



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

Sunday Mass Readings

11th OCTOBER 2015

Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year B

1st Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11

Psalm: 89:12-17

2nd Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13

Gospel: Mark 10:17-30

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 11 October	Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Wednesday 14 October	Wednesday of Wk 28 in Ordinary Time B	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 15 October	St Teresa of Avila – Memorial	Eucharistic Service	19.30
Sunday 18 October	Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: World Mission Sunday)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available every Sunday before Mass, and at any other time upon request.

Mother and son: Pope Francis has a “personal, intimate” devotion to Mary

Although Pope Francis’ devotion to the Mother of God is profound, it is simple in many ways: Mary is a mother to every believer. While the Pope’s connection to Mary clearly is a matter of heart and mind, it is also physical. Whenever Pope Francis passes a statue or icon of Mary, he kisses it or allows his hand to rest tenderly upon it.

Honouring the Mother of God, of course, is a solid part of Catholic tradition and a mainstay in the devotion and teaching of the popes. St John Paul II’s motto, “Totus Tuus” (“All yours”), and the large ‘M’ on his coat of arms, were just the most graphic elements of a devotion that led to a whole body of teaching about Mary, her role in Catholics’ faith life and the importance of praying the rosary. Pope Francis would not have an argument with any of Pope St. John Paul’s Marian piety or discourse. But there are differences. “The sense of Pope Francis’ devotion to Mary is a little more personal, more intimate” than St. John Paul’s was”, said Redemptorist Father Sabatino Majorano, a professor at Rome’s *Alphonsianum* Institute. Pope Francis expresses “that feeling that exists between a son and his mother, where I think Pope John Paul’s was more that of a subject and his queen.” The difference, he believes, comes from their roots: Pope Francis’ Latin roots — not just in Argentina, but also from his Italian family — and St. John Paul’s Slavic, Polish culture. One now-solid Marian custom began during the pontificate of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI: whether or not it is a Marian feast day, a statue of Mary is placed prominently near the altar at papal liturgies.

Pope Francis’ habit of touching images of Mary is a typical Latin American gesture, and it is one that Father Majorano said he saw repeated thousands of times at Brazil’s Shrine of Our Lady of Aparecida, which is staffed by his brother

Redemptorists. “The tactile experience is part of praying. It’s a spirituality that takes flesh, becomes concrete; it is not just an idea or a theory.”

At Mass and other formal liturgical services, Pope Francis uses incense to bless the Marian images. He notices the images and often comments on them. In Caserta, Italy, in July 2014, Pope Francis celebrated the feast of St. Anne, Mary’s mother. A locally loved statue of St. Anne holding the hand of her little girl, Mary, was placed to the side of the altar. In his homily, the pope said, “When I was using the incense, I noticed something very beautiful: The statue of St. Anne does not have a crown, but her daughter Mary is crowned. St. Anne is the woman who prepared her daughter to become queen, to become queen of heaven and earth. This woman did a great job.”

Visiting Naples in March of this year, Pope Francis told priests, nuns, and seminarians that one way to make sure Jesus is the centre of their lives is to ask “his mother to take you to him. A priest, a brother, a nun who does not love Mary, who does not pray to her — I would even say one who does not recite the rosary — well, if you don’t love the mother, the mother will not give you the Son.”

In his official proclamation of the 2015-2016 Year of Mercy, Pope Francis wrote, “Mary attests that the mercy of the son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception. Let us address her in the words of the ‘Salve Regina,’ (‘Hail Holy Queen’) a prayer ever ancient and new, so that she may never tire of turning her merciful eyes toward us, and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her son Jesus.” (Adapted from a report by the *Catholic News Service*, 20 April 2015)

GENERAL NEWS

Canon Duncan Stone: Canon Duncan was a priest widely respected for his gentle holiness, good humour and practical common sense in dealing with pastoral matters. Since his death many people recall stories that illustrate his compassion, his insight, his kindly nurturing and cherishing of people, Catholics and others. If you would like to share any memories, or recollections of your own, please get in touch with Jane MacMaster at her e-mail address: janeruth@btinternet.com. Jane is compiling a dossier of information about the late Canon Duncan Stone as some consider that his holiness of life might merit wider recognition within the Church. The Bishop has approved that a simple gathering of information may take place.

St Mary's October Talks: each Wednesday during the month of October, Fr James Bell will present a 50-minute reflection, with prayer and discussion, in the Marian Room, at St Mary's, from 6.30pm until 7.20pm. The remaining topics are as follows:

Wed 14 October: 'Caritas Christi Urget Nos';

Wed 21 October: The Divine Compassion

Wed 28 October: Apostolic Witness

Ceilidh / Buffet, Saturday 21 November: this event will take place at the Craigmonie Hotel, and is in aid of World Youth Day 2016. Music by "Captain Fantastic". Ticket prices: £20 per person, Children £1 per year; 6 year olds pay £6 / 15 year old pay £15 etc. (*B&B at rate of £60 per room, book directly with hotel*). Tickets now available from Deacon Patrick Darbyshire, Brian and Margaret Lamond, and St Mary's Parish Office.

PARISH NEWS

Christmas Cards and Gifts: we have placed orders with CBC distributors and with the Apostleship of the Sea for festive cards and gifts. Visit our Piety Stall and stock up on shopping for the forthcoming festive season!

Home and Hospital Visits: if you know of anyone who is sick and/or housebound, and who would appreciate a visit from their Parish Priest, please do let Fr Domenico know. Similarly, if you are aware of anyone who is about to go to, or is already in, hospital, then please do inform Fr Domenico. The hospital authorities do not inform clergy, so it is the responsibility of family and friends to do so. Many thanks.

'Faith in Film' Evening: this month's film is entitled "Of Gods and Men" (2010), and will be screened on **Wednesday 28 October, from 7.00pm**. Eight French monks live in harmony with their Muslim neighbours in a monastery near Tibhirine, in the mountains of Algeria, in the 1990s. When a crew of foreign workers is massacred by an Islamic fundamentalist group, fear sweeps through the region. The army offers them protection, but the monks refuse. Should they leave? Despite the growing menace in their midst, they slowly realize that they have no choice but to stay... come what may. **In French with English subtitles.** Certificate 15 (120 minutes).

Parish Pastoral Council: St Columba's PPC will meet on **Thursday 22 October**, after the evening Mass.

Supporting St Columba's – can you help the Parish? We are looking for volunteers to help us with a variety of tasks, including the following: catechists, altar servers, readers at Sunday Mass, hospitality ministry (ushers and helping distribute and tidy away hymn books), kitchen duties, church cleaners. Are you able to offer a little of your spare time to help the Parish? Please speak to Fr Domenico.

Church cleaning this week: Mary and Marie Coyle.

Gardening: Evening gardening is now finished for the season. Very many thanks to our grass cutting and weeding teams for keeping our grounds so beautiful and tidy!

'90 Club': our next draw takes place on Sunday 25 October. There is still time to join in! There are three nice prizes to be won. Would you like to join us? Please see Don for details. Please do take a number – only £2 monthly!

Prize Bingo – 6 November: Eyes down at **7.00pm**. The success of the Bingo evening depends so much on receiving items to give as prizes, so a big "thank you" to everyone for your generosity. **Please do come and support** this fund-raising initiative!

FINANCES

St Columba's no. 1	£ 452.21
(including the Syrian Refugee Emergency Appeal	£ 209.96)
St Columba's Building Fund	£ 408.75
(including the Prize Bingo	£ 348.80)
– Thank you for your generosity and support –	

St Columba's Accounts

General Running Account:	Building Account:
Sort Code: 80-91-26	Sort Code: 80-91-26
Account No: 00809358	Account No. 00809390

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Audrey O'Connell + Anna Black + Peggy Horne + Leslie Murray + Mary Gribben + Michelle Campbell + Claire Macpherson + Des Gair

Anniversaries: Eva Giubarelli + John Campbell

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

The Secular Franciscan Order meets at 2.00 pm on the second Saturday of each month at St Columba's, Culloden. Contact Helen MacGilp (01463 792149). Visit www.ofs.gb.org.uk.

Prayer and Praise Group every Thursday at St Columba's after 7.30pm Mass in the Lady Chapel. Call Brian (01463 790255) for details.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm. Meeting followed by dinner in the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045.) Visit www.thecatenians.co.uk.

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

The Year of Mercy (I): booklets – in order to prepare ourselves for the forthcoming Year of Mercy instituted by Pope Francis, I have ordered a number of booklets from CTS. The booklets contain information on the Year of Mercy, together with prayers and lots of spiritual and practical ideas on how to get the most out of the year. These will be available next month, price only 50p each.

The Year of Mercy (II): evenings of reflection – I will be organising a series of evenings focusing on the Year of Mercy, and will include topics such as:

- What is the Year of Mercy?
- Pope Francis – the Pontiff of Mercy
- The Mercy of God in Holy Scripture
- The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy

More details to follow – watch this space!