



# Our Holy Redeemer, Stornoway Ar Fear-Saoraidh Naomh, Steòrnabhagh

Canon William Maclean  
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**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year B**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2021**

**Mass Times:**

Feasts this week

Monday, Sts. Philip and James, Apostles.

**Saturday Vigil 6pm**

**Sunday 11am**

**Sunday 6pm**

**Wednesday 12:30pm**

**Saturday 12 noon**

**Daily Masses on other days celebrated privately in the parish**

**Church open:**

**15 mins before Masses**

**Confessions: Available on appointment**

**Collection:**

**Offertory £126  
Votives £14**

**S.O.: £415.00**

St. Philip, who appears a few times in the Gospels and in the Acts of the Apostles, spread the faith in Greece and Turkey, being martyred in about 80AD. St. James is the one who wrote the letter that is in our New Testament, and he is the 'other' St. James, not the brother of John. He was Bishop of Jerusalem, and was martyred there in 62AD.

Last week we had a total of 62 people over the four weekend Masses. This is the most we have had since Easter. The busiest was, as expected, Sunday morning, with 28 people. The other Masses were at about the 11-12 mark. I think it is worth mentioning this as it gives you a picture of how busy we are especially if you are still unsure whether it is safe to return to Mass. Please remember that there is still no obligation to go in person to Mass.

Bishop Brian has stopped live-streaming Sunday Masses, as he has begun to travel round the diocese to visit parishes. He was in Lochgilphead last week, where there is a new priest, and is in Barra this weekend.

Bunter and Rona are offering a good brown leather sofa to a good home; it is 215x88x90cm. If you are interested, please let me know.

A couple of weeks ago I sent you the bishops' letter about the Scottish election. We are very blessed to live in a country with free and fair elections, and no pressure on us to vote one way or another. My concern is that there is no single party that represents the views of the Catholic Church, and so there will always be an element of compromise in the way we vote. Is protecting our environment as or more important than the life of the unborn? Should we give more weight to social justice or equal opportunity... and so on. Vote with your conscience, but please vote.

I am sticking to the system of Wednesdays and weekends for public Mass, and will do for at least another month. I am still not ready to restart Mass in Harris, as we do not have our own premises and the issue of shared spaces is one I am concerned about.

I have been working on the Gift Aid this week, submitted the claim on Friday. I calculated a claim of £5850 which is lower than last year, but not by as much as we were fearing when we locked down last spring. People have been very generous, and so many have switched to Standing Orders, it has helped a lot, so my sincere and heartfelt thanks for that. If you still need a Gift Aid form, I have printed some out. You will also need a new one if you have moved address.

**"Let us remember the poor, and not forget kindness to strangers; above all let us love God with all our soul and might and strength, and our neighbour as ourselves"**

St. Athanasius (Memorial May 2nd)

Confession	On appointment only,
Divine Office	Week 1
Sunday readings	Acts 9:26-31, Ps 21 1 Jn 3: 18-24, Jn 15:1-8
Weekday readings	Fifth week of Easter