



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

10<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, C**

## Sunday Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Deuteronomy 30: 10-14  
Psalm: Ps 68: 14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Colossians 1: 15-20  
Gospel: Luke 10: 25-37

Date	Details	Service	Time
<b>Sunday 10 July</b>	<b>FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Sea Sunday)</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass</b>	<b>9.00am 9.30am</b>
Tuesday 12 July	Tuesday in the Fifteenth Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Wednesday 13 July	Wednesday in the Fifteenth Week of the Year	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 14 July	Thursday in the Fifteenth Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
<b>Sunday 17 July</b>	<b>SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass</b>	<b>9.00am 9.30am</b>

### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Let God Disrupt Your Plans

Reflecting on the story of the Good Samaritan, Pope Francis said that we must be open to allowing God to intervene in our lives, leading us to deviate from our own arrangements. "I say to myself, and I say to you: do we let God write our lives? Or do we want to do the writing ourselves?" Pope Francis asked. "Be docile to the Word of God ... have the capacity to hear his voice and to listen to it."

During his homily in the chapel of the Vatican's Casa Santa Marta, Pope Francis discussed the story of the priest and Levite who passed by a half-dead man on the road, using them to demonstrate both direct and "sophisticated" ways of fleeing from God. "The flight from God. You can flee from God, being Christian, being Catholic ... being a priest, bishop, Pope ... we all are able to flee from God."

"It is a daily temptation," he reflected. "To not listen to God, not listen to his voice, not hear in one's heart his proposal, his invitation." Pope Francis discussed the priest mentioned in today's Gospel, who passed by the half-dead man – "a worthy priest, precisely in a cassock, good, very good" – who saw the man and thought, "I will be late for Mass." "And he went on his way," Pope Francis said. "He did not hear the voice of God there." Similarly, the Bishop of Rome taught, when the Levite passed by, he considered that if he got involved with the nearly-dead man, he might become part of a court scene, and he too passed on, fleeing "this voice of God."

In contrast to these, Pope Francis said, "one only has the capacity to understand the voice of God, one who habitually flees from God, a sinner" – the Samaritan.

This Samaritan, he said, is "far from God," yet "he heard the voice of God and drew near." He "was not used to religious practices, to the moral life, even theologically he was wrong," because Samaritans worshipped God in a place where God did not wish to be worshipped. Despite all this, Pope Francis said, the Samaritan "understood that God was calling him, and he did not flee." Indeed he spent both his money and time on the man.

Meanwhile, Pope Francis said, "the priest arrived in time for the Holy Mass, and all the faithful were content; the Levite had, the following day, a tranquil day, according with what he had planned to do, since he had not involved himself with the half-dead man."

Why, the Pope asked, did the priest and the Levite flee from God? "Because their hearts were closed, and when your heart is closed, you cannot hear the voice of God. Instead, a Samaritan as he went on his way, saw him and had compassion: his heart was open, he was human. And humanity drew him near" to God.

Pope Francis stressed the importance of being attached to God himself, not to the things of God or to good acts. The priest and the Levite had plans for their lives.. The Samaritan, however, let God write his life. "He changed everything, that night, because the Lord has drawn near in the person of this poor man, wounded, badly wounded, thrown on the way."

"Do you have the capacity to find the Word of God in the story of each day?" Pope Francis asked in conclusion. "Or are your ideas the ones that you hold up, and you do not let the surprises of the Lord speak to you?" (Adapted from a homily of 7 October 2013).

## GENERAL NEWS

**The Gabriel Society – Wednesday 13 July at 7.30pm, in the Marian Room, St Mary's Inverness (32 Huntly Street).** The aim of 'The Gabriel Society' is to provide a facility for the continuing formation of adults in the Catholic Faith and to equip them for mission: to show mercy and to evangelise. **Fr Ghassan Sahoui SJ, former Director of the Jesuit Refugee Services in Aleppo, Syria, will be talking about "The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in Syria".** This will be a discussion about Justice, Peace, and contemporary Christian witness. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings, which usually last about two hours.

**"Youth Rally for Jesus" – Stratherrick, 20 August 2016:** Jesus our Liberator, our Healer, our Friend, our Companion. A Day of Discovery, Adventure, and Devotion, at Stratherrick (IV2 6UL), from 10:00am to 5.00pm. **FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE.** Phone 01463 233519, or e-mail: [stmarysinverness@btinternet.com](mailto:stmarysinverness@btinternet.com).

**Highland Deanery Annual Pilgrimage: Saturday 10 September 2016.** The venue for this year's pilgrimage will be **St Mary's, Beaulieu**. The Principal Celebrant will be **Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB.** Mass begins at 12 noon and is followed by a procession to the old Priory. The pilgrimage concludes with a picnic.

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage, 22-29 October 2016** – Departing from Aberdeen. TOTAL COST: £650.00 (includes flights and half-board accommodation). Deposit of £100 required. Single room supplement: £130. For further details, contact Irma Allan, on (01224) 869889, or 07714 718708.

## PARISH NEWS

**Today's Second Collection: Sea Sunday** – Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them, we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Today's second collection is for Apostleship of the Sea (AoS), the Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. This annual collection is absolutely vital to enable it to continue its work, so please give generously and remember seafarers in your prayers. Thank you. For more information, please visit [www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk)

**Congratulations to Linda and Johnny**, who renewed their Marriage Vows today on the occasion of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Ad multos annos!

**Amoris Laetitia Reading Group:** come along to our informal, relaxed reading group, where we'll explore and share some of the ideas in Pope Francis' new teaching document, *Amoris Laetitia* (the Apostolic Exhortation on Love in the Family). We meet together **on Wednesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm**, Full details on our parish website. If you are interested in taking part in this reading group, contact Fr Domenico at: [stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com](mailto:stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com). Please note that our **next meeting takes place on Friday 15 July**,

and we'll be looking at Chapter 2 (The Experiences and Challenges of Families) and Chapter 3 (The Vocation of the Family).

**Church cleaning** – Tuesday 4.30pm: Gi Gi and Shona. Additional help is always appreciated!

**"90 Club": The next draw is Sunday 31st JULY.** There are a few tickets still available if you would like to join; ask Don for information.

**PRIZE BINGO: Our Fundraiser Bingo will return after the Summer break, in September, on the first Friday of the month.** Non-perishable items can still be handed in, and they will be safely stored until September. Thank you for your generosity and support.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + Leslie Murray +

**Anniversaries:** + Bob Black + Alexander MacKinnon + Kenny Campbell + Lizzy Gardener + George Cameron +

## GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

**The Secular Franciscan Order** meets at 2.00pm on the Second Saturday of each month at St Columba's, Culloden. Contact Helen MacGilp (01463 792149). **Visit [www.ofsgb.org.uk](http://www.ofsgb.org.uk).**

**Prayer and Praise Group** every Thursday in the Lady Chapel at St Columba's, after the 7.30pm Mass.

**Inverness Catenian Circle** meet on the Second Monday of every month, at 7.30pm (next meeting: 11 July). The meeting is followed by dinner at the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045). **Visit [www.catenians.co.uk](http://www.catenians.co.uk).**

**The Knights of St Columba** meets on the first Monday of every month in the Marian Room at St. Mary's, at 7.30 pm (next meeting: 1 August): contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity & fraternity in the local parishes. **Visit [www.ksc.org.uk](http://www.ksc.org.uk).**

**The Parents & Toddlers Group** meets on Wednesdays from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the Marian Room beside St Mary's.

**The Cenacolo Prayer Group** meets every Monday after the 6:00 pm Mass in St. Mary's. All welcome.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)** meets every fortnight, on Sundays, in the Marian Room at St Mary's, at 10.00 am (next meeting: 10 July). Requests for assistance and support can be made by contacting any SVP member or by dropping a note in a SVP collection box. **Visit [www.svp.org.uk](http://www.svp.org.uk).**