



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

11 APRIL 2021:
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
~ DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY ~
(Year B (I); Psalter: Week 2)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35
 Resp. Psalm: Ps. 117 (118):2-4,15-18,22-24
 2nd Reading: 1 John 5:1-6
 Gospel: John 20:19-31

Date	Details	Live-Streamed Liturgies	Time
Sunday 11 April	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY ~ (p. 424 – Year B)	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Monday 12 April	Monday of Week 2 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Francis Black, RIP (Anniversary Yesterday)	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 13 April	Tuesday of Week 2 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Sam Reilly, RIP (Recently Departed)	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Wednesday 14 April	Wednesday of Week 2 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Thursday 15 April	Thursday of Week 2 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Friday 16 April	St. Magnus of Orkney, Martyr Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Saturday 17 April	Saturday of Week 2 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 18 April	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (p. 429 – Year B)	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am

Second Sunday of Easter: Seeing the Lord

In today's Gospel, we hear, over and over, the word "see". The disciples rejoiced when they *saw* the Lord (Jn 20:20). They tell Thomas: "We have *seen* the Lord" (v. 25). But the Gospel does not describe *how* they saw him; it does not describe the risen Jesus. It simply mentions one detail: "He showed them his hands and his side" (v. 20). It is as if the Gospel wants to tell us that *that* is how the disciples recognized Jesus: through his wounds. The same thing happened to Thomas. He too wanted to *see* "the mark of the nails in his hands" (v. 25), and after *seeing*, he believed (v. 27).

Despite his lack of faith, we should be grateful to Thomas, because he was not content to hear from others that Jesus was alive, or merely to see him in the flesh. He wanted to *see inside*, to touch with his hand the Lord's wounds, the signs of his love. The Gospel calls Thomas *Didymus* (v. 24), meaning *the Twin*, and in this he is truly our twin brother. Because for us too, it isn't enough to know that God exists. A God who is risen but

remains distant does not fill our lives; an aloof God does not attract us, however just and holy he may be. No, we too need to "see God", to touch him with our hands and to know that he is risen, and risen for us.

How can we see him? Like the disciples: through his wounds. Gazing upon those wounds, the disciples understood the depth of his love. They understood that he had forgiven them, even though some had denied him and abandoned him. To enter into Jesus' wounds is to contemplate the boundless love flowing from his heart. This is the way. It is to realize that his heart beats for me, for you, for each one of us. Dear brothers and sisters, we can consider ourselves Christians, call ourselves Christians and speak about the many beautiful values of faith, but, like the disciples, we need to see Jesus *by touching his love*. Only thus can we go to the heart of the faith and, like the disciples, find peace and joy (cf. vv. 19-20) beyond all doubt. (Pope Francis, Homily, Second Sunday of Easter, 8 April 2018)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Second Sunday of Easter (p. 424)

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 424: Readings & Proper Prayers

p. 541: The Creed

p. 561: Preface II of Easter: New Life in Christ

p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 631: Communion Rite

Remember one another – Please try to support one another in these challenging times: a phone call to check up on elderly and vulnerable parishioners and friends; a friendly call to see if anyone needs shopping; supporting your local shops and businesses, which will be hit hard from a financial perspective. We are all in this together.

Remember your parish – If you would like to support the maintenance of our parish during this time of lockdown, here are some different ways that the parish can be assisted:

- **A regular Standing Order:** the account details are in the next column opposite, under 'Parish Finances'.
- **Donations in an envelope, put through the church letterbox.** During this period, and for the foreseeable future, any offerings, donations or benefactions to the parish will be paid in to our No. 1 (Running) Account.
- **A re-evaluation of your level of giving.** If every parishioner at Mass gave an extra £5 (two coffees at Costa or Starbucks..), it would make an enormous difference to the future of the parish!!
- **A Bequest,** or gift left in a will, is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Fabric Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

"I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to God's House!" (Psalm 121/122) – St. Columba's is now open for public worship. At present, the maximum seating capacity at Mass is FIFTY souls – which should not be a problem for midweek worship. Fr. Domenico will continue to offer two Masses each Sunday: at 9.30am (which will also be live-streamed) and at 11.00am. To book a seat(s) for Mass, here are the links:

18 April: Third Sunday of Easter, at 9.30am
<https://mass-at-st-columbas-culloden-18-04-2021-0930am.eventbrite.co.uk>

18 April: Third Sunday of Easter, at 11.00am
<https://mass-at-st-columbas-culloden-18-04-2021-1100am.eventbrite.co.uk>

Please note that seats for both Masses will be available to book online from Sunday 11 April, at 12 noon. If you have a problem or query, please contact Fr. Domenico.

SCIAF Wee Boxes – Please your Wee Boxes to St. Columba's as soon as possible. **The last date to hand in boxes is 25 April.** Please remember that if you are a UK

taxpayer, you can gift aid your donation; simply fill out your details on the box. **The UK government will match all donations made.** Thank you for your generosity.

Church Cleaning: Can You Help? – As we reopen our church for liturgies, we need to arrange a cleaning rota. If anyone can spare approximately **one hour per week or fortnight**, please pass your name and a contact phone number to Peter Harkins, who will then contact you to discuss your availability. If we have enough volunteers, then we hope to limit your commitment to fortnightly. Thank you!

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available every day for those who wish to avail themselves. Confessions are heard in the Parish Meeting Room. Entrance is by the back patio door – opposite the entrance to the House. There is a comfy chair for the penitent, near the door, and Fr. Domenico is seated in the other corner of the room, observing social distancing. If you would like to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, simply contact Fr. Domenico to make an appointment.

Light of the North: LATEST EDITION ONLINE!! – To help you celebrate Easter, the Light of the North has 39 pages of news and features by contributors from all over the Diocese. Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB strikes a positive note on "The Road back from Emmaus" (p.3), and Br Joseph Carron OSB reflects on what we can learn from the dreams of St. Joseph (p.12). Also in this issue, Lidia Konar has interviewed some of our Polish parishioners on the "Saving grace of faith during a pandemic" (p.17), Eileen Grant shows how Mary Magdalene's encounter with the Risen Lord takes on a new, immediate significance in this time of Covid (p.20), and on the 700th anniversary of Dante's death, a 'Priest from the Diocese' demonstrates how the poet's *Divine Comedy* continues to prove capable of instilling courage and hope (p.23). To access the magazine, click on the link: <https://bit.ly/3cE3l4g>

90 Club: Next Draw is on Sunday 25 April! Spare numbers are available; only £2 monthly, with three prizes to be won! speak to Father Domenico for details.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Stuart MacLennan, John Macdonald, Patrick Macpherson, Kathleen Macpherson, Marian Ellis, Angela Rogers, Angela Broad, Fr. Simon Lumbela, Ellen Williams, Chris Hamilton, David Munro

RIP: HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Margaret Dow

Anniversaries: Francis Black, Peggy Johnstone, Monsignor Robert MacDonald, Elsie Heinowski, Ruby Bell, Isobel Campbell, Peggy Martin, Bridget Cominsky