

St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~ 14TH AUGUST 2016 TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, C

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Jeremiah 38: 4-6, 8-10

Psalm: Ps 39: 2-4, 18

2nd Reading: Hebrews 12: 1-4 Gospel: Luke 12: 49-53

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 14 August	TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel)	9.00am
	(Second Collection: Building Fund)	Mass	9.30am
Tuesday 16 August	Tuesday in the Twentieth Week of the Year	Service of the Word and Holy Communion	7.30pm
Wednesday 17 August	Wednesday in the Twentieth Week of the Year	Service of the Word and Holy Communion Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 18 August	Thursday in the Twentieth Week of the Year	Service of the Word and Holy Communion	7.30pm
Sunday 21 August	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am

Twentieth Sunday of the Year: Consuming Fire

Our God is a consuming fire, the Scriptures tell us (see Hebrews 12:29; Deuteronomy 4:24). And in this week's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of fire to describe the demands of discipleship.

The fire he has come to cast on the earth is the fire that he wants to blaze in each of our hearts. He made us from the dust of the earth (see Genesis 2:7), and filled us with the fire of the Holy Spirit in baptism (see Luke 3:16).

We were baptized into his death (see Romans 6:3). This is the baptism our Lord speaks of in the Gospel this week. The baptism with which He must be baptized is His passion and death, by which He accomplished our redemption and sent forth the fire of the Spirit on the earth (see Acts 2:3).

The fire has been set, but it is not yet blazing. We are called to enter deeper into the consuming love of God. We must examine our consciences and our actions, submitting ourselves to the revealing fire of God's Word (see 1 Corinthians 3:13).

In our struggle against sin, we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding our own blood, Paul tells us in this week's Epistle. We have not undergone the suffering that Jeremiah suffers in the First Reading this week.

But this is what true discipleship requires. To be a disciple is to be inflamed with the love of the God. It is to have an unquenchable desire for holiness and zeal for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.

Being His disciple does not bring peace in the false way that the world proclaims peace (see Jeremiah 8:11). It means division and hardship. It may bring us to conflict with our own flesh and blood.

But Christ is our peace (see Ephesians 2:14). By his cross, he has lifted us up from the mire of sin and death—as he will rescue the prophet Jeremiah (see Jeremiah 38:10). And as we sing in the Psalm this week, we trust in our deliverer.

(Scott Hahn).

GENERAL NEWS

"Youth Rally for Jesus" – Stratherrick, 20 August 2016: Jesus our Liberator, our Healer, our Friend, our Companion. A Day of Discovery, Adventure, and Devotion, at Stratherrick (IV2 6UL), from 10:00am to 5.00pm. This day is for all young people, their friends, mentors and supporters. There will be programmes for different age groups. Lunch will be provided. Faith Exploration, discovering how God comes to us in Jesus to heal, and encourage us in prayers / exposition/Rosary Walk/ Mass at the Grotto - Our Lady of the Highlands. Phone 01463 233519, or e-mail: stmarysinverness@btinternet.com.

The National Pilgrimage to Carfin in the Jubilee Year of Mercy takes place on Sunday 4 September and is in honour of St Margaret, Patroness of Scotland and an exemplary witness to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. The Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated at 3pm. Principal Celebrant is Archbishop Philip Tartaglia, and the Homilist is Archbishop Leo Cushley. There will be opportunities for Confession before the Mass in St Francis Xavier's parish church and at points in the grotto, as well as a chance to pass through the parish church's Door of Mercy.

Highland Deanery Annual Pilgrimage: Saturday 10 September 2016 – St Mary's, Beauly. The Principal Celebrant will be Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB. Mass begins at 12 noon and is followed by a procession to the old Priory. The pilgrimage concludes with a picnic.

Youth Ministry Formation Weekend at Kilcoy Castle! – Thursday to Sunday, 22-25 September 2016. Accommodation is available for this weekend, which includes presentations by Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB, the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, and youth ministers from the United States. The weekend will conclude with the celebration of Holy Mass. If interested, please contact Sister Christiana at: ogilvie@dioceseofaberdeen.org, or call 07938 729895.

Medjugorje Pilgrimage, 22-29 October 2016 – Departing from Aberdeen. TOTAL COST: £650.00 (includes flights and half-board accommodation). Deposit of £100 required. Single room supplement: £130. For further details, contact Irma Allan, on (01224) 869889, or 07714 718708.

PARISH NEWS

"Mother Teresa of Calcutta – Missionary of Mercy": Saturday 3 September, at St Columba's. The day, which begins with Mass at 10.00am, is being organised to commemorate the great work and spirituality of Mother Teresa, on the eve of her Canonisation in Rome. The day will involve talks, film clips, poetry and prayer readings, and reflection. Everyone is warmly welcome. See our webpage for the full programme!

FIRS Group: The new 2016-2017 programme for the Friends in Retirement Group (FIRs) is available on our website. The first meeting of the new session takes place on **Wednesday 8 September, from 2.00pm.** Margaret Ryles will give a talk on the work of the Samaritans. All welcome.

Day Workshop for Catechists ('old' and 'new') – Saturday 24 September at St Columba's, 9.30am-4.30pm. This training day is for ALL Catechists! Please do come along and support this important event.

Church cleaning – Tuesday 9.30am: Mary and Marie.

"90 Club": Next Draw – Sunday 28th August. There are a few tickets still available; £2.00 monthly. Please ask Don.

PRIZE BINGO: The first 'eyes down' of the new session is **Friday 2nd September**. Items are needed to give as prizes for a line and full-house, if we are to continue the success of this fund raiser (toiletries, chocolates, candles, wine, and any other similar items). Thank you for the wonderful support you have given in the past.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

Anniversaries: + Donald MacDonald + Dorothy MacDonald + Jessie Williams +

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

The Secular Franciscan Order meets at 2.00pm 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 in the Lady Chapel at St Columba's, after the 7.30pm Mass.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of every month, at 7.30pm (next meeting: 12 September). The meeting is followed by dinner at the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045). Visit **www.catenians.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 (next meeting: 5 September): contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Visit **www.ksc.org.uk**.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) meets every fortnight, on Sundays, in the Marian Room at St Mary's, at 10.00 am (next meeting: 21 August). 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.

The St Mary's Parent & Toddler Group meets on Wednesdays in the Marian Room, 11.00am – 2.45pm.

The St Ninian's Parent & Toddler Group is now on holiday. It will meet again when the schools resume in August. Enquiries to Jenny Wilson, tel. 07779 003434.

.. and St Columba's Parent & Toddler Group?? Why not? We have a large number of Mums and kids in this parish. Let's think about organising our *own* group here!! We can easily obtain toys and other resources. Please speak to Fr Domenico if you are interested in getting involved.