



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

15 JULY 2018:

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Amos 7:12-15

Psalm: Ps 84 (85): 9-14

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Gospel: Mark 6:7-13

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 15 July	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 17 July	Tuesday in the Fifteenth Week of the Year	Evening Prayer Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 18 July	Wednesday in the Fifteenth Week of the Year	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 19 July	Thursday in the Fifteenth Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Sunday 22 July	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Sent Out on Mission

Today, 15 July, in the liturgical calendar is the Memorial of St Bonaventure of Bagnoregio, a Franciscan, Doctor of the Church and the successor of St Francis of Assisi at the helm of the Order of Friars Minor. It was he who wrote the first official biography of the "Poverello" and, at the end of his life, he was also Bishop of this Diocese of Albano.

Bonaventure wrote in one of his letters: "I confess before God that the reason which made me most love the life of Blessed Francis is that it resembles the birth and development of the Church" (*Epistula de tribus quaestionibus*, in *Opere di San Bonaventura. Introduzione generale*, Rome 1990, p. 29). These words refer us directly to this Sunday's Gospel which presents the first occasion on which Jesus sent the Twelve Apostles out on mission. Jesus "called to him the Twelve", St Mark recounts, "and began to send them out two by two.... He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics" (Mk 6:7-9). After his conversion Francis of Assisi practised this Gospel to the letter, becoming a very faithful witness of Jesus; and, uniquely bound to the mystery of the Cross, was transformed into "another Christ", exactly as St Bonaventure describes him.

Jesus Christ is the inspiring centre of St Bonaventure's entire life and likewise of his theology. We rediscover this centrality of Christ in the Second Reading of today's Mass (Eph 1:3-14), the famous hymn of St Paul's Letter to the Ephesians that begins: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places". The Apostle thus shows in the four passages, that all begin with the same words: "in him", with reference to Jesus, how this plan of blessing was brought about. "In him", the Father chose us before the creation of the world; "in him" we have redemption through his blood; "in him" we became his heirs, predestined to live "for the praise of his glory"; "in him" all those who believe in the Gospel receive the seal of the Holy Spirit. This Pauline hymn contains the vision of history that St Bonaventure helped to spread in the Church: the whole of history is centred on Christ, who also guarantees in every era new things and renewal. In Jesus, God said and gave all things, but since he is an inexhaustible treasure, the Holy Spirit never ceases to reveal and to actualize his mystery. So it is that the work of Christ and of the Church never regresses but always progresses.

(Pope Benedict XVI, *Angelus*, 15 July 2012).

PARISH NEWS

‘Gaudete et Exsultate’ Reading Group – we are putting together an informal reading group to look together at Pope Francis’ new document on the theme of holiness, entitled ‘Gaudete et Exsultate’. The group will meet **on Wednesday 1 August, from 7.00pm**, and thereafter on 8, 22, 29 August, and 5 September. If you would like to take part, please speak to Fr. Domenico, to give him an idea of interested numbers. Please note that the text is available for free online!

27 July: Holy Land Social Evening – an evening is being organised for all of the pilgrims who are travelling to the Holy Land in November with Fr. Domenico. In addition to getting to know one another, there will be a Q&A Session, with some typical Middle Eastern cuisine to try, and local music to enjoy! **The evening begins at 7.00pm.** Looking forward to seeing all our pilgrims: 27 at the last count!

Can you help? – Two German ladies – Marrie (71) and Kornelia (62) – who are active in the ecumenical movement in the Lutheran Church of Hanover, Lower Saxony – are coming to stay in the Culloden area in the second half of September. One of the ladies has difficulty walking, and has asked if she might advertise in the Parish Newsletter for someone to assist them? They are looking for a parishioner with a car and some free time, to drive them around this area. The ladies are willing to pay 15 Euros per hour, plus petrol money. The full letter is on the notice-board. If you would like to help them, contact Fr. Domenico on the parish e-mail address.

Supporting the Parish – Going away on your Summer holidays? Why not set up a Standing Order to assist the Parish financially, and ensure that you are contributing to the continual growth of St. Columba’s each and every week?! It’s quick and easy to do; just speak to Ewen, our Treasurer, or to Fr. Domenico.

Hospital Admissions: if you, or any member of your family, is to be admitted to hospital, and would like a visit from Fr. Domenico, please do inform him. Please note that it is

neither the duty, nor, indeed, the policy, of hospitals to inform priests and ministers when congregation members are admitted – the responsibility is placed solely on family and friends.

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic?

– Each year thousands of adults choose to become Catholics. They come from different backgrounds, and for different reasons: some are already Christians from other traditions; some are from another faith, or no faith at all; some are non-Catholics who have been coming regularly to Mass for years with their Catholic spouses or relatives. If you would like to know more about the Catholic faith, please speak to Fr Domenico.

Cleaning Team: Monday 16th July at 12 noon – Marie and Don. Would you like to help out? Only one hour a month! See Don for details.

“90 Club” – Next Draw: Sunday 29 July. You can join in the fun too; ask Don for details. Only £2 monthly!

27 JULY: BINGO AT SMITHTON HOTEL – Smithton Hotel are hosting a Prize Bingo Night on Friday 27 July, beginning at 7.00pm. The evening is in aid of **SPINA BIFIDA SCOTLAND**. Why not go along and support this important cause?

ST COLUMBA’S PRIZE BINGO: NEXT MEETING IN SEPTEMBER. Non-perishable items to give as prizes are always needed. Thank you for your generosity! **Since last September, we have raised c. £ 3,500!** A sincere ‘thank you’ also to our marvellous helpers; your efforts are very much appreciated!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Amelia & John Drew + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zandre + Richard Karasek +

Anniversaries: + Bob Black + Samuel Thomson + Richard Utton + Bill Muir + George Cameron + Lizzy Gardener +