



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
Tel: (01463) 794619 / (01463) 233519
e-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
website: <http://www.stcolumbasculloden.org>
Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

15TH MAY 2016
SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST
YEAR C

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 2: 1-11
Psalm: Ps 103: 1. 24. 29-31. 34
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7. 12-13
Gospel: John 20: 19-23

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 15 May	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am
Tuesday 17 May	Tuesday in the Seventh Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Wednesday 18 May	Wednesday in the Seventh Week of the Year	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 19 May	Thursday in the Seventh Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Sunday 22 May	SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am

Pentecost Sunday: A Mighty Wind

The giving of the Spirit to the new people of God crowns the mighty acts of the Father in salvation history.

The Jewish feast of Pentecost called all devout Jews to Jerusalem to celebrate their birth as God's chosen people, in the covenant Law given to Moses at Sinai (see Leviticus 23:15-21; Deuteronomy 16:9-11).

In today's First Reading, the mysteries prefigured in that feast are fulfilled in the pouring out of the Spirit on Mary and the Apostles (see Acts 1:14).

The Spirit seals the new law and new covenant brought by Jesus, written not on stone tablets but on the hearts of believers, as the prophets promised (see 2 Corinthians 3:2-8; Romans 8:2).

The Spirit is revealed as the life-giving breath of the Father, the Wisdom by which He made all things, as we see in today's Psalm. In the beginning, the Spirit came as a "mighty wind" sweeping over the face of the earth (see Genesis 1:2). And in the new creation of Pentecost, the Spirit again comes as "a strong, driving wind" to renew the face of the earth.

As God fashioned the first man out of dust and filled him with His Spirit (see Genesis 2:7), in today's Gospel we see the New Adam become a life-giving Spirit, breathing new life into the Apostles (see 1 Corinthians 15:45, 47).

Like a river of living water, for all ages He will pour out His Spirit on His body, the Church, as we hear in today's Second Reading (see also John 7:37-39).

We receive that Spirit in the sacraments, being made a "new creation" in Baptism (see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15). Drinking of the one Spirit in the Eucharist (see 1 Corinthians 10:4), we are the first fruits of a new humanity – fashioned from out of every nation under heaven, with no distinctions of wealth or language or race, a people born of the Spirit. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"The authority of Jesus – and the authority of the Christian – comes from this ability to understand the things of the Spirit, to speak the language of the Spirit. It is from this anointing of the Holy Spirit. Often, so often, we find among our faithful, simple old women who perhaps didn't even finish elementary school, but who can speak to us of things better than any theologian, because they have the Spirit of Christ. Exactly like St. Paul. We all need to ask for this. Lord, grant us Christian identity, which You had. Grant us Your Spirit. Grant us Your way of thinking, feeling, speaking: may the Lord grant us the anointing of the Holy Spirit." (Homily at Morning Mass, 2 September 2014)

GENERAL NEWS

The **Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures 2016** entitled *'Newman on Vatican II'* will be given in St. Scholastica's Retreat House, Pluscarden, from **17 – 19 May** by **Father Ian Ker**. Please see our Parish website for more details.

Saturday Night Dance Party, 11 June: the Polish Fundraising Group are holding a Saturday Night Dance Party on **11 June, from 7.00pm to 1.00am (!)** in St Mary's Church Hall, Huntly Street, with a Lottery at 10.00pm. Entertainment will be provided by 'The Brothers Band', and by the all-female singing group 'The Voices'. Tickets, priced at £10 each, are available from PJ in St Mary's parish office; call him on 01463 233519, or e-mail: stmarysinverness@btinternet.com.

The **Highland Foodbank** is short of some of the items normally given out in their food packages and has asked if we can help. The items are *tinned mince/stew, cream crackers, tinned corn beef*. If you wish to donate, please feel free to hand in items to us until the end of May. The Foodbank is also seeking volunteers to help with a supermarket collection at Tesco Extra, Inshes, on Friday/Saturday 1/2 July. If you could give a couple of hours to help, please contact Lorna Dempster, tel. 07875 332396 or e-mail lorna.dempster@blythswood.org

PARISH NEWS

"Faith in Film" Evening: Wednesday 18 May, beginning at 7.00pm. This month's film is *"The Mission"* (1986), by Roland Joffé, director of *"The Killing Fields"* and *"There Be Dragons"*. The film, which stars Robert de Niro, Jeremy Irons, Liam Neeson, and Ray McAnally, is based on **the true story of the 18th-century Jesuit missions on the borders of Brazil and Paraguay**. Visually stunning, and with an unforgettable musical score by Ennio Morricone, this film is both memorable and thought-provoking. Certificate PG (125 minutes).

"The Spiritual Works of Mercy": our next Year of Mercy Evening of Reflection on the Spiritual Works of Mercy will take place **at St Columba's on Wednesday 25 May, beginning at 7.00pm**. The format will be as follows: a short talk, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, some quiet time, and concluding with Benediction. Come and join us!

Feast of St Columba, Thursday 9 June: there is lot to celebrate this year – the Feast-Day of our Parish Patron Saint, the first anniversary of your Parish Priest here at St Columba's (..and the fifth anniversary of his Priesthood!). After the Mass, we will have a Summer Picnic 'al fresco' on the patio (weather permitting!). **We are looking for volunteers to help with the moving of tables, setting out the food, etc.,** and we ask that you **bring along something to share and eat with others** in a fraternal Parish festive meal. **Please see the poster/sheet in the entrance foyer.**

CAN YOU HELP OUR PARISH?

We are looking for volunteers to help the parish in the following areas:

- Reading at Mass
- Welcome and hospitality

- Bingo Fundraiser
- Helping with Teas and Coffees after Mass
- Flowers
- Cleaning the church
- Gardening

For further details, please speak to Fr Domenico.

CALLING ALL TEENAGERS!! 'Power of Grace', Saturday 11 June: A day retreat for **teens aged 12-16**, organised by the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia. The event will be held **at Greyfriars' Convent, Elgin, from 11.00am to 6.00pm**. Come and experience the power of your Confirmation during this day of fun, fellowship, and prayer. **The event is free, but registration is required. The necessary forms are available on the parish website.** Fr Domenico will be participating in the day's activities; please speak to him, or e-mail the Sisters at: dominican.sisters@dioceseofaberdeen.org. Car-sharing can be arranged. **Parents: please do encourage your youngsters to come along to this fun-filled day!**

Disabled Parking Bays: please note that we have created three new Disabled Parking Bays, near the entrance to St Columba's, for Blue Badge Holders.

Congratulations to Paige Hope Doherty, who was baptised at St Columba's on Saturday 7 May. May the Holy Spirit bless you with His love, and fill you with grace!

Congratulations to two of our Diocesan Seminarians: on Thursday evening, 12 May, in the Pontifical Scots College in Rome, **Emmet O'Dowd and Rafal Sweda were formally admitted as Candidates for Holy Orders**. Please keep Emmet and Rafal in your prayers, together with all our other Seminarians, and continue to pray for more vocations to the Priesthood in our Diocese.

Reconciliation and Holy Communion classes:

Thursdays, 5.30pm-6.00pm.

Meetings on: 19, 26 May; and on 2, 9, 16, 23 June.

Confirmation classes:

Thursdays, 6.30pm-7.15pm.

Meetings on: 19 May; and on 2 & 16 June.

Church cleaning: Tuesday 17th May, at 4.30pm – Gi Gi and Shona. Additional help is always appreciated!

"90 Club" – Next draw Sunday 29th May. There are a few numbers available if you would like to join in this fundraiser. Please ask Don for information.

PRIZE BINGO: Next eyes down Friday 27 May, at 7.00pm. A warm welcome awaits you and your family members. Items to give as prizes are always required. Thank to everyone for the wonderful items we are given.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + John Drew + Cathy Thomson + Leslie Murray +

Anniversaries: + Alastair McNeill + Canon Hugh Malaney (Alness) + Ron Page + Isobel Hastie +