



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**13 MAY 2018:  
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26

Psalm: Ps 102 (103): 1-2, 11-12, 19-20

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 John 4: 11-16

Gospel: John 17: 11-19

Date	Details	Service	Time
<b>Sunday 13 May</b>	<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <b>Second Collection: Communications Sunday</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 15 May	Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 16 May	Wednesday of the Seventh Week of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 17 May	Thursday of the Seventh Week of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
<b>Sunday 20 May</b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST</b> <b>Second Collection: Building Fund</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>

## Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Kingdom Remains

Today's First Reading begins by giving us a time frame—the events take place during the days between Christ's Ascension and Pentecost. We're at the same point in our liturgical year. On Thursday we celebrated His being taken up in glory, and next Sunday we will celebrate His sending of the Spirit upon the Church.

Jesus' prayer in the Gospel today also captures the mood of departure and the anticipation. He is telling us today how it will be when He is no longer in the world. By His Ascension, the Lord has established His throne in heaven, as we sing in today's Psalm. His kingdom is His Church, which continues His mission on earth.

Jesus fashioned His kingdom as a new Jerusalem, and a new house of David (see Psalm 122:4-5; Revelation 21:9-14). He entrusted this kingdom to His Twelve Apostles, who were to preside at the Eucharistic table, and to rule with Him over the restored twelve tribes of Israel (see Luke 22:29-30).

The Twelve Apostles symbolize the twelve tribes and hence the fulfilment of God's plan for Israel (see Galatians 6:16). That's why it is crucial to replace Judas—so that the Church in its fullness receives the Spirit at Pentecost.

Peter's leadership of the Apostles is another key element of the Church as it is depicted today. Notice that Peter is unquestionably in control, interpreting the Scriptures, deciding a course of action, even defining the nature of the apostolic ministry.

No one has ever seen God, as we hear in today's Second Reading. Yet, through the Church founded on His apostles, the witnesses to the resurrection, the world will come to know and believe in God's love, that He sent His Son to be our saviour.

Through the Church, Jesus' pledge still comes to us—that if we love, God will remain with us in our trials and protects us from the evil one. By His word of truth He will help us grow in holiness, the perfection of love. (Scott Hahn)

### Pope Francis' Prayer for World Communications Day

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion.  
Help us to remove the venom from our judgements.  
Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.  
You are faithful and trustworthy; may our words be seeds of goodness for the world:  
where there is shouting, let us practise listening;  
where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;  
where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;  
where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;  
where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;  
where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;  
where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;  
where there is hostility, let us bring respect;  
where there is falsehood, let us bring truth. Amen.*

## GENERAL NEWS

**22nd–24th May 2018: Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures** – *“You Have Come to Mount Sion”*: *The Christian Pilgrimage in the Letter to the Hebrews*. Four talks by Fr. Richard Ounsworth OP, which are as follows:

Tuesday 22nd May at 3.00pm: “Potato Stamps: Reading the Old Testament in the Light of Christ”.

Wednesday 23rd May at 10.30am: “Jesus is Joshua: What’s in a Name?”

Wednesday 23rd May at 3.00pm: “Passing Through the Veil: Christ the High Priest and the Day of Atonement

Thursday 24 May at 10.30am: “Robed in Flesh, Our Great High Priest”

There is no charge for these lectures, and all are welcome to attend. To register for the talks, make further enquiries, or book accommodation, contact Pluscarden Abbey, Elgin, Moray, IV30 8UA. To register your interest in this event, please e-mail: [guestmaster@pluscardenabbey.org](mailto:guestmaster@pluscardenabbey.org). See the poster on the front page of our parish website.

**Wednesday 23 May: “The Claim: Archbishop Romero, his people, and Pope Francis”** – SCIAF and the Justice & Peace Group will be hosting this film, which highlights the life of Blessed Oscar Romero, the El Salvadorian archbishop who will be canonised in October. Please join us in the **Marian Room, 32 Huntly Street (next to St Mary’s Inverness)**. Refreshments at 6.30pm, for a 7.00pm start.

## PARISH NEWS

**TODAY: WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY** – our Second Collection goes towards the apostolate for communications. Today we pray for all those who work with the media on behalf of the Church and whose task it is to present the Church’s message in all its freshness and beauty on behalf of us all.

**NEXT WEEK: PENTECOST SUNDAY** – We are looking for speakers of different languages to read out the Bidding Prayers in their native tongues, and for any singing groups! Please come and speak to Fr Domenico if you’d like to help add an international flavour to our Mass!

**SATURDAY 9 JUNE 2018 AT 12 NOON: DOUBLE ANNIVERSARY MASS, ON THE FEAST OF ST COLUMBA!** – A date for your diaries! Bishop Hugh has been invited to celebrate this Mass for us, together with the priests who were in attendance 10 years ago, at the Dedication of the Church. Come and join us for this important parish celebration. **We will need to think about: musicians; readers; servers; catering (buffet).** Please be prepared to offer your services to make this a truly memorable celebration! See the sign-up sheet in the foyer!

**Pope Francis’ new document “Gaudete et Exsultate” (“Rejoice and be glad”)** – the Apostolic Exhortation on Holiness – is on sale in the entrance foyer. It is very readable, and relevant to all of us; why not pick up a copy? If there is sufficient interest, we will organise a reading group to discuss it together!

**Calling all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** – we have a number of housebound people in the Balloch/Culloden/Westhill/Cradlehall areas who would appreciate a visit, with the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Would you be willing to assist with this? Please speak to Fr Domenico.

**Marital Accompaniment in the Diocese** – Following the teaching of Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation entitled “Amoris Laetitia”, Bishop Hugh has invited certain priests to be available to help those in what the Church calls “irregular marital situations”. This is not a Relationship or Marriage Counselling Service, which already exists, but is for those who may wish to discuss their situation and are wondering how they might participate more fully in the life of the Church. Any individual or couple who would appreciate confidential conversations in this area are invited to approach the following priests:

Fr Mark Impson (Stonehaven):

[mark.impson@rcda.scot](mailto:mark.impson@rcda.scot)

Fr Giles Conacher OSB (Pluscarden):

[fr.giles-osb@rcda.scot](mailto:fr.giles-osb@rcda.scot)

Fr Richard Reese (Tain): [reeserj@googlemail.com](mailto:reeserj@googlemail.com)

**St Columba’s Baby and Toddler Group:** This Monday (14 May), we are meeting at the Play Zone in Brewer’s Fayre (Inshes Park) at 9.30am–11.30am. Come along and join the fun!

**Cleaning Team:** Monday 14th May at 12 noon – Laura, Marie and Don. Would you like to help out? Only one hour a month! See Don for details.

**“90 Club”:** the next draw is on **Sunday 27th May**. There are still a few numbers available; only £2 monthly. All profits go to the Building Fund; ask Don.

**Next Prize Bingo: FRIDAY, 25 MAY – ‘eyes down’ at 7.00pm.** Family fun! A warm welcome awaits you. Items to give as prizes are always needed. Thank you!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Amelia & John Drew + Peter Simpson + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zanre

**Anniversaries:** + William Stewart + Anne Lowe + Mary and Ernie MacMillan + Chris Green +