

## St. Columba's, Culloden

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# ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~ 14 MAY 2017: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### **Sunday Mass Readings**

1st Reading: Acts 6: 1-7

Psalm: Ps 32 (33): 1-2, 4-5, 18-19

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4-9 Gospel: John 14: 1-12

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 14 May	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund	Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 16 May	Tuesday in the Fifth Week	Sacrament of Reconciliation	6.30 pm
	of Easter	Evening Prayer	7.00 pm
		Mass	7.30 pm
Wednesday 17 May	Wednesday in the Fifth Week	* Service of the Word and Holy Communion *	11.00 am
	of Easter	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.30 am
Thursday 18 May	Thursday in the Fifth Week	Sacrament of Reconciliation	7.00 pm
	of Easter	Mass	7.30 pm
Sunday 21 May	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund	Mass	9.30 am

#### Fifth Sunday of Easter: Building His House

By His death, Resurrection and Ascension, Jesus has gone ahead to prepare a place for us in His Father's house.

His Father's house is no longer a temple made by human hands. It is the spiritual house of the Church, built on the living stone of Christ's body.

As Peter interprets the Scriptures in today's Second Reading, Jesus is the "stone" destined to be rejected by men but made the precious cornerstone of God's dwelling on earth (see Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 8:14; 28:16).

Each of us is called to be a living stone in God's building (see 1 Corinthians 3:9,16). In this edifice of the Spirit, we are to be "holy priests" offering up "spiritual sacrifices"—all our prayer, work and intentions—to God.

This is our lofty calling as Christians. This is why Christ led us out of the darkness of sin and death as Moses led the Israelites from bondage in Egypt.

God's covenant with Israel made them a royal and priestly people who were to announce His praises (see Exodus 19:6). By our faith in Christ's new covenant, we have been made heirs of this chosen race, called to glorify the Father in the temple of our bodies (see 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 12:1).

In today's First Reading, we see the spiritual house of the Church being built up, as the Apostles consecrate seven deacons so they can devote themselves more fully to the "ministry of the Word."

The Lord's Word is upright and all His works trustworthy, we sing in today's Psalm. So we can trust Jesus when He tells us never to be troubled, but to believe that His Word and works come from the Father

His Word continues its work in the world through the Church. We see its beginnings today in Jerusalem. It is destined to spread with influence and power (see Acts 19:20), and to become the imperishable seed by which every heart is born anew (see 1 Peter 1:23). (Scott Hahn)

#### Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"Each one of us, let's ask ourselves: How is my relationship with Jesus who intercedes for me? And how is my hope? Do I truly believe that the Lord is risen? Do I believe that he prays to the Father on my behalf? Each time that I call him, He is praying for me, He is interceding. Do I truly believe that He will return, that He will come? It would do us good to ask ourselves these (questions) about our faith: Am I a man or a woman of hope?" (Pope Francis)

#### **GENERAL NEWS**

Saturday 20 May: Spring Fair at St Mary's, Inverness, 10.45am-12.30pm — The Tuesday Craft Group is organising a Spring Fair; the Group will be showing crafts for the first time and selling them for Mary's Meals. Have you any wool you want to give away? Please give it to the members on Tuesdays in the Marian Room, or to any of the Sisters. The Group will also welcome any of knitting, crochet, or crafts that you want to donate for the Fair. Come and support us!

**Tuesday 4 June: Gabriel Society Meeting** in the Marian Room, at St Mary's, Inverness, at 7.30pm – "St Paul: Model for Mission".

Saturday 24 June: Day of Renewal at Stratherrick – "In the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary". Come and join us from 10.00am onwards. The programme is as follows:

- **❖** Morning Prayer
- \* Recollection
- \* Rosary Procession
- ❖ Mass at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Highlands
- ❖ Lunch with BBQ
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with healing prayers and anointing with the balm of mercy
- Benediction
- ❖ Tea and depart.

All welcome! See you there!

#### **PARISH NEWS**

**SCIAF Wee Box Appeal**: if you have any Wee Boxes, could you please return them to the parish? Don't forget to fill in the Gift Aid details! Thanks!

St Columba's "Living Faith" Group: following on from our successful "Catholicism" Faith Formation Course, there have been requests to continue with similar initiatives in the parish. With this in mind, our next Day of Recollection will be on Saturday 3 June: "Come Down, O Love Divine – Living Our Faith with and in the Holy Spirit". Full details to follow!

**Sunday 4 June: Solemnity of Pentecost** – we are planning our Pentecost Mass, with contributions from different members of the Parish, in different languages! If you would like to get involved, please see Fr Domenico.

Saturday 10 June: Parish Feast of St Columba! We will celebrate our parish patronal feast on Saturday 10 June (as opposed to 9 June!), with a Mass at 12 noon, followed by a family barbecue/picnic on our patio area. Chefs wanted!!

Wednesday 21 June onwards, at 7.00pm: Living Faith Scripture Course: "From Genesis to Jesus - Unlocking the Bible" - What is the Bible, where does it come from and what is its purpose? How are Catholics supposed to read the Bible and what story does it have to tell? These are just a few of the questions we consider. We start with the creation story, and trace the history of salvation as it unfolds in the series of covenants that God makes with His chosen people - from Abraham and the twelve tribes of Israel to Moses and finally to King David. We see how this history reaches its climax and fulfilment in Jesus and the Church. This Summer course will give an overview of the Old and New Testaments, and will take the form of visual presentations, with discussion and Bible reading! Come and join us!

**Cleaning Team**: Tuesday at 4.30pm: Ji Ji and Shona.

**"90 Club":** Next Draw – Sunday 28 May. Would you like to be a winner?! Numbers are still available; only £2 monthly. See Don for details.

**NEXT PRIZE BINGO: FRIDAY 26 MAY! Eyes down at 7.00pm.** A family fun night, with great company! Come and join us! All monies go towards our Building Fund. Our prize box is getting rather low – items to give as prizes are much needed (chocolates, wine, toiletries, stationery, or any item you would like to win)! Many thanks for your continued support!

#### FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Leslie Murray + Frances Boyle + Ewen Macdonald Senior + Brian Murray + Lachlan MacNeil + Louisa and Suzanne Williams + Cath Maclean + Eilidh McPherson + Morag Macintyre + Rose Corbett + Anne Antoine +

**Recently Departed:** + Calum MacLeod +

**Anniversaries:** + Canon Hugh Mulaney + Ron Page + Isobel Hastie + Alastair McNeill +