



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
Tel: (01463) 794619 / (01463) 233519
e-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
website: <http://www.stcolumbasculloden.org>
Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

10TH APRIL 2016
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41

Psalm: Ps 29: 2, 4-6, 11-13

2nd Reading: Revelation 5: 11-14

Gospel: John 21: 1-19

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 10 April	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am
Tuesday 12 April	Tuesday of the Third Week of Eastertide	Mass	7.30pm
Wednesday 13 April	Wednesday of the Third Week of Eastertide	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 14 April	Thursday of the Third Week of Eastertide	Mass	7.30pm
Friday 15 April	Friday of the Third Week of Eastertide	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Saturday 16 April	270th Anniversary of the Battle of Culloden	Mass for the Dead	11.00am
Sunday 17 April	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY - (Second Collection: Seminarians' Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am

Third Sunday of Easter: The Paschal Mission

In today's Gospel we hear that when Peter recognised the Lord, he got out of the boat and "sprang into the sea". At this point in time we still have that elation of the Vigil, of the Easter Alleluia, and it's easy to identify with Peter's excitement. Perhaps we too felt a similar giddiness in the early hours of the morning after the Vigil. Perhaps we felt that somehow the news that Christ is risen had made just a little more impact this year.

After Peter's elation comes the calm, a certain normality resumes, even in the presence of the risen Lord. The disciples and Jesus have breakfast, just as we have gone on doing the normal things of life, mundane things that seem somewhat removed and unaffected by the elation of Easter. But of course, this is no ordinary breakfast.

If we cast our minds back, we remember that we watched Peter deny Christ three times. Here, he makes three professions of love, three confirmations of his faith. I wonder if we can identify ourselves with Peter's Easter journey? We're people who, on some occasions, have denied the Lord. We have said and done things which say "I do not know Him", rather than "I love him". Here we are now, in Eastertide, and we too have the chance to put right our past wrongs, by saying that we love the Lord.

And we can do much more than that; we can do what he asks of us. When Peter says yes to Jesus, he's immediately given a mission. Likewise, part of the growth for us as Christians is not just that we stop denying the Lord in various ways but also that we say that we love the Lord and that we act out that love, by accepting the mission that Christ gives us.

But the mission might take us to places that we would rather not go. It is clear from today's Gospel that Peter will be required to undergo a similar death to the one which Jesus suffered. Most of us will not suffer a similar fate, but nevertheless we may well end up outside our 'comfort zone'. If we find ourselves in such a situation, then we need to take courage by looking back to the excitement of the news of the Resurrection.

It's this excitement that will bring us alive in the face of the challenges of the mission. We have the mission and we carry it out because Christ has risen, and nothing could be more important than that.

Perhaps the most striking thing about this passage is not found in Peter's confession with his tongue, but in his actions when he recognises the Lord, in the fact that he got out of the boat and "sprang into the sea." Discipleship doesn't just require us to be able to say we love the Lord. It means sharing in Peter's excitement about the Resurrection. We need to have that same elation as Peter, the elation of realising that sin and death have been conquered.

If this reality sinks in that little bit deeper in us, what effect might it have on the more mundane aspects of our lives? Shouldn't it make us look at things differently? The good news of the Resurrection raises us out of the pickle we so often get ourselves into, renews our whole being, and gives us a mission. Let's get excited about what the Resurrection has done for us, and go out into the world and let that good news spread. (Fr Robert Gay OP).

GENERAL NEWS

Gabriel Society (continuing adult faith formation)

Tuesday 12 April: “The Social Teaching of the Catholic Church” – St Mary’s, Marian Room, 7.30pm.

Beaully Spring Fair, Saturday 16 April 2016, 10.30am-2.00pm: St Mary’s Parish in Beaully are holding their annual family fun ‘Spring Fair’ next Saturday. Everyone is welcome to join the parish for a fun-filled day.

PARISH NEWS

**** AMORIS LAETITIA (THE JOY OF LOVE) ****

Pope Francis’ new document, on Love in the Family, brings together the results of the two Synods on the Family convoked by Pope Francis in 2014 and 2015. This teaching document, known as a Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, is striking both in terms of its length and its detail (some 264 pages, with over 325 paragraphs arranged in 9 chapters). **It can be read on the St Columba’s website,** together with a summary of the document and other relevant articles. Please do check it out!

Forthcoming Scottish Parliamentary elections: please see the letter on the notice-boards, produced by the Bishops’ Conference of Scotland, about our duty and responsibility to vote in the forthcoming parliamentary elections.

‘Faith in Film’ Evening: Wednesday 13 April, 7.00pm – 9.00pm. April’s film is entitled *Life is Beautiful* (*La vita è bella*), starring Roberto Benigni and Nicoletta Braschi. Italian actor Roberto Benigni accomplishes the impossible in his World War II epic *Life Is Beautiful*: he shapes a simultaneously hilarious and haunting comedy out of the tragedy of the Holocaust. An international sensation and the most successful foreign language film in US history, the picture also won 3 Academy Awards in 1998 for director-cowriter-star Roberto Benigni: Best Actor, Best Foreign Language Film and Best Film Music. *Life Is Beautiful* is a moving and poignant tale of one father’s sacrifice to save not just his young son’s life but his innocence in the face of evil. **Please note that the dialogue is in Italian, with English subtitles. Duration: 111 minutes. Certificate PG.**

FIRs (Friends in Retirement): the next meeting will take place on **Thursday 14 April, from 2.00pm.** The Speaker is Chris Hamilton, who will be talking on the subject of ‘Wartime Schooldays’. Members will be showing photos of their schooldays.

270th Anniversary of the Battle of Culloden: Saturday 16 April marks the anniversary of the battle; **a Mass for the Dead will be offered at St Columba’s at 11.00am.**

Good Shepherd Sunday (17 April 2016): Next Sunday – the Fourth Sunday of Easter – is also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We are blessed to have SEVEN men (young and.. young at heart!) who are studying to be Priests in our Diocese. They are as follows:

Deacon Peter Macdonald; Andrew Niski; Emmet O’Dowd; Rafal Sweda; Christopher Doig; Dominic Nwaigwe; Malachy Eze.

Please pray for these men, as they continue to respond with joy to the call of the Lord. **Please pick up a sheet in the foyer, with our Novena (9 days) of prayers and reflections for vocations.** Each of our seminarians should be supported and cherished, and we are lucky to have them; however, we would rejoice to have more! Please do consider offering a daily prayer for an increase in Priestly Vocations to our Diocese. Another way that you can help is to consider a financial contribution to our Diocesan Seminarians’ Bursary Fund. The annual cost to the Diocese of training each Seminarian is around £25,000. This covers their university tuition costs, their accommodation, and their food, books, and travel costs. Our Second Collection next week will be to help with the training costs of these men.

Year of Mercy: Evening of Reflection at St Columba’s: the next of our Year of Mercy Evenings will take place on **Wednesday 20 April, beginning at 7.00 pm.** The format will be as follows: a short talk, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, some quiet time, and concluding with Benediction. This month’s Reflection is entitled: **‘The Corporal Works of Mercy’.** Come and join us!

Sainsburys “Active Kids” Vouchers: St Josephs’ Primary School is collecting Active Kids vouchers to help them to purchase sports and cooking equipment. If you shop at Sainsburys, please pick up these vouchers, and drop them in to our box in the foyer, by 6 May at the latest. Thank you!

Reconciliation and Holy Communion classes:

Thursdays, 5.30pm - 6.00pm. Meet on 14, 21, 28 April.

Confirmation classes:

Thursdays, 6.30pm - 7.15pm. Meet on 21 & 28 April.

Church cleaning: Tuesday 12th April from 4.30pm: Margaret and Don. Anyone able to assist will be very welcome.

“90 Club”: Next Draw on **Sunday 24th April.** You too can be in the draw! If you would like to participate, please ask Don for details.

Prize Bingo: our PRIZE BINGO returns on Friday 29 April. Eyes down at 7.00pm. Thank you to everyone who has donated goods for prizes: without your valuable help, we would not have the success that we do. The following items can be handed in at any time: chocolates, toiletries, wine, spirits, gifts cards and vouchers, boxed biscuits, etc. Thank you for your support of this important fundraiser.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Amelia Drew + John Drew + Cathy Thomson + Marie Coyle + Mary Innes + Leslie Murray + Ian Angus + Rebecca Angus + David White +

Anniversaries: + Francis Black + Peggy Johnstone + Isobel Campbell +