

GOSPEL REFLECTION *Luke 2:41-52*

Why choose this story to celebrate the Holy Family? It is not a story of peaceful routine, but rather of drama and hazards and difficult decisions. Jesus and family are displaced persons seeking a place to live.

Let me take this scene slowly, Lord. Jesus is coming of age, entering his teens, and as an eager student, questioning his teachers. To his mother's query: "Your father and I," he points gently to another paternity: "I must be in my father's house." No Gospel scene shows more clearly the gradual process by which he grew into a sense of his mission. Let me savour it.

Source: *Irish Jesuits*

ST MARY'S OFFERTORY *(Sun 22nd Dec)*

Offertory £297.85
Second collection £199.99

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 100 Club Draw

1st Anna Groat
2nd Adam Ritchie
3rd Catherine Paterson

£5 Calum MacPherson
£5 Iain Campbell

JUBILEE YEAR

The Bishop has written to inform us that we are on the brink of a Jubilee Year, the theme of which is *Pilgrims of Hope*. The Holy Father has opened the Year in Rome on Christmas Eve. In the local Churches/Dioceses, it is to be opened on the Feast of the Holy Family by a celebration of the Eucharist led by the local Bishop, (Bishop Hugh). This will take place at St Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen, at 11 am on Sunday 29th December.

It is a diocesan event. Given place, time, the uncertainties of weather and so forth, this is not easily realised. Nonetheless, the bishop would like each parish in the diocese to have the opportunity to send at least two representatives to the celebration in Aberdeen.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

1st January was established as a World Day of Prayer by St Paul VI. On this 1st January 2025, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, we will pray for peace in the world within the mass.

Pope Francis records BBC Radio 4 Thought for the Day message.
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwy8vd2vgvry>



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Sunday 29th December 2024

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - 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

Weekday Mass Times

Tues End of the Year Mass
6:30pm (Beauly)

Wed New Year's Day Mass
10:00 am (Beauly)

Thur Mass: 10:00am (Beauly)
Mass: 12:30pm (Fort Augustus)

Fri Mass: 10:00am (Beauly)

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

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES (JANUARY)

Anne Jane Sutherland, Philip Hercher, Jean Munn, Pauline Macfarlane, Isobel Ann, Margaret Forbes, Margaret Ritchie, Peter Galloway, Hugh Matheson.

Parish Priest: **Father Maximilian Nwosu**

Email: frizuma3@yahoo.com

Father James Anyaegbu

Email: jamesanyaegbu@gmail.com

Office: secretary.stmarysbeauly@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Sun: Page Family (God's Grace and Mercy)
Marydale: Brad Pettigrew (Special Intention)

Fort Augustus:

Ullapool: Rosemary & Ronald MacIntyre(RIP)

Tues: All the Sick and Deceased

Wed: All Travelling Families & Communities

Thurs:

Fri:

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

Liturgical Calendar

Tues 31 Dec: Opt. Memorial of **St Sylvester I** (285-335) who was elected pope in 314, just after Emperor Constantine had given Christians their freedom to practice their Faith openly. He was a long-serving pope and sent legates to the First Council of Nicaea in 325 which condemned the Arian heresy which had questioned the divinity of Christ.

Wed 1st Jan: Solemnity – **Mary, The Holy Mother of God**. This is Our Lady's greatest title. She is also our Mother. Jesus shared her with us from the Cross. She gained this title by saying 'yes' to God's plan. We will also gain from obeying the Will of God in our lives.

Thurs 2 Jan: Memorial of **St Basil** (330-379) and **St Gregory Nazianzen** (329-389) both born and raised in Eastern Mediterranean lands and became friends. Both became bishops and fought the Arian heresy.

Fri 3 Jan: Memorial of **The Holy Name of Jesus** commemorating the naming of the child Jesus in the Temple.

Next Sunday 5th January 2024 The Epiphany of The Lord - C

Cannich 9:00am, Beauly 11:00am,
Fort Augustus 11:00am
Poolewe 2:30pm

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked for him from the Lord.'

The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the Lord and dwell there for ever.'

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. And the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.' And he worshipped the Lord there.

The Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84(83):2-3. 5-6. 9-10. Rcf. 5a

Response: *Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.*

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts.
My soul is longing and yearning
for the courts of the Lord.
My heart and my flesh cry out
to the living God.

R/

Blessed are they who dwell in your house,
for ever singing your praise.

Blessed the people whose strength is in you,
whose heart is set on pilgrim ways.

R/

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob.
Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
look on the face of your anointed.

R/

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

The Word of The Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,
that we may pay attention to the words
of your Son.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-52

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the Temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, 'Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.' And he said to them, 'Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man.

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. 2

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

Communion Antiphon

Bar 3: 38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

Prayer after Communion

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament,
most merciful Father,
to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family,
so that, after the trials of this world,
we may share their company for ever.
Through Christ our Lord.
