



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
Tel: (01463) 794619 / (01463) 233519
e-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
website: <http://www.stcolumbasculloden.org>
Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

12TH JUNE 2016

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, C

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 12: 7-10, 13

Psalm: Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 7, 11

2nd Reading: Galatians 2: 16, 19-21

Gospel: Luke 7: 36-50

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 12 June	ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, C (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am
Tuesday 14 June	Tuesday in the Eleventh Week of the Year	<i>*Service of the Word and Holy Communion*</i>	7.30pm
Wednesday 15 June	Wednesday in the Eleventh Week of the Year	<i>*Service of the Word and Holy Communion*</i> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 16 June	Thursday in the Eleventh Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Sunday 19 June	PARISH CONFIRMATIONS (No Second Collection)	MASS WITH BISHOP HUGH GILBERT	9.30am

Eleventh Sunday of the Year: Mercy Ever New

The celebrated American baseball player turned early-twentieth-century evangelist Billy Sunday once said "I am against sin. I'll kick it as long as I've got a foot. I'll fight it as long as I've got a fist." King David and Simon the Pharisee agreed with this approach. Like many of us, they were against other people's sin. At Simon's dinner, Jesus tells a story in response to Simon's scandalised shock that Jesus should offer forgiveness to the penitent woman. The story is about two debtors. Simon sees only one at his table. Nathan the prophet tells a story to David to uncover the king's adultery. It is about a rich man who robs a poor man of his prized ewe lamb. Simon and David condemn themselves in the response they make. David confesses his sin as the woman acknowledges hers, but Simon's guests are left questioning: 'who is this who forgives sins?' We are not told if they ask for forgiveness for themselves. They do not show faith but it is the woman's faith, not her dramatic gesture that has saved her.

God never tires of beginning again with us. His mercies are new every morning and great is his faithfulness. Since Adam's fall, God has sought us out to bring us back to sit at his table. David was a man after the Lord's own heart. In his story, we see something of a re-telling of Adam's own story. Saul had been chosen to be king, but fell from his high vocation like Adam the patriarch. David, a man after God's own heart, as a type of the second Adam, replaced Saul, an image of the first Adam. David repeats the mistakes of Adam his ancestor. He glimpses the forbidden fruit, Bathsheba, Uriah's wife,

and saw that she was good and reached out to take her. Like Adam, he sinned in relation to a woman. It was his sin, and not the woman's. Adam committed a form of spiritual adultery. David committed actual adultery. His sin led him to repeat the sin of Cain. Uriah was one of his closest followers. They were brothers in arms. David ordered his death. Brother killed brother. As with the Fall, the consequences of David's sin was division, fragmentation, the rupture of the bonds of kinship, love and loyalty. Simon in his righteousness has accepted those consequences as normative. His life is ruled by boundaries and frontiers. The woman who intrudes herself into his house does not belong in his society and should be shunned. Jesus should know that. If he does *not* know that, he is not a prophet. If he *does* know that, he is not a prophet. If he is not a prophet, Simon need not heed him. Simon does not realise that there are two debtors.

Forgiveness means we can begin again, but we still carry with us the consequences of our sin and the damage our selfishness has caused. David's breaking of the bonds of loyalty and justice means that his kingdom will know division from then on. His family and his people will rebel against him. In the end, the kingdom will be divided and broken, as he has broken with the Lord. The woman of dubious reputation must return to her family and her neighbours. She is forgiven but their forgiveness cannot be presumed. She must try to live the gift she has been given. In Simon's house there was more than one debtor, but only one asked for forgiveness. (Fr Allan White, OP)

GENERAL NEWS

Inverness Foodstuff is currently recruiting volunteers. Inverness Foodstuff is a local charity, established in 2015 to address food poverty and social isolation among the homeless and other vulnerable people. A hot lunch is cooked and served twice a week using surplus food from supermarkets. More volunteers are needed on Tuesdays and Thursdays for both cooking and serving. Minimum commitment of one session per month. For further information, please contact Joyce Muir via e-mail at: invernessfoodstuff@gmail.com.

Priestly Ordination of Deacon Peter Macdonald: Monday 13 June, in St Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen, at 6.30pm. If you are planning to attend this diocesan event, you should be seated by 6.00pm at the latest.

Inverness Parishes Picnic – Postponed until September: Please note that the planned picnic at Bellfield Park on Sunday 19 June has been postponed by the organisers until SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Pluscarden Abbey, 26 June 2016:
12 noon onwards: Refreshments available in the marquee.
1.00pm–3.00pm: Adoration (Lady Chapel).
1.00pm–3.00pm: Confessions (St. Benedict's Retreat).
3.30pm: Pilgrimage Mass & Procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady.

Diaconal Ordination of Andrzej Niski, 2 July: Bishop Hugh will ordain one of our Highland seminarians – Andrew Niski – to the Diaconate on Saturday 2 July, at St John's Seminary, Womersley (Guildford).

PARISH NEWS

HAPPY FEAST DAY / BIRTHDAY, ST COLUMBA'S!
Thank you for your support and kind wishes on our patronal feast day. We had a lovely Mass of Thanksgiving, with over 80 people from a number of different congregations in the Highland Deanery (and beyond!). The food was delicious, the company was congenial, and the evening was a great success. Here's to many more celebrations in our parish!

Parish Confirmations, Sunday 19 June: just a reminder of our forthcoming Confirmation Mass with Bishop Hugh next week. Please do make an effort to come along and support Erin, Morven, Matt, Calum, and Louis on their special day, and keep them in your prayers.

Confirmation class: Thursday 16 June, 6.30pm-7.15pm.

Parish First Holy Communions, Sunday 26 June: seven of our children will make their First Holy Communion in two week's time. They are: Anna, Alison, Jessica, Fionnula, Sophie-Maree, Cameron, and Jamie. Please support them through your prayers and your presence. **Holy Communion classes:** Thursday 16 and 23 June, 5.30pm-6.00pm.

Amoris Laetitia Reading Group: various people have expressed interest in meeting together for an informal, relaxed reading group, to explore some of the ideas in Pope Francis' new teaching document, *Amoris Laetitia* (the Apostolic Exhortation on Love in the Family). The gatherings will be **on Wednesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm.** Our programme is as follows:

Wednesday 6 July – Introduction ('The Joy of Love'); Chapter 1 (Scriptural Reflection); Chapter 9 (The Spirituality of Marriage and the Family)

NB. Friday 15 July – Chapter 2 (The Experiences and Challenges of Families); Chapter 3 (The Vocation of the Family)

Wednesday 20 July – Chapter 4 (Love in Marriage)

Wednesday 27 July – Chapter 5 (Welcoming Children); Chapter 7 (Educating Children)

Wednesday 3 August – Chapter 6 (Pastoral Perspectives on Marriage and Divorce)

Wednesday 10 August – Chapter 8 (Accompanying, Discerning and Integrating Weakness in Families)

There are copies of *Amoris Laetitia* for sale at St Ninian's, or via the Catholic Truth Society website. Alternatively, you can download a free pdf copy from the Vatican website. If you are interested in taking part in this reading group, could you please let Fr Domenico know, by e-mailing him at: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com.

Saturday 13 August: Parish Day Trip to Orkney!

A Grand Day Out! **The coach departs from Inverness Bus Station at 7.15am, and returns at 9.00pm.** We will drive up to Caithness, board the 10.30am John O'Groats ferry, and cross to the islands. There then follows a **6-hour tour of Orkney.** Highlights include:

- Scapa Flow
- Churchill Barriers
- Italian Chapel (photo stop)
- Skara Brae stone-age village
- Standing Stones of Stenness
- Ring of Brodgar
- Kirkwall

Prices – Adults: £ 72.00; Accompanied Children under 16: £ 36.00; Under 5s go free. All transport included.

Extra: entrance fee to Skara Brae – Historic Scotland site (Adult £7.10, Concession £5.70, Child £4.30).

Closing date: Sunday 3 July. There are a limited number of places. Please sign up on the sheet in the entrance foyer.

Church cleaning – Tuesday 14 June at 4.30pm: Gigi and Shona. Additional help is always appreciated!

“90 Club”: Next draw will be on Sunday 26 June. There are a few numbers still available if you would like to join; ask Don for information.

PRIZE BINGO: ‘eyes down’ on Friday 24 June, at 7.00pm. The Prize supply box is low; items to give as prizes are always required. Thank you. NB. Friday 24 June will be our last Prize Bingo night before the Summer break; we return again in September, on the first Friday of the month.

FINANCES

No. 1 Account £ 241.45
Building Account £ 143.84
– Thank you for your generosity and support –

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

Anniversaries: + Cardinal Thomas Winning + Dorothy Mackenzie + James McNiffe + Vincent Lowe +