



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

High St, Beaulieu, Highland IV4 7AU

Tel: (01463) 782 232

Website: stmarysbeaulieu.org

Sunday 16th March 2025

2nd Sunday of Lent - C

Missal page: 212

SUNDAY MASS TIMES	
ST MARY'S BEAULY 11:00am	
OUR LADY & ST BEAN, MARYDALE 9:00am (Confessions, 1st Sun) <i>no Mass 2nd Sunday – go to St Mary's Eskdale</i>	
ST MARY'S ESKDALE 2 nd Sunday in the month, 9:00am	
ST MARTIN'S ULLAPOOL 1 st 3 rd and 5 th Sundays of the month, 2:30pm	
ST MAELRUBHA'S POOLEWE 2 nd & 4 th Sundays of the month at 2:30pm	
LOCHINVER : To be arranged	
FORT AUGUSTUS Sun 11:00am	

WEEKDAY MASS	
Mon: Feast of St Patrick	
Tues: St Cyril of Jerusalem 7:00pm (Beaulieu)	
Wed: St Joseph Solemnity 5:30pm (Marydale) 7:00pm (Beaulieu)	
Thurs: 10:00am (Beaulieu) 5:30pm (Fort Augustus)	
Friday: 10:00am (Beaulieu)	

Parish Priest: **Father Maximilian Nwosu**

Email: max.nwosu@rcda.scot

Father James Anyaegbu

Email: jamesanyaegbu@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Mrs Teresa Palmer

secretary.stmarysbeaulieu@gmail.com

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday

Beaulieu: Page Family (God's Mercy & Love)

Cannich: Lexie Chisholm (RIP)

Fort Augustus: Ifeanyi Gerald Nwosu (Thanksgiving)

Ullapool: Parish Intention

Tuesday

Beaulieu:

Wednesday

Cannich:

Beaulieu:

Thursday

Beaulieu:

Fort Augustus:

Friday

Beaulieu:

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

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Wed. 5:00pm (Marydale); 7:00pm (Fort Augustus)

DEVOTIONS, PRAYER and MASS: The church is open via the side door; weekday morning and evening masses are held in the parish room, in the house.

After Mass, come to the parish room for a cup of tea or coffee, and maybe a biscuit or two. Meet up with friends or make new friends. Monies raised go to support Mary's Meals.

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES (MARCH)

Alexander 'Sandy' Ritchie, John Fraser, Marion Friel, Michael Elliot, Karl Storey.

St Mary's Offertory (Sunday 9 March)

Offertory collection **£233.01**

Second Collection (fabric) **£196.72**

ST MARY'S DONATIONS

(1st Collection – Running Account A/c name:

FOR R.C. DIOCESE OF ABERDEEN, ST MARY'S BEAULIEU

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

(2nd Collection Fabric Account A/c name:

RCD OF ABERDEEN – RCD BEAULIEU 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**

Vocations We continue to pray for Deacon Aidan Matheson, Anh Tuan Nguyen, Rene De Los Reyes and Richard Webster.

Lenten Station Masses 2025

21 st March (Christ the King, Brora)	28 th March (St. Ninian's Inverness)
4 th April (St. Anne's Thurso)	11 th April (St. Peter & St. Benedict, Fort Augustus)
<i>All Masses start 7:00pm</i>	

Station Mass at Thurso: A coach has been hired by St Mary's Inverness for the trip. To book a seat, please contact stmarysinverness@rcda.scot / 01463 233519. The coach will leave from St Columba's Culloden, then to St Mary's Inverness and through to Beaulieu and onwards. Park in St Mary's Beaulieu by 2:00pm, estimated cost per person £15. But you must have booked. Food / toilet stop at Helmsdale.

St. Mary's (Inverness): We are offering a 3-course meal and companionship, to those in need of a hot meal. We require help with preparing, serving and cleaning up. If you can offer assistance on any of the Sundays between now and Easter, we would be grateful. Please contact Jill Kent at jillkent@me.com.

2025 Jubilee Year: We are still looking for volunteers to welcome pilgrim groups who will have notified the parish in advance of their intention to come to St Mary's with a date and time. A leaflet with the background to St Mary's history will be available and prayer cards for them to take away. Volunteers would also advise visitors where in the village to go for tea and coffee.

Funeral Wishes: Most will know that many Funeral Directors are keen to have their modern facilities used by families who have suffered the loss of a family member. However, slideshows with popular music are not appropriate for honouring and showing respect for the life of a baptised Catholic: no matter how they have lived their life. To avoid confusion by family members who are organising such funerals, possibly with the help of a Funeral Director, we ask that everyone take time to plan ahead and complete their wishes for the funeral to be held in the local Catholic church, in our case St Mary's, Beaulieu. Let your family know you have set out your wishes and where your personal copy is kept at home. This applies to all our parishes. Completed forms are confidential and should not be left at the back of the church, but please hand a second copy (in an envelope) to one of our priests.

Parking: Please, when parking at the cemetery side of the church, do not park at the far end adjacent to the local housing, this is a turning area for cars.

Turn to the back page for Father James' Lenten Reflection.

LENTEN REFLECTION (Second Sunday of Lent): The Mountain of Faith

A Glimpse of Glory in the Valley of Suffering

Maria had always believed in God's goodness. She had taught her children to pray, to trust in Jesus, and to find comfort in His promises. But when her eight-year-old daughter, Sophie, was diagnosed with a serious illness, her faith was shaken to its core.

At first, Maria clung to prayer like a lifeline, believing that if she just prayed hard enough, God would heal Sophie quickly. But as days turned into weeks and weeks into months, the hospital visits grew longer, the treatments harsher, and Sophie's little body weaker.

One night, after hours of watching her daughter sleep restlessly in a hospital bed, Maria slipped into the chapel down the hall. The dim light of the sanctuary lamp flickered before the tabernacle. She knelt, but no words came.

"God, where are You?" she whispered. Doubt crept into her mind: If God is good, why is Sophie suffering? If He is powerful, why hasn't He healed her? If He loves me, why does He feel so far away?

The Devil's Strategies

In the valley of suffering, the devil's voice is loud:

"If God really loved you, He wouldn't allow this."

"You prayed, but nothing changed. Maybe prayer is useless."

"Others have received miracles — why not you? Maybe you don't deserve it."

"If you walk away from faith now, at least you won't be disappointed again."

Maria felt the weight of these whispers pressing down on her heart. The temptation wasn't to do something sinful - it was to let go of faith, to stop hoping, to stop believing in God's goodness. The next morning, exhausted and numb, she opened her Bible. Her eyes fell on the story of the Transfiguration: "Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And He was transfigured before them..." (Mark 9:2-10).

Maria read the passage slowly. The disciples had been following Jesus for years, yet they still didn't fully understand who He was. So, on Mount Tabor, Jesus gave them a glimpse of His divine glory — a light so bright it pierced their fear, a vision so overwhelming they fell to the ground in awe. Then came the words that struck Maria's heart: "This is My beloved Son. Listen to Him."

Climbing the Mountain of Faith

Maria closed her eyes. "Lord," she whispered, "I don't need all the answers. I just need to see Your glory." That prayer didn't change Sophie's illness overnight. But it changed Maria. She began to see small glimpses of God's presence: in the kindness of the nurses, in the friends who brought meals to her home, in the peace she felt even in the hardest moments.

One evening, as she sat by Sophie's bedside, her daughter opened her eyes and smiled weakly. "Mom," she said, "I saw Jesus in my dream last night. He told me not to be afraid." Tears filled Maria's eyes. Sophie's healing wouldn't be instant. There would still be struggles. But now, Maria knew she wasn't alone in the valley - because once you've seen the light on the mountain, you carry it with you.

Reflection: *Seeing Glory in the Darkness*

The Transfiguration wasn't just for Jesus — it was for the disciples, to strengthen their faith before they faced the darkness of the cross. Like them, we all have our valleys of suffering. The devil will try to convince us that God is absent, that our prayers are pointless, that faith is a waste. But if we keep climbing — if we hold onto Christ even when we don't understand — we will see His glory in ways we never imagined.

This week, ask yourself:

- Where do I need to trust God even when I don't see the answer?
- How is the enemy tempting me to doubt God's goodness?
- What glimpses of His presence have I overlooked?
- Faith is not about avoiding suffering - it's about seeing God in the midst of it. Keep climbing the mountain. The light of Christ is waiting.

Let us pray: *Lord, we don't need all the answers. We just need to see Your glory. Amen*

Every blessing!

Fr. James Anyaegbu

St. Mary's RC. Chapel house, IV4 7AU, Beaulay. Scotland

"Do the good you can to the people you can!"

Remember, "Those who find time to kneel before God, do not struggle to stand before men!"