

St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

17 MAY 2020: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A (II); Psalter: Week 2)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17 Psalm: Ps 65 (66): 1-7, 16, 20 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3: 15-18 Gospel: John 14: 15-21

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 17 May	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (p. 385 – Year A)	Private Sunday Mass offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am
Monday 18 May	Monday of Week 6 of Eastertide / 100 th Anniversary of the birth of Saint John Paul II Mass Intention: Iwona and John Knight (40 th Wedding Anniversary recently)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Tuesday 19 May	Tuesday of Week 6 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Jenner Martin (Birthday)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Wednesday 20 May	Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest Mass Intention: John Campbell, RIP (Anniversary recently)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Thursday 21 May	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (SOLEMNITY) Mass Intention: Frank Webb, RIP (50 th Anniversary today)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Friday 22 May	Saint Rita of Cascia Mass Intention: Padraig Gallagher, RIP (Recently departed)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Saturday 23 May	Saturday of Week 6 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Padraig Gallagher, RIP (Recently departed)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Sunday 24 May	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (p. 399 – Year A)	Private Sunday Mass offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am

Sixth Sunday of Easter: Alive in the Spirit

Jesus will not leave us alone. He won't make us children of God in Baptism only to leave us "orphans," He assures us in today's Gospel (see Romans 8:14–17).

He asks the Father to give us His Spirit, to dwell with us and keep us united in the life He shares with the Father.

We see the promised gift of His Spirit being conferred in today's First Reading.

The scene from Acts apparently depicts a primitive Confirmation rite. Philip, one of the first deacons (see Acts 6:5), proclaims the Gospel in the non-Jewish city of Samaria. The Samaritans accept the Word of God (see Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 2:13) and are baptized.

It remains for the Apostles to send their representatives, Peter and John, to pray and lay hands on the newly baptized—that they might receive the Holy Spirit. This is the origin of our sacrament of Confirmation (see Acts 19:5–6), by which the grace of Baptism is completed and believers are sealed with the Spirit promised by the Lord.

We remain in this grace so long as we love Christ and keep His commandments. And strengthened in the Spirit whom Jesus said would be our Advocate, we are called to bear witness to our salvation—to the tremendous deeds that God has done for us in the name of His Son.

In today's Psalm, we celebrate our liberation. As He changed the sea into dry land to free the captive Israelites, Christ suffered that He might lead us to God, as we hear in today's Second Reading.

This is the reason for our hope—the hope that sustains us in the face of a world that cannot accept His truth, the hope that sustains us when we are maligned and defamed for His name's sake.

Put to death in the flesh, He was brought to life in the Spirit, Paul tells us today. And as He himself promises: "Because I live, you will live. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A (p. 385) –

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 385: Readings & Proper Prayers

p. 541: Creed

p. 563: Preface IV of Easterp. 611: Eucharistic Prayer IIIp. 631: Communion Rite

Remember one another – Please try to support one another in these challenging times: a phone call to check up on elderly and vulnerable parishioners and friends; a friendly call to see if anyone needs shopping; supporting your local shops and businesses, which will be hit hard from a financial perspective. We are all in this together.

Remember your parish – if you would like to support the maintenance of our parish during this time of lockdown, here are some different ways that the parish can be assisted:

- A regular Standing Order: the account details are in the next column opposite, under 'Parish Finances'.
- Donations in an envelope, put through the church letterbox. During this period, and for the foreseeable future, any offerings, donations or benefactions to the parish will be paid in to our No. 1 (Running) Account.
- A re-evaluation of your level of giving. If every parishioner at Mass gave an extra £5 (two coffees at Costa or Starbucks..), it would make an enormous difference to the future of the parish!!
- A Bequest, or gift left in a will, is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Building Fund Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

Mass intentions – if you would like a private Mass celebrated for any sick family and friends, or any deceased loved ones, simply e-mail Fr. Domenico.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): after recent discussion with the Bishop, the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available for those who wish to avail themselves. Confessions will be heard in the Parish Meeting Room. Entrance is by the back patio door – opposite the entrance to the House. There will be a comfy chair for the penitent, near the door, and Fr. Domenico will be seated in the other corner of the room, observing social distancing. If you would like to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, simply e-mail Fr. Domenico, or phone the Parish House (794993), to make an appointment.

The Marian Month of May – "The month of May is ... a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family." (Pope Francis, 25 April 2020). The Holy Father reminds us of the traditional Marian devotion associated with this month of the year, and in his recent letter, he provides us with two prayers to recite at the end of the Rosary, which he will be using, in order to

unite himself spiritually with each one of us. The letter of Pope Francis, together with the two prayers, can be found on the Vatican website (click below): http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/letters/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200425_lettera-mesedimaggio.html

Catholicism in the Time of Coronavirus - a FREE eBook to download from 'Word on Fire': The COVID-19 pandemic has been, for countless people around the world, a great and unexpected trial. But for Catholics, who were already struggling with the abuse crisis and a dramatic rise in disaffiliation, this trial is not only economic, social, or medical—it is spiritual. Plunged into a time of darkness and separated from the sacraments and their parish communities, the faithful are feeling isolated, disheartened, and uncertain about what the future holds. This new eBook from Word on Fire Institute Fellow Dr. Stephen Bullivant is an insightful and encouraging analysis of the coronavirus, shedding light not only on the Church's present moment or similar crises of the past but also on the immediate future. For further details, go to the following website: https://ebook.wordonfire.org/covidbook?utm source=facebook&utm medium=socialmedia &utm_term=CatholicismCoronavirus&utm_campaign=C atholicismCoronavirus-eBook

Family Faith Formation – The Ogilvie Centre exists to encourage, strengthen and build the faithful in encountering Christ, becoming intentional disciples, and using their gifts to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It does this by providing on-going support and resources for evangelisation, catechesis and adult formation. Apart from Adult and Children's Faith Formation and Catechesis, The Ogilvie Centre is eager to assist families in deepening their faith. Why not click on the Centre website to find out more about its resources? (https://ogilvie.rcda.scot/family-formation/)

Laudato Sì Week – You are invited to join Catholics around the world on the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on our common home. The 'week' runs from the 16-24 May. For more information, visit the website at: https://laudatosiweek.org/

'90 Club – NEXT DRAW: 31 MAY. Good luck to all who have a number!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Michael Good, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Margaret and Stuart MacLennan, Jeanette Catto, John Macdonald, Evelyn MacGregor, Denise Maclean, Rena Herbison, Louise Flett, Alistair Macleod, Robert Tarr, Alex Fruters, Pat McDaid.

Recently Departed: + Linda Rock +

Anniversaries: + John Campbell + Alastair McNeill + Canon Hugh Malaney + Ron Page + Isobel Hastie + Eilidh MacLeod + Iain Burns + Mary Becci + John Campbell + Frank Webb +