

Parish News

Betty Lawrie

Betty Lawrie died on Tuesday. I offer the sympathies and prayers of the parish to her and to her family. Betty's funeral will be held on Tuesday. May she rest in peace.

Personal Development Course

Sarah Boles is running a Personal Development taster course. The course runs from 1st November through to mid-December. If you're interested, then you will find a link on the Glencoe parish website.

Celebrate Together Scotland

Celebrate Together Scotland are providing a number of talks. Magnus MacFarlane will give a presentation on Mission and then there's a further talk on Family.

If you would like to know more, please let me know.

Pope Francis Faith Award

There will be a Pope Francis Faith Award session (on Zoom) for P7s on Wednesday at 4.00 p.m. There will be a session for P6s next week.

Minimising the Risk

There are now more cases of the coronavirus in our area. I ask you all to follow the set guidelines in order to protect yourselves and others. Along with the laws and guidelines given by the Government I encourage you to look at the advice given by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland on: -

<https://www.bcos.org.uk/COVID19/tabid/127/Default.aspx>

If you can pass on information to parishioners who don't have access to this newsletter, then please do so.

Tracing

Please ensure that your name and contact details are given and recorded when you attend Mass.

Collection

Taynuilt – we raised £165.00 plus £75.00 from Standing Orders giving a total of £240.00.

Ballachulish and Kinlochleven raised £215.20 and £5.00 from Standing Orders. We also raised £215.00 from donations and £20.00 for Missio Scotland. This gives a total of £455.20g.

Many thanks to you.

The pandemic has hit our parish finances very badly and if you are able to help by making a Standing Order either weekly, or monthly, it would be very much appreciated. We bank with the Coop Bank, Sort Code – 83 91 25 account number 65627583 (Glencoe) and 65628113 (Taynuilt) or use the new 'Donate' button on our website.

The Visitation, Taynuilt and St Dun's, Ballachulish & The Good Shepherd, Kinlochleven

18th October 2020 – 29th Sunday (A)

Mass times for the coming week

Monday	6.00 p.m.	29 th Week of the Year Reception of Remains of Betty Lawrie
Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt – 29 th Week of the Year
	1.00 p.m.	Requiem Mass for the soul of Betty Lawrie
Wednesday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 29 th Week of the Year
Thursday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 29 th Week of the Year
Friday	10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt – 29 th Week of the Year
Saturday	6.00 p.m.	29 th Week of the Year Kinlochleven – Vigil Mass
Sunday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 30 th Sunday
	10.30 a.m.	Taynuilt – 30 th Sunday
	11.30 a.m.	Taynuilt

Confession

Taynuilt – at any time on request

Ballachulish – at any time on request.

Divine Office – Vol 3. Week 1

Weekday readings: 29th Week of the Year

Please remember the sick of the parish in your prayers.

We remember all the faithful departed in our prayers. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.



“Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.”

RC Diocese of Argyll and the Isles. Charity registration number - SC002876

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WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON?

There seem to be two realms, God's and Caesar's. Jesus says so in Sunday's Gospel: "Give to God the things that are God's and to Caesar the things that are Caesar's."

Which realm do we live in?

Are we "Sunday Catholics," giving to God maybe an hour per week at Mass and then getting on with television and cars and work and food? And maybe with being afraid? Or with wishing things had turned out better? Do we leave it to professionals to pray to God while we live a lesser life? Have we given our life to Caesar?

Or do we try it the other way around?

Perhaps we are so serious about Christianity and spirituality that we try to get away from enjoyment of any worldly thing so as to live uncorrupted. Through the history of Christianity there have been marvellous examples of this. The desert hermits. The cloistered nuns and monks. The great mystics. "A penny for Caesar and all the rest for God"?

If you push this statement too far, however, everything of Caesar must go away because it is not God, or on the other hand, God has to go away because science and secularism are so powerful.

Maybe Jesus made his statement to settle the argument that was posed to him by the Pharisees. Here is a key. Can God and Caesar co-exist? What if you are created to be a channel for God's presence right in the midst of the secular world?

What if, in spite of the voices within you that say you are not worth much, in spite of the setbacks of life, the losses, the flatness, in spite of all these, what if God created you with room inside you where God, out of love for you, can be quietly present?

I can hear objections to such an idea: "God would never be at home in me, not until I do a lot better with my life." Or, "You want me to be some kind of nut, running around acting holy?" Or, "Sure, I want to let God in, but I like beer and TV too much." Or, "What does all this have to do with real life?" Or simply, "I don't want to."

But what if God were a great friend? In fact, how would it be if God were a companion who truly and actually accepts you and forgives you completely whenever you need it? Wouldn't this give you another way to look at the connection between heaven and earth?

Wouldn't it mean that God put you and me into the world to be holy in it, to be friends with the things of Caesar? To work in the world of sin in spite of our own sins?

Could it be that we ourselves are those "things that belong to God" that Jesus spoke of? "Belong," not in a possessive way, but in the way felt by people who love and are loved. We "belong." If this were so, why wouldn't we want to give ourselves to God, and then also to bring our God-filled selves to Caesar's palaces and to the dirty roads outside them and show everyone what Jesus is all about?

Which realm should we live in?

Both.

John Foley, SJ

<https://liturgy.slu.edu/29OrdA101820/reflections.foley.htm>