

Parish Bulletin, St Mary's Inverness

30 Huntly St, Inverness, IV3 5PR

Tel: 01463 233519 (*All Parish Matters*)

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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*); Christine Cameron (*Safeguarding*).

Sunday 15 February	6th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Mass 09.00 Mass 11.00 Mass 18.30
Monday 16 February	6 th Week of the Year	Confessions & Rosary 11.30 Mass 12.00 Adoration 12.30
Tuesday 17 February	Memorial of the Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	
Wednesday 18 February	ASH WEDNESDAY (Day of Fasting and Abstinence) Both Masses in the Church	Mass 10.00 Mass 19.00
Thursday 19 February	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	Confessions & Rosary 11.30 Mass 12.00 Adoration 12.30
Friday 20 February	Friday after Ash Wednesday (Day of Prayer for Those who have Suffered Abuse)	
Saturday 21 February	Saturday after Ash Wednesday Memorial of St Peter Damian	Confessions & Adoration 09.45 Mass 10.30
Sunday 22 February	1st SUNDAY OF LENT Second collection – SPUC White Flower Appeal	Mass 09.00 Mass 11.00 Mass 18.30

Children's Liturgy at the 11am Mass

Tea and Coffee in the parish hall after the 11am Mass

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

+ SICK +

+ Ann Cameron + Isobel Kelly + Roddy Corbett + Marjory Trace + Lennie Stirling +
+ Heather Taylor + Teresa Graczykowska + David Reid + + Danuta Jaskolka +
+ Jakub & Emily Akacki + Sr. Anne Marie + Jane McMaster + Ralph Stewart +
+ Graham Grant + Leila Molona-Allen +

+ ANNIVERSARIES +

+ Jessie Duncan + Patric Sharkey + Alice Ewing + Anne Marie Grout +
+ Maureen Duncan + Alan Budd + John McDonald + Kathleen Robertson +
+ John Paterson + Marjory Grant + Margaret Herraghty + John McDonald +
+ Anne MacLean + Christopher Bruce + James Kennedy + James Charles MacNeil +
+ Christopher Fallon + Helen Smith + William Barons + Jean Morrison +
+ George Masson + Catherine Noble + June Millar +

+ R I P +

+ Justyna Tymecka + Bogdan Sikora +

We continue to pray for our Seminarians

Anh Tuan Nguyen, Rene De Los Reyes & Richard Webster

We pray in particular for **Rene De Los Reyes**, who will be ordained as a Deacon on Monday 16th February in London. Yesterday, 14th February, **Bishop Richard Moth** was consecrated as Archbishop of Westminster. Bishop Richard is well known in this diocese as an oblate of Pluscarden Abbey and the former Bishop of Fr John Allen.

This week we heard the very sad news that Justyna Tymecka died after a long illness. Justyna was a wonderful person and extremely prayerful, often spending hours in prayer on her own in church. She was also very generous, providing a lot of the fresh flowers on display, paying for the renovation of the statue of Our Lady at the rear entrance, the crucifix and the St Joseph statue in the Marian room and the refurbishment of the large St Joseph statue in the church. Having suggested that she choose a patron saint to pray for her in her final weeks, Justyna chose Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich, hence the special request for prayer as few weeks ago. And she died ...on Blessed Anne Catherine's feast, 9th February, a sign that Justyna is on her way quickly to Heaven. Although Justyna is being buried in Poland, it is important that we remember her here at St Mary's. A Memorial Mass will be said at 1pm on Saturday 28th February, at which Justyna's mother will be present, followed by refreshments in the hall. As a result the morning Mass on that day will be cancelled. Also, on 9th February the father of our cleaner Ania and father-in-law of PJ, previously our site manager, died in Poland. Please pray for the repose of Bogdan Sikora's soul too.

RCIA: Please note that there will be no RCIA sessions for the following two Mondays. The next meeting will be on Thursday 26th February at 6.30pm

Fr Laurence will be absent for much of the next two weeks. On Monday 16th his parents will celebrate their diamond wedding anniversary, 60 years of marriage and, after Ash Wednesday here, he will have a few days break. Fr Anil will celebrate most of the weekday Masses but a number of other priests will also be helping out.

A new resident priest for Orkney has been announced, Fr Andrew Kingham, from St Andrews and Edinburgh Diocese who will take up residence on 5th Sunday of Lent. We are delighted to welcome him to the deanery.

Forthcoming 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

Important health and safety matter: It has been noticed recently that some parents have been allowing their young children to access the aisle between the extension and the main church during Mass, even playing around the roped off War Memorial area and causing the barriers to fall over. There is a real risk of injury – for which we would be liable - and damage to one of our original, very fragile stained-glass windows. Similarly, it is not a good idea to allow children to play around the candle stand at St Joseph's statue. With lit candles, there is a danger of being burnt, or were the candle stand to be pulled over, a more serious risk of permanent scarring or fire. Please ensure that children are closely supervised at all times and remember that there is the children's liturgy during the first part of the Mass!

Defibrillator – We are delighted that just over £2,000 has been raised through very generous donations to cover the cost of purchasing a defibrillator, together with the cost of installation and training of personnel in the use of it. Having experienced a member of the congregation suffering a cardiac arrest during Mass in a previous parish and the sad experience of Christine Clifford, our former assistant sacristan, it seems obvious that the parish should have ready access to such a life-saving device. For every minute defibrillation is delayed, survival chances drop by up to 10%, so even if an ambulance were to take 5 minutes, a defibrillator would provide a 50% better chance of survival.

Parish first-aiders Relatedly, the parish needs to update its list of named first-aiders. We have a number of medical professionals in the parish, so please consider volunteering to ensure that at all Masses, at least on Sundays, there is someone on hand to deal with a medical emergency. Fortunately, such occurrences are very rare, but when they happen, it is vital to have appropriately qualified personnel on hand.

Part II of the Study Course – What We Believe continues on Wednesday 25th February in St Columba's at 7pm.

Thanks to all who attended the screening of the Mass from St Mary's celebrated by Fr Birrell. The TV coverage has now been firmly dated to 1981. A very enjoyable evening was had by all and it was wonderful to see Canon Stone and many familiar faces from the parish, many of whom are no longer with us. For anyone who wishes a copy of the film, please bring a memory stick to the presbytery.

PPC meeting: This was held on Tuesday 10th February. Many thanks to all those who attended another rather long meeting! If you would like a copy of the financial report, there are some copies available at the back of the church.

Please find a list of Lenten works at the back of the church. If you are willing and able to help out, please sign up and we will get back in touch with you about days and times.

Please see details of the Friday Station Masses below: If anyone can provide transport for these Masses, particularly those further afield, please contact the office.

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

Carfin Pilgrimage: We have organised 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 has been booked and a light lunch will be provided for an approximate cost of £30. If you have indicated an interest please leave your name and contact number with either Carol or Trish or on the form at the back of the church as soon as possible. For those who might struggle with the cost, please speak to Fr Laurence.

Vigil Mass at Stratherrick at 4.30pm on Saturday 28th February.

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

RCD – Inverness St Mary's

Collections: 08/02/2026 £1125

Heating: £692

Many thanks for your generosity to the Parish