



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**12 AUGUST 2018:  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR B**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalm: Ps 33 (34):2-9

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

Gospel: John 6:41-51

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 12 August	<b>NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Second Collection: Building Fund	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 14 August	<b>VIGIL MASS OF THE ASSUMPTION</b> Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Evening Prayer</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b> <b>7.00 pm</b> <b>7.30 pm</b>
Wednesday 15 August	<b>SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> <b>11.00 am</b> <b>11.30 am</b>
Thursday 16 August	Thursday of Week 19 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 19 August	<b>TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b> Second Collection: Building Fund	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>

### Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: “He who believes has eternal life”

This Sunday, we continue the Reading of Chapter Six of the Gospel according to John, in which Jesus, after performing the great miracle of the multiplication of the loaves, explains to the people the *meaning* of that “*sign*” (Jn 6:41-51).

As he had done earlier with the Samaritan woman, starting from the experience of thirst and the sign of water, here Jesus begins from the experience of hunger and the sign of bread, to reveal himself and to offer an invitation to believe in him.

The people seek him, the people listen to him, because they are still enthusiastic about the miracle; they want to make him king! However, when Jesus affirms that he is the true bread given by God, many are shocked, they do not understand, and begin murmuring among themselves, saying: “Do we not know his father and mother? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” (cf. Jn 6:42). And they begin to murmur. Then Jesus says, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him”, and he adds: “he who believes has eternal life” (vv. 44, 47).

This word of the Lord astonishes us, and makes us think. It introduces the *dynamic of faith*, which is a *relationship*: the relationship between the human person — all of us — and the Person of Jesus, where the Father plays a decisive role, and, of course, the Holy Spirit does too, which is implied here. To believe in Him, it is not enough to meet Jesus, it is not enough to read the Bible, the Gospel — this is important! But it is not enough. It is not even enough to witness a miracle, such as that of the multiplication of the loaves. So many people were in close contact with Jesus and they did not believe. In fact, they even despised and

condemned him. And I ask myself: Why this? Were they not attracted by the Father? No, this happened because their hearts were closed to the action of God's Spirit. If your heart is always closed, faith doesn't enter! Instead God the Father draws us to Jesus: it is we who open or close our hearts. Instead, *faith*, which is like a *seed* deep in the heart, *blossoms* when we let the Father draw us to Jesus, and we “go to Him” with an open heart, without prejudices; then we recognize in his face the Face of God, and in his words the Word of God, because the Holy Spirit has made us enter into the relationship of love and of life between Jesus and God the Father. And there we receive a gift, the gift of the faith.

With this attitude of faith, we can also understand the meaning of the “Bread of Life” that Jesus gives us, and which he describes in this way: “I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh” (Jn 6:51). In Jesus, in his “flesh” — that is, in his concrete humanity — is all the love of God, which is the Holy Spirit. Those who let themselves be drawn by this love go to Jesus and go with faith, and receive from Him life, eternal life.

The one who lived this experience in such an exemplary way was Mary, the Virgin of Nazareth: the first human person who believed in God by accepting the flesh of Jesus. Let us learn from her, our Mother, joy and gratitude through the gift of faith. A gift that is not “private”, a gift that is not private property but is a gift to be shared: it is a gift “for the life of the world”! (Pope Francis, Angelus, 9 August 2015).

## GENERAL NEWS

**7-16 August: CATHOLICISM – FREE Anniversary Online Screening.** To register and watch ALL of the episodes for free, simply go to: <https://CatholicismSeries.com>

**St Joseph's Deanery Choir** – the first rehearsal of the Highland Deanery Choir will take place on **Wednesday 22 August at 7.00pm, at St. Mary's, Nairn.** No previous experience or music reading ability is required! For further information, please e-mail Matthew McVey at: [m.d.c.mcvey@outlook.com](mailto:m.d.c.mcvey@outlook.com)

**2 September: National Pilgrimage to Carfin** – in honour of St. John Ogilvie. The Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated within the Grotto at 3.00 p.m. with Archbishop Philip Tartaglia of Glasgow as Principal Celebrant and Bishop Stephen Robson of Dunkeld as homilist. All Welcome.

**8th to 9th September: 'Celebrate Scotland'** – at St. Ninian's High School, Giffnock, Glasgow. A weekend of faith-sharing and celebration for families of all sizes, young and old. The weekend is comprised of talks and workshops for adults, and faith-building activities for various age groups up to 21 years old; these are run by experienced catechists, teachers and youth ministers, along with the opportunity for lively worship, contemplative adoration, the celebration of Holy Mass, and individual prayer ministry:

Adults - £40                                      Children - £10  
16-22 - £20                                      Under 5 - Free

All fees include Saturday evening meal. For further details, please see the posters and leaflets in the entrance foyer of the church.

**Sunday 9 September: Annual Pilgrimage to pray for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair** – this annual pilgrimage will take place on from 2.00pm to 6.00pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, in Edinburgh. 2pm – Opening; 3pm – Film: The Story of Margaret Sinclair, Servant of God; 4.30 pm – Holy Mass. Refreshments available.

**Saturday 15 September: The Salvation Army International Staff Songsters** – at 7.30pm in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Ardross Street, Inverness, IV3 5NS. Ticket prices: £10 Adults; £5 for under-16s, plus booking fee. Available from Eventbrite <https://the-international-staff-songsters.eventbrite.co.uk>

## PARISH NEWS

**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** – this is a Solemnity and a Holy Day of Obligation. There is a Vigil Mass on Tuesday evening, with Mass During the Day on Wednesday morning.

**Light of the North magazine** – the latest edition is now available! Be sure to collect your copy! There are some photos and features on Inverness and the Highland Deanery (we always punch above our weight!!). Please make a donation towards the cost of each copy, as all donations go to the Parish!

**Photo Exhibition at St. Columba's, sponsored by Justice & Peace Scotland/SCIAF** – Nearly 700,000 Rohingya refugees fled for their lives to Bangladesh last year, having experienced unimaginable horrors at the hands of the Myanmar military. They're now living in

poverty in a giant refugee camp. Scottish photographer Simon Murphy travelled to the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh in December to see SCIAF's work with Caritas Bangladesh to help some of the most vulnerable refugees. Whilst he was there, he took a series of powerful photographs to document the plight of this people. SCIAF's Director Alistair Dutton commented that: "Simon's pictures tell heart-breaking stories and give real insight into the nightmare the Rohingya people have been through. When you come face to face with his remarkable images it will be impossible not to be moved by them." **The free exhibition will be at St. Columba's from Saturday 1 September – Tuesday 4 September.**

**Supporting the Parish** – Going away on your Summer holidays? Why not set up a Standing Order to assist the Parish financially, and ensure that you are contributing to the continual growth of St. Columba's each and every week?! It's quick and easy to do; just speak to Ewen, our Treasurer, or to Fr. Domenico.

**Hospital Admissions:** if you, or any member of your family, is to be admitted to hospital, and would like a visit from Fr. Domenico, please do inform him. Please note that it is neither the duty, nor, indeed, the policy, of hospitals to inform priests and ministers when congregation members are admitted; the responsibility is placed solely on family and friends.

**Are you interested in becoming a Catholic?** – Each year thousands of adults choose to become Catholics. They come from different backgrounds, and for different reasons: some are already Christians from other traditions; some are from another faith, or no faith at all; some are non-Catholics who have been coming regularly to Mass for years with their Catholic spouses or relatives. If you would like to know more about the Catholic faith, please speak to Fr. Domenico.

**Cleaning Team:** Monday 13th August at 12.30pm: Margaret, Laura and Don. Would you like to help out? Only one hour a month! See Don for details.

**"90 Club" – Next Draw: Sunday 26 August** – there are a few numbers available; would you like one? Only £2 monthly! Ask Don for details.

**ST COLUMBA'S PRIZE BINGO: BEGINS AGAIN ON FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER!** – thereafter every first Friday until December. Items to give as prizes are always needed to make our fundraiser successful: chocolates, gift packs, wine, gift vouchers, shortbread, toiletries, aftershave, etc. (smaller items are given as line wins). Help on the evening is always gratefully accepted and appreciated! Thank you.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia & John Drew + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zanne + Richard Karasek + Brian Carr +

**R.I.P:** + Donald Joseph Peteranna +

**Anniversaries:** + Peter Tierney + Donald and Dorothy MacDonald + Jessie Williams +