



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

13th SEPTEMBER 2015

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 5-9

Psalm: 114: 1-6, 8-9

2nd Reading: James 2: 14-18

Gospel: Mark 8: 27-35

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 13 September	Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Wednesday 16 September	Feast of St Ninian	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 17 September	Thursday of Week 24 in Ordinary Time	Mass	19.30
Sunday 20 September	Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available every Sunday before Mass, and at any other time upon request.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B): Following the Messiah

In today's Gospel, we reach a pivotal moment in our walk with the Lord. After weeks of listening to His words and witnessing His deeds, along with the disciples we're asked to decide who Jesus truly is. Peter answers for them, and for us, too, when he declares: "You are the Messiah."

Many expected the Messiah to be a miracle worker who would vanquish Israel's enemies and restore the kingdom of David (see John 6:15).

Jesus today reveals a different portrait. He calls himself the Son of Man, evoking the royal figure Daniel saw in his heavenly visions (see Daniel 7:13-14). But Jesus' kingship is not to be of this world (see John 18:36). And the path to His throne, as He reveals, is by way of suffering and death.

Jesus identifies the Messiah with the suffering servant that Isaiah foretells in today's First Reading. The words of Isaiah's servant are Jesus' words—as He gives himself to be shamed and beaten, trusting that God will be His help.

As Jesus tells us today, to believe that He is the Messiah is to follow His way of self-denial—losing our lives to save them, in order to rise with Him to new life. Our faith, we hear again in today's Epistle, must express itself in works of love (see Galatians 5:6).

Notice that Jesus questions the apostles today "along the way." They are on the way to Jerusalem, where the Lord will lay down His life. We, too, are on a journey with the Lord.

We must take up our cross, giving to others and enduring all our trials for His sake and the sake of the gospel. Our lives must be an offering of thanksgiving for the new life He has given us, until that day when we reach our destination, and walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

(Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"Instead of being just a church that welcomes and receives by keeping the doors open, let us try also to be a church that finds new roads, that is able to step outside itself and go to those who do not attend Mass, to those who have quit or are indifferent."

GENERAL NEWS

Befriend a Prisoner

Brian is in the second half of a 'life' prison sentence. He has become a Catholic, and studied the Faith through Maryvale courses; he is very involved in the prison chaplaincy, and is responsible for preparing prisoners for baptism and the other sacraments. For five years he has benefited from friendly correspondence. He is now hoping to find penpals for the men he is instructing. It is a very rewarding ministry, in keeping with the Lord's request. Anyone interested, please contact Jane MacMaster (email janeruth@btinternet.com or phone: 01463 236 275)

Rented accommodation sought – Verena and Marcos are a young professional couple, both university graduates, and both practising Catholics, who are looking for a two-bedroom apartment / house to rent in the Culloden area. Can you help? If so, please speak to Fr Domenico, or contact him via the parish website.

Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning: at Smithton Green Hall on 19th September, 9.30am-12 noon. Come along and have a cuppa and some home-made cake. There will also be a raffle, bouncy castle, face painting, and much more.

Dominic Nwaigwe: some of you may know that Dominic Nwaigwe, who has served Mass at St Columba's, has been accepted to study for the Priesthood at Maynooth seminary, in Dublin. There will be a presentation for Dominic today at St Mary's, at the 11.00am Mass. We wish him every grace and blessing.

PARISH NEWS

Prize Bingo: Eyes down Friday 2nd October. Items to give as prizes are always needed – can you help? Please do come and support this fund-raising initiative – it would be gratifying to see more parishioners at our Bingo! Many thanks to all who contributed items to last week's games.

Church cleaning this week: Mary and Marie.

'90' Club: Our next draw takes place on **Sunday 27 September**, giving you plenty of time to get your own number; see Don for details. Please do take a number, and support the parish – only £2 monthly!

FINANCES

St Columba's Accounts

General Running Account:

Sort Code: 80-91-26

Account No: 00809358

Building Account:

Sort Code: 80-91-26

Account No. 00809390

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black + Peggy Horne + Leslie Murray + Mary Gribben + Michelle Campbell + Claire Macpherson + Des Gair

Anniversaries: Janet MacDonald + Sheena McCulloch + Hector McPhee + Mary MacKinnon

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

The Secular Franciscan Order meets at 2.00 pm on the second Saturday of each month at St Columba's, Culloden. Contact Helen MacGilp (01463 792149). Visit www.ofsgb.org.uk.

Prayer and Praise Group every Thursday at St Columba's after 7.30pm Mass in the Lady Chapel. Call Brian (01463 790255) for details.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm. Meeting followed by dinner in the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045.) Visit www.thecatenians.co.uk.

The Knights of St Columba meets on the first Monday of every month in the Marian Room at St. Mary's, at 7.30 pm: contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity & fraternity in the local parishes. Visit www.ksc.org.uk.

The Parents & Toddlers Group meets on Wednesdays from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the Marian Room beside St Mary's.

The Cenacolo Prayer Group meets every Monday after the 6:00 pm Mass in St. Mary's. All welcome.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) meets every fortnight, on Sundays, in the Marian Room at St Mary's, at 10.00 am. Requests for assistance and support can be made by contacting any SVP member or by dropping a note in a SVP collection box. Visit www.svp.org.uk.