

# *Weekly Bulletin*

St. Margaret's, St. Joseph's & St. Finnan's

Parish priest: Fr. Tom Wynne. Tel/fax: 01397-712-238 Mobile 00796-588-598  
e-mail : [frtom@rcroybridge.co.uk](mailto:frtom@rcroybridge.co.uk) Parish web site: [www.rcroybridge.co.uk](http://www.rcroybridge.co.uk)  
Blessed Mary MacKillop web site : [www.gaeldom.com/mmk/](http://www.gaeldom.com/mmk/)  
Weekly Bulletin Online: [www.gaeldom.com/bulletin/](http://www.gaeldom.com/bulletin/)

Sunday September 2<sup>nd</sup>. 2007



## *25th Anniversary of Pope John Paul's visit to Scotland*

Twenty-five years ago last summer, Pope John Paul made his historic and memorable visit to Scotland. He was at Murrayfield, Edinburgh on May 1, 1982, where he met the youth of Scotland, and at Bellahouston, Glasgow, on June 1, 1982, where half a million Catholics gathered to welcome him.

### **Special memorial booklet produced by Scottish Hierarchy to mark the anniversary**

There is a booklet for every family available at the back of the church. Please take one home with you and read it, for it recalls the message that Pope John gave to Scotland, encouraging us to be loyal to the faith of our fathers, and to meet the challenges of the modern world, many of which have become hostile to the teachings of Christ.

A brief resumé of the booklet is given on the next page.

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Pope John Paul being welcomed at Edinburgh airport by Cardinal Gray after arriving in Scotland

## Pope John Paul addressing the General Assembly

"We are only pilgrims on this earth, making our way towards that heavenly Kingdom promised to us as God's children. Beloved brethren in Christ, for the future, can we not make that pilgrimage together hand-in-hand, "bearing with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience," doing all we can "to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds us together"? (Eph. 4, 2-3) This would surely bring down upon us the blessing of God our Father on our pilgrim way."

*The Hierarchy comments: We wish to draw inspiration and encouragement from the experience which we lived through and recognise again the insight and wisdom in the words spoken to us by Christ's Vicar on earth.*



Pope John Paul meets the representatives of different churches in front of the General Assembly buildings in Edinburgh

## Pope John Paul address the youth of Scotland

"Do not let the sight of the world in turmoil shake your confidence in Jesus. Not even the threat of nuclear war. Remember his words: **"Be brave: I have conquered the world"**. Let no temptation discourage you. Let no failure hold you down. There is nothing that you cannot master with the help of the One who gives you strength.... You are the heirs to a sacred heritage. Your forefathers have handed on to you the only inheritance they really prized, our Catholic faith! From heaven their heartfelt appeal to you would be this: "Set your hearts on the kingdom of God" (Lk 12,31)

## To the crowds at Bellahouston Park he said:

*In a passage of enormous significance he spoke clearly about the challenges we were then about to face, and continue to face today:*

"We find it harder to follow Christ today than appears to have been the case before. Witnessing to him in modern life means a daily contest ... As believers we are constantly exposed to pressures by modern society, which would compel us to conform to the standards of this secular age, substitute new priorities, restrict our aspirations at the risk of compromising our Christian conscience."

## In words which ring more true today than ever he said:

"The spirit of this world would have us capitulate on the most fundamental principles of our Christian life. Today as never before, the basic doctrines of the Faith are questioned and the value of Christian morality challenged and ridiculed. Things abhorred a generation ago are now inscribed in the statute books of society! These are issues of the utmost gravity to which a simple answer cannot be given; neither are they answered by being ignored. Matters of such magnitude demand the fullest attention of our Christian conscience. Your commitment to the sure ways of Christian living could well be decisive in bringing salvation to many. The world still recognises genuine goodness for what it is."

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**Congratulations** to the team representing Roy Bridge and Spean Bridge schools in winning the *Fraser MacPhee Memorial trophy* in a hard fought final against Banavie school last Sunday at Aonach Mhor. The annual event, held every year in memory of a keen young player, attracted teams from most Lochaber primary schools, and is organised by the shinty coaching committee.

The winning goal was scored by young Kirsty MacDonald, Aonachan Gdns, Spean Bridge, in the closing minutes, and she was declared the heroine of the game. Well done, everyone!

## Anniversaries

We remember the soul of **Mgr Hendry** in our prayers this weekend, His seventh anniversary was on Tuesday, feast of St. Augustine. The 11.30 a.m. mass today will be said for the repose of his soul.

He was ordained by Archbishop Campbell in 1947, and served as an assistant at St. Mun's, Dunoon, for three years. In 1950, he became

parish priest of St. Columba's, Kingussie, where he remained until 1961. He was appointed to Roy Bridge where he remained until his retirement in 1991. He spent the rest of his days with the Sisters of Nazareth in Aberdeen, until his death on August 28, 2000.

He was 87 years of age.



**John Hawke:** Mass will be said on Wednesday evening for John whose anniversary is at this time.

*May their souls rest in peace*

## Children's Catechism

We hope to get classes for the children underway very shortly. There was difficult in finding someone to countersign the *Disclosure Act* which must be completed by everyone involved with children or vulnerable adults. This has now been done, and we will organise the classes within the next week.

I am grateful to our parishioners who have volunteered to help and are prepared to give some of their time each week to instruct our children in the faith.

We will let the parents know very shortly about the arrangements

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Congratulations to **Ronald MacLennan and Louise Paton**, both from the Brechin area, who were married in St. Margaret's last Saturday. Ronald is the son of Duncan and Mary MacLennan (Kennedy). His mother belonged to Bohuntine, and he is called after his late grandfather, Ronald, who is still remembered with great affection by many in Roy Bridge. It was nice to see his aunt Morag from Rannoch and her family among the guests, and of course his uncle Donnie, who has been a good friend to him.

The young couple were blessed with a beautiful day for their wedding, and a large number of relations and friends, among them a good number of the rugby team that Ronald's plays for, travelled over from the east coast for the wedding. The bestman and bridesmaid came all the way from New Zealand, and they have asked Ronald and Louise to do the same for them when they get married next February. We wish the young couple every blessing and happiness in their new life together. They are hoping to set up home in Guthrie, near Montrose.

## Priests Assembly in Oban

The annual meeting of the bishop and clergy of the diocese takes place in Oban this coming week on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Among the items to be discussed are:

- 1) Liturgy and Music,
- 2) Priestly Formation and Vocations to the priesthood and religious life
- 3) Christian Formation
- 4) Diocesan finance.

**There will be no mass in Spean Bridge on Tuesday morning**, as the meetings begin with mass in the Cathedral at 10 a.m. at which all the clergy will be present.

## Gridlock nightmare!!!

The traffic jams in Fort William over the past week have caused motorists immense frustration: appointments have been missed; people arrive late for work, shops half empty.....



**Fort William is the gridlock capital of the world as well as the Outdoor capital!**