



The Arts Society Highland  
SC045266

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**The Arts Society Highland  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Academy  
Street, Fortrose  
Fortrose Academy**

### **Exhibition of Artwork 7<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

You are cordially invited to an exhibition of 15 pictures by S1 students of Fortrose Academy being shown in St. Andrew's church from Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December. The church is open daily.

The artwork is representative of the windows and objects the young people saw on a recent visit to the church. Their colourful interpretation is inspiring and praiseworthy.

Visitors and parishioners are invited to choose their favourite artwork and place their vote in the box at the back of the church. During the morning service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December Father Mel will announce the 3 top winners and they will each receive a Young Arts certificate from The Arts Society Highland.

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019  
Diana Hamilton-Jones  
The Arts Society Highland – Young Arts

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**If today was not a Sunday we would be celebrating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her birthday being 9 months from today. All part of God preparing the way for Jessu' incarnation. We will celebrate the Feast tomorrow in the Cathedral... Here are some thoughts for the Day...**

**A sermon by St Anselm of Canterbury**

**O Virgin, by whose blessing all nature is blessed!**

Blessed Lady, sky and stars, earth and rivers, day and night – everything that is subject to the power or use of man – rejoice that through you they are in some sense restored to their lost beauty and are endowed with inexpressible new grace. All creatures were dead, as it were, useless for men or for the praise of God, who made them. The world, contrary to its true destiny, was corrupted and tainted by the acts of men who served idols. Now all creation has been restored to life and rejoices that it is controlled and given splendour by men who believe in God.

The universe rejoices with new and undefinable loveliness. Not only does it feel the unseen presence of God himself, its Creator, it sees him openly, working and making it holy. These great blessings spring from the blessed fruit of Mary's womb.

Through the fullness of the grace that was given you, dead things rejoice in their freedom, and those in heaven are glad to be made new. Through the Son who was the glorious fruit of your virgin womb, just souls who died before his life-giving death rejoice as they are freed from captivity, and the angels are glad at the restoration of their shattered domain.

Lady, full and overflowing with grace, all creation receives new life from your abundance. Virgin, blessed above all creatures, through your blessing all creation is blessed, not only creation from its Creator, but the Creator himself has been blessed by creation.

To Mary God gave his only-begotten Son, whom he loved as himself. Through Mary God made himself a Son, not different but the same, by nature Son of God and Son of Mary. The whole universe was created by God, and God was born of Mary. God created all things, and Mary gave birth to God. The God who made all things gave himself form through Mary, and thus he made his own creation. He who could create all things from nothing would not remake his ruined creation without Mary.

God, then, is the Father of the created world and Mary the mother of the re-created world. God is the Father by whom all things were given life, and Mary the mother through whom all things were given new life. For God begot the Son, through whom all things were made, and Mary gave birth to him as the Saviour of the world. Without God's Son, nothing could exist; without Mary's Son, nothing could be redeemed.

Truly the Lord is with you, to whom the Lord granted that all nature should owe as much to you as to himself.

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