

## REFLECTION

### The drama of Holy Week

WE BEGIN Holy Week by joining in with the crowds as they shout “Hosanna” to their triumphal king. In five short, fickle days, we will be shouting “Crucify Him!” Or will we be standing, weeping at the foot of the Cross?

The Cross, an ancient symbol of oppression, brutality and abject humiliation; as a form of torture, one of the cruellest means of execution we have devised, and yet this was the place where Jesus banished Satan and conquered death.

The irony, the paradox, is that we have to go through the pain and suffering of Calvary to enter into the bright light of Easter. We have to go into the tomb with Jesus in order to rise victorious with him on the other side.

Holy Week is the time when we contemplate the gift of the Cross, the gift of God’s unfathomable love for us, that He would let his only Son die for us, to take all our sins upon himself: “while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom 5:8). Through the Cross we contemplate the love, mercy and forgiveness of God for us.

*“Though he was in the form of God... Jesus emptied himself, taking the form of a slave... Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a Cross.” Phil 2:6,8*

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## OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION Parish Newsletter

Palm Sunday, Year A  
9<sup>th</sup> April 2017

### SUNDAY MASSES

#### PORTREE

Sunday 10 am

#### DORNIE

Sunday 12:45pm

#### BROADFORD:

Saturday 9pm this week

MONDAY,  
No Mass

TUESDAY,  
7pm

Portree

WEDNESDAY,  
12:10pm

Broadford

HOLY THURSDAY,  
8pm

Portree

GOOD FRIDAY,  
3:00pm

Portree  
Dornie

HOLY SATURDAY,  
9pm

Broadford  
Easter Vigil

### CONFESSION

Portree: before Mass and  
on request

Dornie, before Mass  
Broadford, after Mass

## NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to Fr Roddy for coming to swap with me for the weekend. The usual jokes about 'strange priests' aside, it is very good to have him back in the parish. You will see the times for Confessions on the front of the newsletter. Could I please ask people in Portree not to ask for Confession after Sunday Mass, as Fr. Roddy has to go to Dornie. Please come in early if you want to see him.

I will be back in the parish on Tuesday, and there will be Mass in Portree at 7pm, and then in Broadford on Wednesday at 12:10pm.

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence (you are exempt from fasting if you are over 60). There will be a service led by me in Portree at 3pm, and one led by a Lay minister in Dornie, also at 3pm. There is a Special Collection for the African Missions and Holy Places on Good Friday, so please be generous as you always are.

The 200 Club winners for March: Lesley Taylor, Broadford (£50), Tony Meechan, Ardsvar, (£30), and Therese MacDonald, Portree, (£20). If you would like to join, please let me know and I will give you a form.

If you smell cooking at Mass today in Portree, your nose is not deceiving you. We are having a sausage breakfast for HCPT, so that Helen Gilpin can go and help disabled kids in Lourdes. We wish Helen a safe and uplifting trip, and Helen, please pray for us all at the Grotto!

From Divine Mercy Sunday until October, we will move to the summer timetable for Broadford, with the Vigil Mass on Saturday at 6pm. Because the Easter Vigil will be in Broadford next weekend, today is the last Sunday afternoon Mass in Broadford this year.

Easter Cleaning... We will need to give the church a good once-over between now and Easter. Lets do this on Thursday morning at 11am. The more people come, the less time it will take to do the work.

Thank you all for your generosity in the Lenten Collection for SCIAF. Our total is £652.20, which will be sent to SCIAF after Easter.

The Pastoral Music Weekend (rebranded as LiturgyWorks) will take place in the Conforti Institute, Coatbridge, on 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> May. Please let me know if you are interested in going, and see the poster in the back of the church for more details.

The forms for Easter flowers are available in the back of the church. Please return yours to Faye MacNeil (01478 650246) or Shona Campbell (01478 611092) as soon as possible, so that they can be bought and displayed for Easter. Please indicate whether you want your flowers to be displayed in Portree or Broadford.

Please can you start to bring your Wee Boxes in from Thursday onwards.

The Gift Aid envelopes for the new Financial Year have arrived, and you will need yours this weekend. If you have not yet signed up to Gift Aid and would like to join, or you would like to switch from envelopes to a Standing Order, or vice versa, this is a good time to let me know.

Philip has gone to help out in the Cathedral, in Oban for Easter, and then he will be staying in another parish for a few weeks like he did with us. I think he is going to stay with Fr. Roddy McAuley in Caol next. So we wish him all the best and he takes our best wishes and blessing with him.

### Easter Timetable

Holy Thursday,	8pm, Portree
Good Friday,	3pm Portree 3pm Dornie
Easter Vigil,	9pm, Broadford
Easter Sunday,	10am Portree 12:45pm Dornie

### MUSIC FOR MASS

<b>Entrance:</b>	600	Lauda Jerusalem
<b>Offertory:</b>	595	Jesus, remember me
<b>Communion:</b>	361	O God, you search me
<b>Recessional:</b>	175	Hail, Redeemer