

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.

Burial at Appin

On Tuesday there is to be a burial of the mortal remains of Janet (Janie) Geddes, in Appin cemetery at 1.00 p.m.

May she rest in peace.

Ballachulish Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council of Ballachulish/Kinlochleven will meet on Monday evening at 6.30 p.m.

I am very grateful to the work that the Parish Council does for all of the parishioners in Glencoe parish.

School Assembly

There will be a school assembly at St Bride's Primary School on Friday at 1.30 p.m.

Collection

Taynuilt – we raised £70.50, of which £41.50 was Gift Aid, plus £15.00 from Direct Debits, giving a total of £85.50. We also raised £5.00 for the Building Fund.

Ballachulish – we raised £262.00, of which £90.00 was Gift Aid, plus £108.20 from Direct Debits, giving a total of £370.20. We also had a donation of £464.25 and £20.00 from Rag Bag collection.

Many thanks to you.

“Let us learn from John the Baptist not to assume we already know Jesus . . . contemplating an icon of Christ, a ‘Holy Face’. Let us contemplate with our eyes and yet more with our hearts, let us allow ourselves to be instructed by the Holy Spirit who tells us inside: ‘It is He.’”

Pope Francis

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

26th January 2020 – 3rd Sunday of the Year (A)

Mass times for the coming week

Monday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 3 rd Week of the Year
Tuesday	10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt – St Thomas Aquinas - Memorial
	1.00 p.m.	Funeral in Appin
Wednesday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – 3 rd Week of the Year
Thursday	10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt – 3 rd Week of the Year
	12.15 p.m.	Craig Lodge
Friday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – St John Bosco – Memorial
	1.30 p.m.	St Bride's School
Saturday	10.00 a.m.	Taynuilt – 3 rd Week of the Year
	6.00 p.m.	Vigil Mass – Kinlochleven
Sunday	10.00 a.m.	Ballachulish – Presentation of the Lord
	12.30 p.m.	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

Weekday readings: 3rd 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.



Divided Hearts, Divided Church

By Isaiah's account, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing." We Christians take that as a prophecy not only about Christ's coming, but also about his people. And yet so often in the life of the church, Christ is divided into pieces, and the song of his people is cacophony. Divisions afflict the various Christian tribes. The rod of the taskmaster, which Jesus was to smash, is wielded by factions who think they have cornered Christ.

In the Catholic church, it often goes like this: I am for Ratzinger. I am for Rahner. I am the Pope's. I am for protest, I'm for restoration. I'm for reform. I'm for women. I'm for tradition.

We're forgetting something: Has Ratzinger or Rahner saved us? Is it the Pope who has been crucified for us? Have we been baptized in the name of tradition or of change?

Paul begs the Corinthians, in the name of Jesus, that there be no factions among them: "Rather be united in mind and judgment." But what unites them if they share no common ground? What unifies the formation of their judgment? It is evident that the reported "quarrelling" in the church at Corinth was based upon divergent commitments to someone or something other than Jesus. That's what was splitting them apart.

The factionalist, whether of Paul's time or our own, "belongs" to someone other than Jesus. Some think that Paul has the truth. Others cling to Apollos. Others pledge their allegiance to Peter. Yet Paul will have no truck with this line of thought.

"Has Christ, then, been divided into parts? Was it Paul who was crucified for you?" Our baptism, through the gifts of tradition and law, ritual and order, is the sign of our salvation; but the salvation is found in Christ, no one, no thing else. Other voices that offer us another saviour speak the worldly language of power and privilege, not the way of the cross, which to them seems inadequate and foolish.

In Matthew's Gospel Jesus leaves Nazareth for Capernaum to fulfill the promise of bringing light to the Jordan. He preached that the Kingdom of God requires reform. Indeed it does. So it was for the church of Peter and Paul. So it is for us today.

In the "always reforming" life of the church, at least two principles seem important. First, every one of us, from pope to pauper, from theologian to activist, from grandparent to child, stands humbly before God as a sinner called to conversion and salvation in Jesus Christ. There can be no other ground or principle from which we can approach our various gifts or deficiencies.

Second, it is good to recall the kinds of people Jesus chose for Apostles: from the fishermen brothers Simon and Andrew to Matthew and John, they were all flawed yet graced. They would go on to heal and preach a kingdom that would draw millions to Christ. And what always helped them overcome their differences was the sure knowledge that it was in Christ's name they were fishing, not their own.

John Kavanaugh, SJ

https://liturgy.slu.edu/3OrdA012620/theword_kavanagh.html