

## REFLECTION

How many times have you heard something like this: "As long as you believe in God and try to be a good person, your religion doesn't matter." "There are different paths up the same mountain, but they all lead to the peak." "This is the prevailing wisdom. It's politically correct. Tolerant. Reasonable. But it's wrong.

Jesus has the nerve to say "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one can come to the Father except by me." The highway to heaven had been closed for centuries. God did not set up the road block. We did. But the barriers that we erected were immovable. At least by us. God was the only one who could open the way.

There was a problem with truth and life as well. Sure, people had some ideas about God. But the ideas were shadowy, fragmentary and mingled with distortions. Everyone in the ancient world knew there was a Creator we were obliged to worship. But some thought homage required human sacrifice. And most thought that there were many gods. A few, like Aristotle, realised that there could only be one God. But he imagined this God to be remote and aloof, unconcerned with human affairs.

Finally there was the issue of life, divine life. Even the Jews, who had the most truth about God, had a problem here. They *knew* what God required. But even the best among them lacked the power to *do* it. Take David for instance. When the chips were down, he proved defenceless against the power of lust, deceit, and even murder.

**Jesus is the way.** Indeed he is a two way street. In him, God comes to meet us, holding nothing back, offering everything of who he is and what he has. Through Him and Him alone, we have access to God to such a point that we can now call him Abba, Father.

**Jesus is the truth.** Not just *some* truth but the *entire* truth. He is God's definitive and perfect Word expressing who God is, what He's like, who we are, and what we need to do to be saved from misery and futility.

**And Jesus is the life.** He gives us not only commandments and noble ideals, but also the power to live them out, the power to become new people. That Power is the Lord and Giver of Life Himself, the Holy Spirit, who Jesus pours out on those who accept Him.

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## OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION Parish Newsletter

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, Year A  
14<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### SUNDAY MASSES

**BROADFORD:**  
*6pm Vigil*

**PORTREE**  
*Sunday 10 am*

**DORNIE**  
*Sunday 12:45pm*

**MONDAY,**  
10:30am Portree

**TUESDAY,**  
1pm Portree

**WEDNESDAY,**  
12:10pm Broadford

**THURSDAY,**  
6pm, Applecross

**FRIDAY,**  
No Mass

**SATURDAY,**  
6pm Broadford

**CONFESSION**  
before and after Mass  
And on request

## NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tomorrow is Fr. James' 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ordination. It is a significant milestone in his life, and I would like us as a parish to show our appreciation and best wishes, after all he did for this parish. So, today's second collection will be for him, and I will round it up and send him a card from us all.

We will show the film, "I, Daniel Blake", in the parish, tomorrow, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 6pm. It will be, hopefully, an opportunity for us to think about the poor and deprived here in our society, as well as those in Syria and overseas. Please bring a plate of food, and some items for the foodbank.

The winners of the April draw of the 200 Club are: 1<sup>st</sup>, Tony Meechan, Ardvasar (£50), 2<sup>nd</sup>, Kally Leiper, Plockton, (£30), and 3<sup>rd</sup>, Jeannie Stewart Liddon, (£20). Congratulations to the winners, and a word of encouragement to any parishioners who have not signed up... this could have been you!

I received a letter from SPUC (Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) reminding us that as the election approaches, that we should use our consciences as we vote, to protect the dignity of all life, especially the most vulnerable. If you would like more information or to receive a General Election pack, please phone 0141 221 2094 or email them at [election2017@spucscotland.org](mailto:election2017@spucscotland.org)

Please remember that the paper Bank of England £5 note is now no longer legal tender. Please do not put them in the collection. Thanks very much.

If there is anyone heading towards Inverness in the next while, and they have space in their car (and a bit of spare time) could they take the items we have collected for Syria to the Highland Supports Refugees depot in Conon Bridge? I am a bit stuck for time in the short term. If you can, let me know and I will give you the address.

To our visitors: you are very welcome to stay for tea/coffee after Mass. If you are a UK taxpayer, please take one of the white Gift Aid envelopes from the porch and fill it in. There are also cards and gifts for sale. Thank you very much.

## Vacancy – Diocesan Treasurer

Location: Oban

Hours of Work: Part-time –  
approximately 1.5 days per week (with flexibility)

Salary: £18 per hour

The RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles is seeking to recruit a part-time Diocesan Treasurer, based in the Diocese Offices in Oban. This is an important new post, carrying significant responsibility to offer financial direction across the Diocese, overseeing the day-to-day management of all financial functions.

In line with the Church's Code of Canon Law (Canon 494), the Diocesan Treasurer will be regarded as the Diocesan Financial Administrator and will be appointed for 5 years, after which the appointment may be renewed.

The Treasurer will work closely with the Vicar General and Diocese staff to be responsible for the financial strategic plan, accounts, budgets, audits and fund-raising, ensuring robust and compliant monitoring and reporting mechanisms.

The successful candidate will be a qualified Accountant (ACCA, CIMA, CIPFA), be able to think strategically, with excellent organisational skills and a proven ability to work outside of the job description on occasions. All applicants must be willing to work within a Christian framework and be sensitive to its ethos.

An Application Form and Job Description / Person Specification can be obtained by emailing the Vicar General at [FrRoddyJohnston@aol.com](mailto:FrRoddyJohnston@aol.com).

Completed application forms should be returned by post to:

Rev. Roderick Johnston VG,  
Our Holy Redeemer Church,  
71 Kenneth Street,  
Stornoway. HS1 2DS.

The closing date for applications is at 5pm on Friday 2 June 2017

### MUSIC FOR MASS

<b>Entrance:</b>	413	Praise to the Holiest
<b>Offertory:</b>	288	Lord accept the gifts we offer
<b>Communion:</b>	408	Peace, perfect peace
<b>Recessional:</b>	174	Hail Queen of heaven