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a
son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Prayer after Communion

Having received this pledge of eternal
redemption,
we pray, almighty God,
that, as the feast day of our salvation
draws ever nearer,
so we may press forward all the more
eagerly
to the worthy celebration of the mystery
of your Son's Nativity.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
