



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

12 JULY 2020: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Year A (II); Psalter: Week 3)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11
Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 64 (65): 10-14
2nd Reading: Romans 8: 18-23
Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 12 July	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (p. 739 – Year A)	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Monday 13 July	Monday of Week 15 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: 'Special Intention'	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Tuesday 14 July	Tuesday of Week 15 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Canon Ambrose Woods, RIP (Anniversary at this time)	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Wednesday 15 July	St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor Mass Intention: Fr. John Maguire, RIP (Anniversary at this time)	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Thursday 16 July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Mass Intention: Christopher Doig and Malachy Eze (Diaconal Ordinations in the Cathedral at 11am)	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Friday 17 July	Friday of Week 15 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Saturday 18 July	Saturday of Week 15 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Tony Murphy, RIP (Anniversary at this time)	Live-Streamed Mass on Facebook	9.30 am
Sunday 19 July	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (p. 744 – Year A)	(LIVE-STREAMED) PUBLIC MASS PUBLIC MASS	9.30 am 11.00 am

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year: The Word's Return

Today's readings, like last week's, ask us to meditate on Israel's response to God's Word—and our own. Why do some hear the word of the kingdom, yet fail to accept it as a call to conversion and faith in Jesus? That question underlies today's Gospel, especially.

Again we see, as we did last week, that the kingdom's mysteries are unfolded to those who open their hearts, making of them a rich soil in which the Word can grow and bear fruit.

As we sing in today's Psalm, in Jesus, God's Word has visited our land, to water the stony earth of our hearts with the living waters of the Spirit (see John 7:38; Revelation 22:1).

The first-fruit of the Word is the Spirit of love and adoption poured into our hearts in Baptism, making us children of God, as Paul reminds us in today's Second Reading (see Romans 5:5; 8:15–16). In this, we are made a "new creation" (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), the first-fruits

of a new heaven and a new earth (see 2 Peter 3:13). Since the first humans rejected God's Word, creation has been enslaved to futility (see Genesis 3:17–19; 5:29). But God's Word does not go forth only to return to Him void, as we hear in today's First Reading.

His Word awaits our response. We must show ourselves to be children of that Word. We must allow that Word to accomplish God's will in our lives. As Jesus warns today, we must take care lest the devil steal it away or lest it be choked by worldly concerns.

In the Eucharist, the Word gives Himself to us as bread to eat. He does so that we might be made fertile, yielding fruits of holiness.

And we await the crowning of the year, the great harvest of the Lord's Day (see Mark 4:29; 2 Peter 3:10; Revelation 1:10) — when His Word will have achieved the end for which it was sent. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Fifteenth Sunday of the Year (p. 739) –

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 739: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 541: Creed
p. 567: Preface II: The Mystery of Salvation
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 Building Fund Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses. Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

ST. COLUMBA'S REOPENS FOR SUNDAY MASS! On Sunday 19 July, we reopen our doors for public Mass. Thank the Lord! There will be two Masses available: at 9.30am (which will also be lived-streamed) and at 11.00am. To book your seat, please contact Fr. Domenico for further details.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – In order to assist with the reopening of the church, we desperately need some volunteers to assist with passkeeping, stewarding, and cleaning after each Mass. Can you help? There is a meeting on **Thursday 16 July at 3.00pm** in the church. Please let Fr. Domenico know if you wish to attend.

PARISH SURVEY – Fr. Domenico has put together an online survey, to assist us in planning as we prepare to return to the celebration of public worship

at St. Columba's. If you have not already done so, would you be so kind as to take a look at the survey, and fill it in, please?. The survey is available on our Facebook page and on our parish website here: <https://forms.gle/S1sAZdLbJQTQwYkv7>

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): after discussion with the Bishop, the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available for those who wish to avail themselves. Confessions will be heard in the Parish Meeting Room. Entrance is by the back patio door – opposite the entrance to the House. There will be a comfy chair for the penitent, near the door, and Fr. Domenico will be seated in the other corner of the room, observing social distancing. If you would like to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, simply e-mail Fr. Domenico, or phone the Parish House (794993), to make an appointment.

'King David: Lessons in Leadership. A Reading of Samuel 1 and 2' – Wednesday 15 July at 7.00pm. Thank you to all those who attended our fourth Zoom study evening. In the coming week, we'll look at David's Seduction of Bathsheba (2 Sam 11-12); Amon and Tamar; Absalom (2 Sam 13-18); and David's return and death (2 Sam 19-1 Kings 2).

'Genesis to Jesus' Virtual Bible Study Course – this seven-week course, beginning Wednesday 21 July, is being offered by the Ogilvie Centre. For further details, please contact the Dominican Sisters in Elgin at: ogilvie@rcda.scot.

90 Club: Next Draw on Sunday 26th July. We will catch up with payments once things return 'to normal'.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Michael Good, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Stuart MacLennan, Jeanette Catto, John Macdonald, Evelyn MacGregor, Denise Maclean, Rena Herbison, Louise Flett, Alistair Macleod, Alex Fruters, Pat McDavid, Morag Lloyd, Ellen Williams, Amy Morrison, Steve Knight, Patrick Macpherson, Kathleen Macpherson, Linda Robson

RIP: + Jenner Martin + Kathleen McCallum

Anniversaries: + Bob Black + Alexander MacKinnon + Tony Murphy + George Cameron + Canon Ambrose Woods + Fr. John Maguire +