



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

17TH JULY 2016

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, C

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Genesis 18: 1-10

Psalm: Ps 14: 2-5

2nd Reading: Colossians 1: 24-28

Gospel: Luke 10: 38-42

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 17 July	SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am
Tuesday 19 July	Tuesday in the Sixteenth Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Wednesday 20 July	Wednesday in the Sixteenth Week of the Year	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 21 July	Thursday in the Sixteenth Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Sunday 24 July	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	9.00am 9.30am

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Waiting on the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

We are already in the heart of the summer, at least in the northern hemisphere. This is the time in which the schools are closed and in which most vacations are concentrated. Even the pastoral activities of the parishes are reduced.. It is therefore a favourable moment to give first place to what is effectively the most important thing in life, that is to say, listening to the Word of God. This Sunday's Gospel always reminds us of this with the celebrated episode of Jesus' visit to the house of Martha and Mary narrated by St. Luke (10:38-42).

Martha and Mary are two sisters; they also have a brother, Lazarus, who, however, does not appear in this case. Jesus passes through their village and — the text says — Martha welcomes him (cf. 10:38). This detail gives one to understand that, of the two sisters, Martha is the oldest, the one who rules the house. In fact, after Jesus is accommodated, Mary sits at his feet and listens to him, while Martha is completely absorbed with much serving, which is certainly due to the exceptional guest. We seem to see the scene: One sister is very busy and the other is enraptured by the presence of the Master and his

words. After a while Martha, evidently resentful, no longer resists and protests, also feeling that she has the right to criticize Jesus: "Lord, does it not matter to you that my sister has left me to do all the serving? Tell her, therefore, to help me." Indeed, Martha would like to teach the Master! But Jesus, with great calm, answers: "Martha, Martha" — and this name repeated expresses affection — "you are anxious and worried

about many things, but there is only one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her" (Luke 10:41-42). Christ's word is quite clear: no scorn for the active life, nor much less for the generous hospitality; but a plain reminder of the fact that the one thing that is truly necessary is something else: listening to the Word of the Lord; and the Lord is there in that moment, present in the person of Jesus! Everything else will pass and will be taken away from us, but the Word of God is eternal and gives meaning to our daily activity.

Dear Friends, this Gospel passage is very important at vacation time, because it recalls the fact that the human person must work, must involve himself in domestic and professional concerns, to be sure, but he has need of God before all else, who is the interior light of love and truth. Without love, even the most important activities lose value and do not bring joy. Without a profound meaning, everything we do is reduced to sterile and disordered activism. And who gives us love and truth if not Jesus Christ? So let us learn, brothers, to help each other, to cooperate, but first of all to choose together the better part, which is and will always be our greater good.

At this time when many of you are on holiday, I pray that you and your loved ones may be truly refreshed in body and spirit, so that you may return with renewed vigour to the responsibilities of your daily lives. May God bless you all!

(Pope Benedict XVI, Angelus Address from Castel Gandolfo, 18 July 2010).

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. **FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE.** Phone 01463 233519, or e-mail: stmarysinverness@btinternet.com.

Highland Deanery Annual Pilgrimage: Saturday 10 September 2016. The venue for this year’s pilgrimage will be **St Mary’s, Beaulieu**. 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.

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

Amoris Laetitia Reading Group: come along to our informal, relaxed reading group, where we’ll explore and share some of the ideas in Pope Francis’ new teaching document, *Amoris Laetitia* (the Apostolic Exhortation on Love in the Family). We meet together **on Wednesdays, 7.00pm-8.30pm**, Full details on our parish website. If you are interested in taking part in this reading group, contact Fr Domenico at: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com. Please note that our **next meeting takes place on Wednesday 20 July**, and we’ll be looking at Chapter 4 (Love in Marriage).

Easyfundraising – have you tried it?

It’s really simple, and doesn’t cost you anything!

All you have to do is:

1. Go to

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcolumbasculloden>

2. Sign up for free

3. **Get shopping** - your donations will be collected by easyfundraising and automatically sent to St Columba’s Church, Culloden. It couldn’t be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and St Columba’s Church, Culloden will be really grateful for your donations.

Thus far, we have raised £22.97, from 8 parishioners. Imagine how much we might raise with 80 such supporters?! Try it – it’s free! Every little helps!

Hospital/Home Visits: if you know of anyone who is sick or housebound, and who would like to receive the Sacraments, or just a visit, please speak to Fr Domenico.

A big “Thank You” – to everyone who contributes to the smooth running of the Parish: to those who help with the liturgy (Sacristans, Catechists, Altar Servers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers, Musicians, Passkeepers); to those who maintain the beauty and wellbeing of the church

(Cleaners, Gardeners, Flower-arrangers), and to all of you who support St Columba’s by your prayers, by your presence at Mass and at our various events, by your much-appreciated financial assistance, and by your kindness. Your help is vital!

Teas and coffees are served after the Sunday 9.30 Mass, in the meeting room at the end of the corridor. A warm welcome awaits visitors and “locals”. Please come along and enjoy a friendly chat.

Church cleaning – Tuesday 9.30am: Marie and Don. Additional help is always appreciated!

“90 Club”: The next draw is **Sunday 31st JULY**. There are a few tickets still available if you would like to join; ask Don for information.

PRIZE BINGO: Our Fundraiser Bingo will return after the Summer break, in September, on the first Friday of the month. Non-perishable items can still be handed in, and they will be safely stored until September. Thank you for your generosity and support.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Amelia Drew + Leslie Murray +

Anniversaries: + Bill Muir + Samuel Thomson + Richard Utton +

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: 8 August). 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: 1 August): contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity & fraternity in the local parishes. **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: 24 July). 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.**