

A very warm welcome to all visitors.

Parish News

Mass for Monday and Tuesday

Sorry to swap things about for Monday and Tuesday Mass; it's to allow my car to go for an MOT on Tuesday. Let's hope that it's OK for Wednesday and Thursday.

Penitential Service

There will be a Penitential Service in Taynuilt on Friday evening at 6.00 p.m. Confession will be available.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for the duration of the service.

Advent Group

The Taynuilt group, following an Advent prayer and discussion programme, will be meeting on Monday evening at 7.30 p.m. For further details please text Ros on 07913 233 329.

Christmas Plays

Duror Primary School are holding their Christmas Play on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Please see the poster at the back of the church for further details.

Ballachulish Primary School are holding their End-of-Term Service in St Mun's at 2.00 p.m.

Taynuilt Parish Meeting

There will be a meeting for parishioners after Mass on Sunday. This will allow you the opportunity to voice any concerns that you may have.

Kinlochleven Community Carol Service

There will be a Community Carol Service in Kinlochleven Parish Church, this Sunday at 6.30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Messy Church

There will be a Messy Church event in Kilchrenan Village Hall on Wednesday from 4.00 – 6.00 p.m.

Advent – preparing the church for Christmas

In both Taynuilt and Ballachulish, there are Cribs and other preparations to make for the coming of the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord. I do appreciate any help that can be given.

Collection

Ballachulish – The collection raised £131.50 of which £106.50 was gift aid + £5.00 from Direct Debits, giving a total of £136.50. We also raised £98.49 from the sale of votive candles.

Taynuilt – The collection raised £272.22 of which £45.00 was gift aid + £15.00 from Direct Debits, giving a total of £287.22. There was also £5.00 for the building fund.

Many thanks to you.

The Visitation, Taynuilt and St Mun's, Ballachulish & The Good Shepherd, Kinlochleven 3rd Sunday of Advent (A) 15th December 2019

Mass times for the coming week

Monday	10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt – In the 3 rd Week of Advent
Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – Feria by date
Wednesday	10.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Ballachulish – Feria by date Duror Primary School
Thursday	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Taynuilt – Feria by date Craig Lodge
Friday	10.00 a.m. 2.00 p.m.	Ballachulish – Feria by date Ballachulish Primary School end of term service
Saturday	6.00 p.m. 10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt - Penitential Service Taynuilt – St John of the Cross - Memorial
Sunday	6.00 p.m. 10.00 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	Vigil Mass – Kinlochleven Ballachulish – 3 rd Sunday of Advent Taynuilt

Confession

Taynuilt – before Mass on Saturday, or Sunday
Ballachulish – 9.30 – 9.50 a.m. on Sundays
and at any other time on request.

Divine Office – Vol 1. Week 3 with proper of season, or of the date (from Tuesday 17th)

Weekday readings: for the 3rd week of Advent

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.



The Gifts

I have a new watch, an inexpensive one.

The old one had worn out. This new one had something I like very much, a second hand. I can watch the seconds tick by and I can “time” anything I want to.

Who wants to time things?

Well I do, especially when I get caught by a traffic light that changes to red just as I pull within a half a block. I glance at my wrist to see just how long the light sits on red. Some of them last—listen to this—a minute and fifteen seconds!

Imagine having to sit with nothing to do when you are late and in a hurry, with a mechanical device deciding for an entire minute and a quarter the second when you are allowed to go on!

As you can see, I need to put on some patience.

The second reading for Sunday says it this way:

See the farmer await the yield of the soil.

He watches it in winter and in spring rain.

The farmer is attentive and tolerant because crops do not come up in a day. He has learned patience through many seasons.

How about those of us who are not farmers? How do we “put on” patience?

I think there are two parts to the answer.

First, I have noticed that when I am being impatient I am also failing to notice what is happening in the present time. I am stuck in the future worrying about what will occur and how to make it happen; about where I am supposed to be by now; and how the light will not let me go.

And a lot of us reside in the past instead of the present. We re-hash mistakes we made and finally think of a retort that would have topped someone's nasty remark, and so on.

The present moment is the only one we actually live in. The precious goodness of God makes everything exist right now, not tomorrow or yesterday, which are only memories or projections. We will miss the present by looking backward or forward too much.

Second, we need to recall that God makes the future safe. God has promised that, in ways we cannot understand, the crooked will be made straight. Our gnarled lives will be filled with goodness.

Patience is really a way of remembering the constant love of God, no matter how frightening or disconcerting the future may seem or may actually be. We need to slow down, look around, and live.

Think about Mary's “be it done unto me,” her lifelong daily prayer, her nine months, her place at the cross. Notice that, when the angel gave her the annunciation, she did not demand guarantees and full details. She relied on God's love. She waited.

And, the Second Person of the Trinity, alive to earth's ways, waited until it was time to come into the world as Jesus. Then when he sensed that he was hungry, he suckled at his mother's breast, burping only when the occasion presented itself, not before. And think of his years of being just a carpenter day after day. God's beloved, making a chair!

But that is Advent.

Christ is with you. His presence needs to grow.

Just open. Watch for the signs.

Patience, people.

John Foley, SJ

Liturgy.slu.edu/3AdvA115119/reflections_foley.html

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

Fr Roddy Johnston, St. Mun's, Brecklet, Ballachulish, PH49 4JG

Telephone: 01855 811 203. Mobile: 07775 924 965.

E-mail: ballachulish@rcdai.org.uk – Website: www.catholicchurchglencoe.org.uk For Taynuilt, email taynuilt@rcdai.org.uk