

Parishes of Our Lady of the Assumption & St Maolrubha, Isle of Skye & St Duthac's, Dornie Parish Review 2023



It's only when you sit down to look back on the year that you realise just how much has happened!

It has been another year when I have been blessed to be with you in our parishes and wider community.

Inside our review, you will see some of the things that have taken place and the special celebrations that it has been a privilege to be part of.

This year a number of our parishioners have contributed a piece to our review. I'm sure like me you'll enjoy finding out more about them and I thank those who have taken the time to do this.

Our Parish Pilgrimage in June to Rome and Assisi will live long in the memory and there is a flavour of this wonderful time within these pages.

2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. The Holy Father has called for a daily renewal of the "joy and commitment" of being men, women and children of prayer.

The fruits of our prayer can be seen throughout these pages and so we move into the new year with confidence – one Body, one Spirit in Christ.

With prayerful best wishes and sincere thanks,

Fr. Ronald

Our year in pictures



Emma Burrows is received into the Church in April



Confirmations in April

First Holy Communions in May

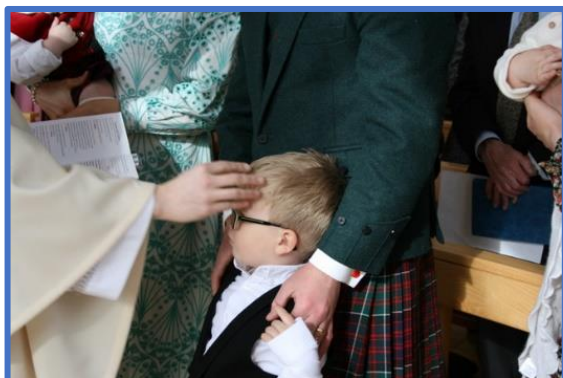


Online Sacraments

Our children prepare for the Sacraments in online classes with other children from across the Diocese.



An extra special Easter
Sunday with 3 baptisms!



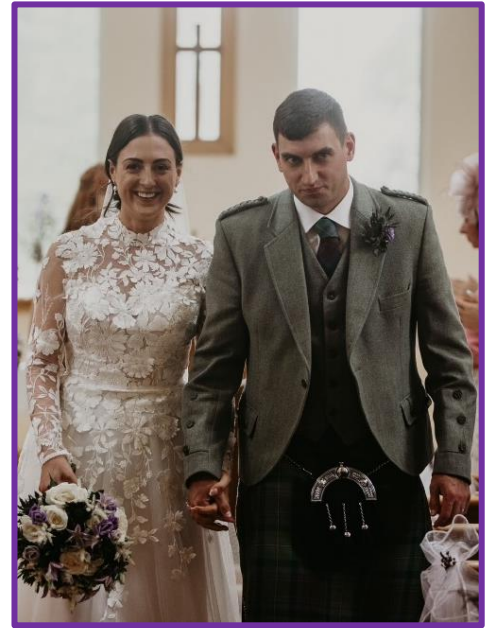
Sylvana's Baptism in August



Daniel & Jenny's
Wedding in June



Ryan & Stephanie's
Wedding in August



Whole Parish
Day in August



Birthdays!





Parish Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi

5th – 12th June



Pre-pilgrimage meal – The Parish that eats together, sticks together!



Mass at the tomb of St Peter

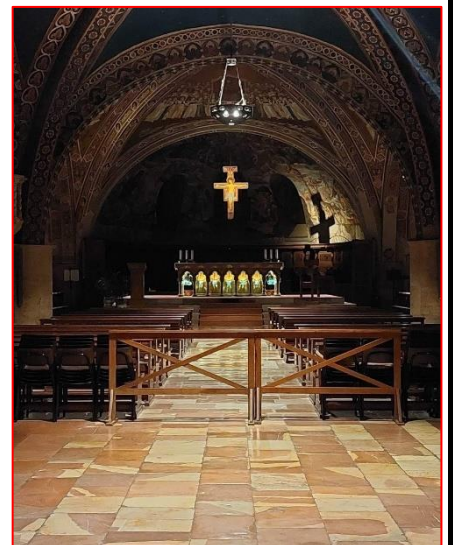
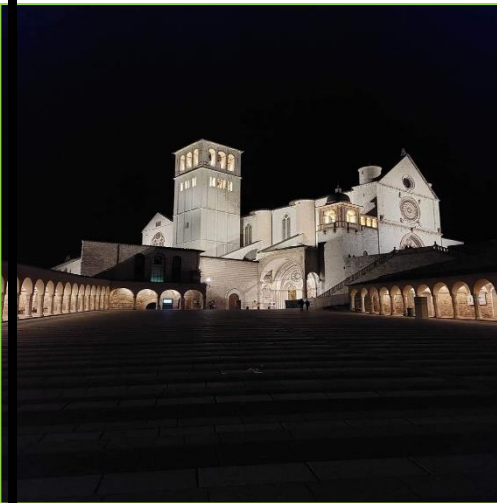


Representing Scotland at the Papal Audience



We were blessed to be able to celebrate Mass together in lots of beautiful churches





Einstein
meets his
match!!



The Cross of San Damiano
in Assisi

Meet Our Parishioners – Helen Gilpin

I was brought up in Tarbert, Loch Fyne. There were 3 Catholics in our school, my sister and I and one other boy whose family owned the café. We went to St Margaret's in Lochgilphead, which was a 28 mile round trip every Sunday morning. I left Tarbert at 17 ½ yrs old to go to the bright lights of Glasgow to do my nurse training, when shifts allowed I attended St Peter's Partick or St George's, Penilee with my Auntie Mary.

I left Glasgow in 1993 and moved to Skye, I got married to John later that year having met him couple years previously while on holiday in Skye. We have 3 grown up sons who all live locally and 2 amazing grandsons, who keep us on our toes. I have had a variety of nursing jobs on Skye in 2 hospitals and in the community. I had the privilege to be a Marie Curie nurse for 10 years.

I started in Community Children's Services in 2003 and had a variety of roles within the service. At present I am Team Lead for the West health team, this includes Gairloch, Ullapool and Lochaber. I spend quite a bit of my time in my car and love nothing better than a good crime audiobook to pass the miles.

I was privileged to complete a nine month leadership and development course and complete my Queen's Nurse award in 2021.

Volunteering is important to me and I have been involved in Guiding, Scouts and sports.

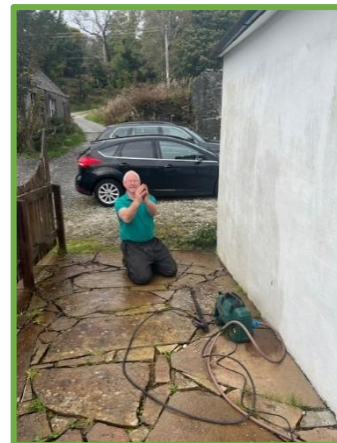
My Parish life is very important to me, and I feel lucky to be part of a vibrant and friendly Church. I have a couple of roles within the Parish, I am Safeguarding Coordinator which involves regular training, meetings and discussions. I order for the piety stall and always keen to hear what people want ordered. I often help with the teas on a Sunday morning, which is a great social activity.

If I do find myself with free time, I enjoy walking and meeting up with friends. I'm always happy to meet for a coffee!





St Maolrubha's clean-up in September!



Daniel and Madeline are a great help at the Vigil Mass in St Maolrubha's!



Children's Mass in March



Parish Walking Group



'Our Lady of the Bay'

An original artwork by Donnie Munro, gifted to the Parish this year.



Skye Island Chorus and South Chorus rehearsing for up and coming concerts in 2024, including a performance of Mozart's Requiem at St Mary's on Friday, 12th April.

Meet Our Parishioners – Monica Abringe

As a little girl, going to Church was always enjoyable for me; I was a part of Children's Church groups that had us all doing fun activities every Sunday, as well as yearly activities like Easter egg hunts during Easter! Not to mention the things I was a part of in school, like being the head of the choir group for our school's Chapel. I was especially excited during events like my First Communion when they were about to take place! Needless to say, I often found myself involved with Church when I was younger.

This was all years ago before I moved from the Philippines, up until I was eleven years old. Now, at seventeen years old, I realized how much more I cherish God and Church than from when I was younger. I'm at the edge of my teenage years, I will only get busier and busier and will soon have to face adulthood, but I don't think I could have made it this far without my faith in God. Either after days of studying for an exam, or if it was a busy day at work, I'll always have Mass to look forward to; to give my thanks to our Lord for the opportunities he has given my family and I, as well as listening to our prayers when we needed him the most. I am always grateful when I am given the opportunity to give back the Church whenever possible, like reading during Mass. My faith to me means that God has a plan, not only for myself but for everyone to succeed. I know that everything happens for a reason, and that despite all the obstacles and hardships, you will be rewarded for everything you have accomplished.

Meet Our Parishioners – Gavin Scott Moncrieff

Throughout most of my life I have had the challenge of living and working not only far from a Catholic Church, but often on a separate island. This involved a ferry crossing either for us or the local parish priest. Given the ferry schedules in the olden days Sunday Mass was never an option except if we were storm bound and had to stay on the mainland!

However, the priests involved did make a real effort to get to the islands involved as often as they could.

Since coming to live and work in Skye we are still more than 20 miles from the church. Though this is a difficulty shared by many other parishioners in Skye and the Highlands.

Though being able to drive to Mass on Sundays, as well as attending other church services, is a such a bonus and joy. We can now take part in the local Catholic community together with our Parish Priest in Portree on a regular basis.





A fond
farewell to
Peter



Christmas
Craft Day!



Soup and
Pudding
afternoon

The Skye Quilters meet every
Monday at St Mary's from 12.30pm
to 3.30pm. All most welcome.



Our Music Ministry

We are blessed to have an abundance of talented and dedicated musicians in the parish who put in hours of work behind the scenes throughout the year. Their commitment allows us to offer a sung liturgy every weekend.

Grace, Maureen, Shona and Jeannie meet regularly with Fr. Ronald to plan the music for each season of the liturgical year. We review what we've done – what's worked and what hasn't – and everyone offers suggestions that might be worth exploring. The team are always very good at humouring Fr. Ronald with his requests!!

In St Maolrubha's, we now have 2 Cantors, John and Didi, who sing our psalm at the Vigil Mass.

We also have a very willing congregation, who participate wonderfully and get up to speed extremely quickly with the new pieces of music that are thrown at them!

And our music ministry is expanding! At various points in the year our children and young people have added their musical gifts and talents to our liturgy which is always extra special. We hope to include them and other parishioners more in 2024.



This is what the Lord asks of you, this, only this: to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God.

Meet Our Parishioners

Marsali & Maeve – Parish Altar Servers



'Hello! My name's Marsali. I'm a 10-year-old girl who helps out at church as an altar server along with my best friend Maeve. I live in Bernisdale with my Mum, Dad and cat Toby. I also have two older brothers - Domhnall who is living in Barra with my grandparents. He's currently waiting to turn 18 so he can live his dream of working on a boat. And Innes, who lives in Edinburgh, studying History and Politics. He is living in his own flat which is huge and is handy to use as a hotel! Some things I like are green, pandas and meatballs!'

Hi my name's Maeve and I'm ten years old. I live in Borve near Portree. I have been going to St Mary's church all my life. I live with my Mum, Dad and two brothers, Paddy and Somhairle. Paddy is eight years old and Somhairle is twelve, but I'm not going to say my Mum and Dad's ages. We have two kittens as well, Misty and Sooty.

I altar serve with my best friend Marsali. Marsali and I have different jobs. We light the candles before the start of Mass. To start Mass, Marsali rings the bell which is at the back of the church and everyone stands up. Then I lead the way, carrying the cross, ahead of Deacon Tony, Father Ronald and Marsali. When Father Ronald says "Let Us Pray" Marsali carries a book called "the Missal" up so that he can say a prayer out of it.

Marsali also has a job that she must bring a bowl of water up to Father Ronald and pour some on his hands. I have a job in the middle of Mass where I have to ring the bells four times. This happens because it is a very important part of the Mass. After that we receive Holy Communion. At the end of Mass, Marsali and I put out the candles. We call the thing that we put out the candles with "the snuffer- outer". We have teas and coffees and cake after Mass.

I love being a part of St Mary's church. All the people that go to it are soooo nice and it's a bonus that I get to altar serve with Marsali as well!

Meet Our Parishioners

Marsali & Maeve – Parish Altar Servers



'Halo! 'S mise Marsali, tha mi 10 bliadhna a dh'aois agus bith mi a cuideachadh air an altair anns an eaglais comhla ri mo charaid Maeve. Tha mi a' fuireachd ann am Bearnasdal comhla ri mo mhàthair, m'athair agus mo chat Toby. Tha cuideachd dà bhràthair agam, aon, Domhnall a tha a' fuireachd ann am Barraigh – tha e a' feitheamh gus am bith e 18 agus 's urrainn dha ag obair air bàta. Dha, Innes, tha esan a' fuireachd ann an Dùn Eideann ag obair air Eachdraidh agus Poileataigs 'san oilthigh. Tha flat mòr aige fhèin a tha gu math cuideachail mar taigh osda! Beagan rudan mu'm dheaidhinn – 's toil leam uaine, pandas agus meatballs!

Is mise Maeve agus tha mi deich bliadhn' a dh'aois. Bidh mi a' fuireach ann am Borbh, faisg air Portrigh. Tha mi a' fuireach còmhla ri m'athair, mo mhàthair agus mo dhithis bhràithrean — Somhairle agus Paddy ach chan eil a' dol a dh'innse dè an aois a th' aig mo phàrantan! Tha dà phiseag againn cuideachd, Misty agus Sooty.

Bidh mi a' fritheadh air an altair còmhla ri mo charaid as fheàrr Marsali. Tha diofar obraichean againn. Bidh sinn a' lasadh nan coinnean aig toiseach an aifhrinn agus bidh Marsali a' seinn nan glag. An uairsin bidh mise a' coiseachd leis a' chrois air thoiseach air Deacon Tony, Maighstir Ronald agus Marsali. Nuair a tha Maighstir Ronald ag ràdh “Dèanamaid ùrnaigh” tha Marsali a' toirt dha an leabhar. Feumaidh Marsali bobhla uisge a thoirt suas gu Maighstir Ronald. Tha obair agamsa ann am meadhan an aifhrinn far am feum mi na glagan a sheinn ceithir tursan. Tha seo a' tachairt air sgàth 's gu bheil e na phàirt glè chudromach den aifhrinn. Às dèidh sin bidh sinn a' gabhail comanachadh. Aig an deireadh, bidh mise agus Marsali a' sèideadh a-mach na coinnean. Cleachdaidh sinn “snuffer-outer” airson seo.

Bidh tì is cofaidh againn aig deireadh an aifhrinn.

Is toil leam a bhith nam phàirt den eaglais againn. Tha a h-uile duine cho snog agus tha e na bhuannachd dhomh gu bheil mi a' fritheadh air an altair còmhla ri Marsali cuideachd! 😊

Meet Our Parishioners – John Taylor



I was born and brought up in Hamilton, Lanarkshire.

I have always been of the Christian faith, however, I am not a “cradle Catholic” converting to Catholicism after moving to Skye 13 years ago.

I live in Lower Breakish and attend St Maolrubha's in Broadford where I play an active part in the Church and Community. It is such a beautiful and simple wee church which reminds me of San Damiano in Assisi and indeed my Secular Franciscan fraternity in Culloden celebrated the Feast of St Francis in St Maolrubha's this year in October.

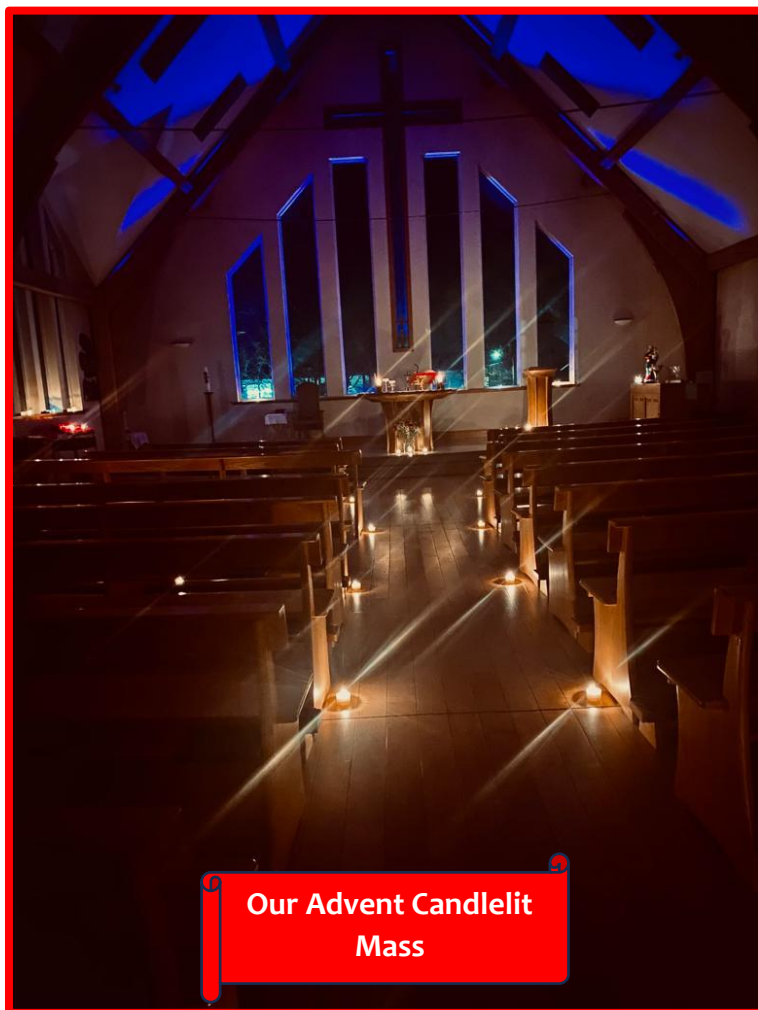
Since becoming Catholic I took a real interest in the life of Francis and through a friend started to attend Secular Franciscan meetings in Culloden where the San Damiano Fraternity meets. After two years of Formation I was formally professed as a member 5 years ago and in September this year I was elected as Minister of our Fraternity. Recently we have formed a Friends of San Damiano group which meets on the last Friday of each month in Portree after morning Mass to which all are welcome.

I am also part of the Bishop's working group on Led by the Spirit which encompasses 4 clergy and 5 lay people from different parts of the Diocese.

Our parish is such a friendly close-knit community which is a privilege to be part of and our Parish Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in the summer was a wonderful week which was a great bonding experience.

For more information about the Friends of San Damiano Secular Franciscan Order contact John on: 01471 820 382. Email: jl.taylor090@btinternet.com





**Our Advent Candlelit
Mass**



In Memoriam

Our Parishioners who died this year

Anne Holmes

Asher Lewis

Eileen Smith

Imogen MacDonald

Jamie Tinney

**Eternal Rest Grant unto them, O Lord and
let perpetual light shine upon them, may
they Rest In Peace. Amen.**

**May their souls and the souls of all the
faithful departed, through the mercy of
God, Rest In Peace. Amen.**

2024 – Dates for your diary

1st & 2nd March – Parish Retreat

Saturday, 16th March – Children's Mass

**Sunday, 1st September – Skye whole Parish
Mass & Social**

Saturday, 2nd November: St Mary's Clean-up

**Saturday, 30th November: Soup & Pudding
Afternoon – Dornie Hall**

**More events will be announced throughout
the year!**

Holydays of Obligation 2024

Thursday, 9th May – Ascension of The Lord

Sunday, 30th June – St Peter and St Paul

**Thursday, 15th August – The Assumption of
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Friday, 1st November – All Saints Day

Wednesday, 25th December – Christmas Day

Other notable dates in 2024

Ash Wednesday: 14th February

**Chrism Mass – Wednesday, 20th March in St
Columba's Cathedral, Oban**

Holy Thursday: 28th March

Good Friday: 29th March

Easter Sunday: 31st March

Contact Us

Parish Priest: Fr. Ronald Campbell

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Anthony Livesey

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IV51 9HB

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Isles – Skye**

Account number: 65626953

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**Scan the Skye Parish QR Code for a single,
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Our Lady of the Assumption RC

Dornie Parish Bank Account Details:

Account Name: RCD Dornie St Duthac

Account Number: 00879175

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Thank you for your support!