

REFLECTION

The Scripture readings from last Friday's Mass gave us this line from St. John's Gospel: "*I tell you most solemnly, you will be weeping and wailing... you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy*" (Jn 16:20-21).

In the light of Monday's tragic event in Manchester, this passage feels like an appropriate one for a short reflection. Certainly, as John is writing to his community, who are being persecuted for their faith, and even being put to death for following Christ, these people are pulled down by sorrow, fear, anxiety, and full of questions, both about their future, and about what is happening to them now. Jesus says to them, "*when that day comes, you will not ask me any questions*".

There are lots of questions and worries, deep pain for many people affected by Monday's horror. But the answer is always the same: to trust in the Lord, to put our faith in Him, and whatever the world throws at us, however much pain it causes, He will be there as our comfort and our hope.

Jesus finishes that short passage by saying this to his disciples: "*I shall see you again, and your hearts will be full of joy, and that joy no one shall take from you.*" After sorrow can come joy. After the dark cloud passes, sunshine will come again. That cloud can be very dark indeed, but the joy that Christ promises for us who put our faith in Him, who trust in him, is a joy of a far superior nature to anything the world can offer.

Sometimes it feels that sorrow will never turn to joy. How can it, after such an experience, for all those who have lost loved ones in such a horrible way? But if we do not look for the light we will never see it. And Jesus is the Light of the World. It is He who dispels that deep, thumping pain in our hearts. In Christian joy there is no tinge of sadness, no sense of imperfection. It is perfect and complete in and of itself. Joy, along with peace, is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, after all!

Also, in Christian joy, all the pain that went before is forgotten. This life is full of pain, and unanswered questions, hard questions, often starting with "Why?" We must walk by faith, not by our senses. And it is only in the fullness of time, and in the presence of God that we will find out the answers. Trust in the Lord. He not only has the answers; He is the answer.

We pray for all those killed or injured in Manchester last Monday.

St. Mary's, Viewfield Sq., Portree, Isle of Skye,
IV51 9HB
Tel: 01478 613227
Website: www.rcskye.org
Email: frwmaclean@yahoo.com

RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles, Charity Registration No. SC002876



OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION Parish Newsletter

7th Sunday of Easter, Year A
28th May 2017

SUNDAY MASSES

BROADFORD:
6pm Vigil

MONDAY,
10:30am, Portree

PORTREE
Sunday 10 am

TUESDAY,
No Mass

DORNIE
Sunday 12:45pm

WEDNESDAY,
No Mass

THURSDAY,
No Mass

CONFESSION
before and after Mass
And on request

FRIDAY,
1pm, Portree

NEWS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Julie Anne Reynolds and Ryan Johnston, who were married in St. Maolrubha's, Broadford, yesterday. We wish them every blessing in their married life together.

As a parish community, we join in solidarity and sympathy with all those involved in the terrible tragedy in Manchester on Monday, and especially with the people of Barra, so sadly affected by it. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eilidh Macleod, and for a full and speedy recovery for Laura MacIntyre.

This Sunday is Communications Sunday, and there will be a Special Collection which will go to the Bishops' Conference for, among other things, the Scottish Catholic Media Office. Please, no pink envelopes this week.

I will be on retreat in Pluscarden from Monday until Thursday. You may still be able to get hold of me on my mobile (07717 022492), but the best way to contact me is by phoning the abbey, (01343 890257).

Congratulations to the winners of the May draw of the 200 Club: 1st, Heather Innes, Broadford (£50), 2nd, Lewis Irving, Barra (£30), and third, Roman Campbell, Barra, (£20). There are still a few spare numbers, if you would like to join.

Mgr. Tom Wynne will be celebrating his Diamond Jubilee of priesthood on 15th June, and he will retire from active ministry on that day. The deanery has suggested we have a special collection for him, so next Sunday's Second Collection will be for him.

I would like to call on a few people, when they have some spare time, to sort out the clothes that continue to come in for the refugees. Then I will be able to take them over to Conon Bridge in the next few weeks when I have time. Also, thanks to those who brought in items for the food bank recently.

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.

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

Entrance:	53	Be thou my vision
Offertory:	48	Be still and know I am with you
Communion:	345	O bread of heaven
Recessional:	220	I'll sing a hymn to Mary