Parish Bulletin, St Mary's Inverness

30 Huntly St, Inverness, IV3 5PR
Tel: 01463 233519 (*All Parish Matters*)
01463 231837 (*St Joseph's School*); 07738 291961 (*Hospital Emergencies*)
07311 498993 *(Non-Emergency Hospital visits)* 07988 670997 (*St. Vincent de Paul Society)*
Email: stmarysinverness@rcda.scot
highlandyouth@rcda.scot *(Youth Matters)*

Parish Clergy Laurence Gambella (*Priest in Charge*)
Patrick Darbyshire (*Deacon*); Graham Cumming *(Deacon)*

Administration Carol MacLean (*Finance*); Eddie Docherty (*Music*);
Christine Cameron (*Safeguarding*).

Sunday 18 January	**2nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR** **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins**	**Mass 09.00** **Mass 11.00** **Mass 18.30**
Monday **19 January**	2nd Week of the Year	**Confessions & Rosary 11.30** **Mass 12.00** **Adoration 12.30**
Tuesday **20 January**	Memorial of St Sebastian	
Wednesday **21 January**	Memorial of St Agnes	
Thursday **22 January**	Memorial of St Vincent	
Friday **23 January**	2nd Week of the Year	
Saturday **24 January**	Memorial of St Francis De Sales **(Bishop Hugh presiding)**	**Confessions & Adoration 09.45** **Mass 10.30**
Sunday 25 January	**3rd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR** **Sunday of the Word of God** **Second collection for Lepra**	**Mass 09.00** **Mass 11.00** **Mass 18.30**

Children's Liturgy at the 11am Mass

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

+ SICK +

+ Ann Cameron + Isobel Kelly + Roddy Corbett + Marjory Trace + Lennie Stirling +
+ Heather Taylor + Justyna Tymecka + Teresa Graczykowska + David Reid +
+ Danuta Jaskolka + Jakub & Emily Akacki + Sr. Anne Marie + Jane McMaster +
+ Bogdan Sikora + Ralph Stewart +

+ ANNIVERSARIES +

+ Cecil Mann + Jack Biggs + Helen Shaw + William MacPhee + Unity Stillie +
+ Kazik Hewelt + Stephan McQueenie + Catherine Keel + John Corrigan +
+ Patrick Judge + George MacLennan + Christina Roden + Anne Murray +
+ Nora Biggs + Jean McCulloch + Francis McDermott + Terrance Rhodes +
+ Jessie Stewart + Anthony (Tony) Grady + James McMuraugh + Mary McKenna +
+ Margaret MacDonald +

We continue to pray for our Seminarians

Anh Tuan Nguyen, Rene De Los Reyes & Richard Webster

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: Special prayers will be said each day at Mass during the week of Christian Unity. There will also be an Ecumenical service involving all the local Christian Churches at St Stephen's Church on Wednesday 21st January at 7pm. Please make it a priority to attend to show how important it is for Catholics to be part of the Ecumenical community.

Saturday 24th January: A day for Catechists from around the Diocese. Bishop Hugh will preside at 10.30am Mass. We have promised to provide lunch for the participants, and we now have someone to cook the meal but volunteers to serve the food and wash up afterwards would be welcome. The day is open to anyone who is involved in or interested in Catechesis, if this is you or if you are able to help with lunch please speak to Fr Laurence.

Also on that day: Vigil Mass at Stratherrick at 4.30pm. Thanks to Chris Gehrke for setting up a preliminary Stratherrick FaceBook page.

RCIA: The next meeting will be on 19th January at 6.30pm in the Marian Room. During January those who have not yet been baptised, received communion or been confirmed will be invited to consider whether they may like to do so at the Easter Vigil.

Lepra: Next weekend there will be a second collection for Lepra. Please also see the poster at the back of the Church which gives further details of the work they do.

Back porch of Church: The back porch has now been re-floored after many months of waiting for a suitably skilled and available operator. We are sure that you agree that it now looks lovely. Outwith Mass times please be aware that the back porch and door are now alarmed.

Youth Groups: Will continue on Friday 23rd January. This week's input will be led by Fr Max, our Dean.
Youth Events for 2026:
JPII Boy's Retreat – S3-6 20 – 22 February – Tomintoul
S2-3 'Power of Grace' Retreat - 6 – 8 March – Tomintoul
S1-aged 15 Generation Hope Camp – 8 -12 June venue to be announced
Please contact Sr Angela Marie to register for these events – op@rcda.scot

PPC and Fabric & Finance meetings: These will be held before Lent in the first week of February, Fabric & Finance on Thursday 5th February and PPC on Tuesday 10th February. Both meetings at 6.30pm following Mass at 6pm. Fr Laurence will be sending individual invitations to both meetings.

SSVP Ceilidh: On Saturday 14th February in St Mary's Hall. 7.30pm for 8pm start. Tickets £10 to include 1 drink and a light bite to eat! Raffle prizes will be most welcome – even unwanted Christmas presents! Please support this social event.

Lent: will be upon us before we know it! Please see details of the Station Masses below:
Friday 20th February – St Lawrence, Dingwall Friday 27th February - St Mary's, Nairn
Friday 6th March – St Aidan's, Aviemore (Bishop Hugh presiding)
Friday 13th March – St Vincent's, Tain
Friday 20th March – St Martin's, Ullapool (Bishop Hugh presiding)
Friday 27th March – St Mary's, Inverness
All Masses commence at 7pm

During this time of Lent a list of small but important jobs need to be done around the Parish. As with last year at Stratherrick, it would be a fitting act of almsgiving to volunteer to help with these.

St Joseph's Enrolment: Please be aware that if you wish your child to attend St Joseph's in the next academic year, enrolment will be in February. It is extremely important that we support our Catholic school so if you have a child of primary school age, please seriously consider sending your child to St Joseph's even if it is not your local school.

Sunday Meal Service: a reminder that the meal service continues each Sunday – please advertise this as widely as possible. We are very grateful to the Rotary Club of Inverness and Culloden and Caring and Sharing Inverness for their generous donations to the meal service.

Carfin Pilgrimage: It is hoped to organise a Parish Pilgrimage (plus anyone from other Parishes) to Carfin as part of our Lenten preparations and also to coincide with our Patronal Feast of the Annunciation. This will take place on Saturday 21st March. A coach will be provided and a light lunch for an approximate cost of £30. Please register your interest as soon as possible and for those who might struggle with the cost, please speak to Fr Laurence.

Hall Bookings: the hall is an extremely important part of our parish life and also provides a lot of income for other things. We really need a dedicated person to take overall responsibility for the bookings and administration of the hall. If you feel you may be able to do this individually or as part of a small team, please speak to Fr. Laurence in the first instance.

Volunteers in general: At the beginning of a new year perhaps this is an opportunity to volunteer for one of the many jobs within the Parish – for example, Reader, Pass Keeper, Member of the choir, church cleaning, sacristan, teas & coffees, meal service etc. If you are willing, and able, please contact the office.

Nativity Figures: This year we realised that the Nativity figures are generally in a very poor state and well before next Christmas we hope to replace the inside figures and purchase new figures for outside, so that once again we can have a publicly visible crib.

A huge 'Thank you' to those who donated to the Christmas collections. £875 has been donated to each of the following: Mary's Meals; Aid to the Church in Need and Fr Marcin Krzemien. Fr Marcin is hugely grateful for the support and has booked several sessions of rehab. He is remembering us in his prayers.

Parish Finances: If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aid for any contributions to the parish. For further information about Gift Aid please speak to Carol. If you wish to make any payments or donations to the parish, cheques should be made out as follows:

RCD – Inverness St Mary's

Collections: 11/01/2026 £899

Many thanks for your generosity to the Parish