



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**12 MAY 2019:
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
YEAR C**

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 13: 14, 43-52
Psalm: Ps 99 (100): 1-3, 5
2nd Reading: Apocalypse 7: 9, 14-17
Gospel: John 10: 27-30

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 12 May	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Good Shepherd Sunday) Second Collection: Vocations	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 14 May	St. Matthias, Apostle - Feast	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 15 May	Wednesday of Week 4 in Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 16 May	Thursday of Week 4 in Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 17 May	Friday of Week 4 in Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am 12 noon
Saturday 18 May	Saturday of Week 4 in Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	10.30 am 11.00 am
Sunday 19 May	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter: The Shepherd and the Lamb

Israel's mission—to be God's instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth (see Isaiah 49:6)—is fulfilled in the Church.

By the "Word of God" that Paul and Barnabas preach in today's First Reading, a new covenant people is being born, a people who glorify the God of Israel as the Father of them all.

The Church for all generations remains faithful to the grace of God given to the Apostles and continues their saving work. Through the Church the peoples of every land hear the Shepherd's voice and follow Him (see Luke 10:16).

The Good Shepherd of today's Gospel is the enthroned Lamb of today's Second Reading. In laying down His life for His flock, the Lamb brought to fulfilment a new Passover (see 1 Corinthians 5:7), by His blood freeing "every nation, race, people and tongue" from bondage to sin and death.

The Church is the "great multitude" John sees in his vision today. God swore to Abraham his descendants

would be too numerous to count. And in the Church, as John sees, this promise is fulfilled (compare Revelation 7:9; Genesis 15:5).

The Lamb rules from the throne of God, sheltering His flock, feeding their hunger with His own Body and Blood, leading them to "springs of life-giving waters" that well up to eternal life (see John 4:14).

The Lamb is the eternal Shepherd-King, the son of David foretold by the prophets. His Church is the kingdom of all Israel that the prophets said would be restored in an everlasting covenant (see Ezekiel 34:23–31; 37:23–28).

It is not a kingdom any tribe or nation can jealously claim as theirs alone. The Shepherd's Word to Israel is addressed now to all lands, calling all to worship and bless His name in the heavenly temple.

This is the delight of the Gentiles—that we can sing the song that once only Israel could sing, today's joyful Psalm: "He made us, His we are—His people, the flock He tends." (Scott Hahn).

GENERAL NEWS

Tuesday 14 May – Thursday 16 May: Pilgrimage to Orkney with St. Mary's Beaulieu – there are 2 remaining seats on the coach (£245 each). If interested, please contact Fr. Max Nwosu at the following number: 07436 957368.

Wednesday 22 May: 'Human Trafficking and Exploitation' Talk. The Inverness Justice and Peace group have invited Alister Bull from Hope for Justice (hopeforjustice.org) to speak in St. Ninian's hall on Wednesday 22 May. He will identify the different types of exploitation that exist and give advice about how to respond appropriately. **Refreshments at 7.00pm, for a 7.30pm start.** For more information contact Jill Kent at: jillkent@me.com.

Saturday 25 May: The Moray String Quartet – St. Mary's RC Church, Nairn, invites you to a Fundraising Concert for their Church Hall Renovation. **To be held at Pluscarden Abbey at 3.30pm.** The musical selection includes Pachelbel's Canon and 3 pieces by Gershwin. A retiring collection will be taken at the door; suggested donation: £10. Refreshments at the interval. All welcome.

11–13 June 2019: Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures – *"Beauty will Save the World"* – A Theological and Pastoral Reflection on the Role of Beauty in the Life of the Church. The series will consist of four talks by Fr. Martin Boland. These lectures will contend that without beauty, the Church becomes less attractive and the good news of God's grace is expressed with less clarity and conviction. When the beauty of the Church is celebrated, men and women will develop a deeper appreciation of the transcendence of the Triune God. The dates and titles of the talks are as follows:

- Tues 11 June at 3.00pm: The problem of beauty in the contemporary mind.
- Wed 12 June at 10.30am: Retrieving beauty.
- Wed 12 June at 3.00pm: The Incarnation as the revelation of beauty itself.
- Thurs 13 June at 10.30am: Celebrating beauty in the life of the Church.

There is no charge for these lectures, and all are welcome to attend. To register for the talks, or to make further enquiries, please e-mail: guestmaster@pluscardenabbey.org.

PARISH NEWS

Good Shepherd Sunday: World Day of Prayer for Vocations – Today's Second Collection is for our Diocesan Seminarians' Bursary Fund. It costs some £25,000 a year to train a man for the priesthood. Please pray that more young men respond generously to the Lord's call to serve Him and the Holy People of God, particularly within our own Diocese. We remember our seminarians: Christopher Doig, Malachy Eze, and Aidan Matheson.

Dominic Nwaigwe – Ordination to the Priesthood: Thanks be to God, Dominic will be ordained as a Priest

at St. Mary's Inverness on **Tuesday 20 August 2019**. Please continue to pray for him and for his family in Nigeria who are supporting him in their prayers.

Sunday 2 June, from 11.00am onwards: St. Ninian's Summer Fete. Why not head along to this special event? Fun for all the family! Home bakes, teas/coffees, burger stalls, bottle stalls, bric-a-brac, and much, much more! **This year, we have been invited to set up our own stalls to help St. Columba's. Would you like to get involved?** All monies raised by our stall(s) will go to our parish! Please speak to Fr. Domenico if you are interested.

RETURN OF SCIAF WEE BOXES – Please return these boxes to us from Easter Sunday onwards. Every pound you save will help our brothers and sisters around the world to survive and thrive.

Highland Foodbank – April and May: Your donations help to provide emergency food and support to local people in crisis. During these months, we would be grateful for the following items: * Tins of Vegetables * Cartons of Long Life Fruit Juice * Washing Powder (small) * Shaving Foam / Razors. Please leave them in the plastic box at the front door of the church. Thank you for your generosity!

BABY AND TODDLERS' GROUP: the group meets on Mondays, from 9.30am to 11.30am. Why not come along and join in the fun?!

CLEANING TEAM SOS! We need your help! Can you spare about an hour monthly to keep the church clean? We need 3 more helpers to assist those who do the duties at the present time. The cleaning is done Mondays/Tuesdays around NOON or 1.30pm or 4.00pm, if you would like to come on board and give us a hand. Please speak to Don for further details. **Cleaning team: Monday 13 May at 12 Noon – Marie and Don.**

"90 Club" – Next draw: Sunday 26 May. There are a few numbers left; why not take one?! Only £2 monthly. There are 3 nice prizes to be won. Ask Don for details.

Next Prize Bingo: FRIDAY 31 MAY! – 'eyes down' at 7.00pm. Family fun for all! A warm welcome awaits you. Items to give as prizes are needed: our supplies are low! Gifts can include: boxed toiletry sets, spirits, wine, boxed biscuits, scented candles, gift vouchers, unwanted gifts... The bingo success is all down to the many wonderful items that you hand in; please do keep them coming! Thank you!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Vinnie Walton + Michael Good + Elspeth Angus + Magda Maclean + Laura Johnstone + Kirsteen MacCorquodale + Ian Burns +

Anniversaries: + Canon Malaney + Alastair McNeill + Ron Page + Isobel Hastie +