

A very warm welcome to all visitors.

### Parish News

#### Safeguarding Audits

It's that time of year when all parishes have to complete their Safeguarding Audits. So, a time to thank our Parish Safeguarding Coordinators and all our volunteers for their help, work and commitment.

These Audits are completed by every parish across Scotland and help to provide Action Plans that will help us all to provide more carefully considered safety for all in our parishes.

#### School Assembly

There will be a school assembly at Ballachulish Primary School on Friday.

#### Collection

Taynuilt – we raised £82.10, of which £42.00 was Gift Aid, plus £152.90 from Direct Debits, giving a total of £235.00.

Ballachulish – we raised £222.95, of which £85.85 was Gift Aid, plus £265.00 from Direct Debits, giving a total of £487.95. We also had a donation of £56.90.

Many thanks to you.

**“If you hope to succeed in whatever you do, place your trust totally in God's providence. Think of the little child walking with her father. One hand clings tightly to his, but with the other she gathers fruits from trees along the way. Imitate the child. With one hand go ahead and gather what you need of the world's good things, but with the other hold on to your heavenly Father, checking regularly whether or not he approves of what you are doing with your life. Above all beware of letting go of your father to free up both your hands to gather more of the world's goods. You will find that by yourself you stumble and fall.**

**Turn your mind to God as often as you can. Like the sailor returning to port, look to the sky and not just to the waves that carry you.”**

*St Francis de Sales*

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

19<sup>th</sup> January 2020 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Year (A)

### Mass times for the coming week

Monday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of the Year
Tuesday	10.00 a.m. 12.15 p.m.	Taynuilt – St Agnes - Memorial Craig Lodge
Wednesday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of the Year
Thursday	10.00 a.m.  12.15 p.m.	Taynuilt – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Week of the Year Craig Lodge
Friday	9.30 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish Primary School Ballachulish – St Francis de Sales - Memorial
Saturday	10.00 a.m.  4.00 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Taynuilt – The Conversion of St Paul – Feast Ballachulish - Baptism Vigil Mass – Kinlochleven
Sunday	10.00 a.m.  12.30 p.m.	Ballachulish – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year 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 2

#### Weekday readings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of the Year (2)

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.



## Failure

The First Reading gives us something rare in Scripture: a dialogue between God the Father and the Messiah he sent. But if you look at the verse numbers of our First Reading, you will see that Verse 4 has been omitted.

The preceding Verse 3 is God's line to the Messiah. my way of phrasing it would be, "you are my servant, and you will be a spectacular success; people will be able to see the glory of God by looking at you."

All that success came only after the death of the Messiah.

This is a powerful expression of praise and affirmation, isn't it?

But guess how the Messiah responds to God in the omitted Verse 4?

In the first of his two lines in Verse 4, the Messiah says (in my way of phrasing it), "I have labored in vain. I have used all my strength, and it has all been for nothing."

This line is a powerful expression of failure, isn't it?

You can see why someone might have thought Christ's mission was a failure. The people passing by Christ on the cross certainly didn't see the glory of God in him then! And by the time of his death, the work of Christ's life had come only to this: he had a handful of disciples and a few women as hangers-on. If the goal was to bring salvation to the world, you can see that this result would look like total failure.

But here is the gist of what God says in Verses 5-6, in response to the Messiah's expression of failure in Verse 4:

You are glorious in the sight of the Lord, and God is your strength. Just saving Israel is too small a success for you; you will bring salvation to all the ends of the earth.

The first communities of Christians and all the apostles were Jewish. By now there are Christian communities in every non-Jewish part of the earth, too. And so Christ's mission to bring salvation to the Jews and the Gentiles was a glorious success, as in the First Reading God predicted it would be.

But all that success came only after the death of the Messiah.

Our success, like our glory, needs to be through God's strength, in God's sight, and in God's time. And that is why, in the second of his two lines in the omitted Verse 4, the Messiah says, "my judgment is with the Lord, and my work is with my God."

Eleonore Stump

[https://liturgy.slu.edu/2OrdA011920/reflections\\_stump.html](https://liturgy.slu.edu/2OrdA011920/reflections_stump.html)