



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

18TH SEPTEMBER 2016
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Amos 8: 4-7
Psalm: Ps 112: 1-2, 4-8
2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 2: 1-8
Gospel: Luke 16: 1-13

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 18 September	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00am 9.30am
Tuesday 20 September	Memorial of St Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Companions	Mass	7.30pm
Wednesday 21 September	Feast of St Matthew	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 22 September	Thursday in the Twenty-Fifth Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Sunday 25 September	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00am 9.30am

Who is Jorge Mario Bergoglio? – “I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of Our Lord Jesus Christ”
(An interview between Pope Francis and Fr Antonio Spadaro, SJ)

I have the first question ready, but then I decide not to follow the script that I had prepared for myself, and I ask him point-blank: “Who is Jorge Mario Bergoglio?” The pope stares at me in silence. I ask him if this is a question that I am allowed to ask.... He nods that it is, and he tells me: “I do not know what might be the most fitting description.... I am a sinner. This is the most accurate definition. It is not a figure of speech, a literary genre. I am a sinner.”

The pope continues to reflect and concentrate, as if he did not expect this question, as if he were forced to reflect further. “Yes, perhaps I can say that I am a bit astute, that I can adapt to circumstances, but it is also true that I am a bit naïve. Yes, but the best summary, the one that comes more from the inside and I feel most true is this: I am a sinner whom the Lord has looked upon.” And he repeats: “I am one who is looked upon by the Lord. I always felt my motto, *Miserando atque Eligendo* [By Having Mercy and by Choosing Him], was very true for me.”

The motto is taken from the *Homilies of Bede the Venerable*, who writes in his comments on the Gospel story of the calling of Matthew: “Jesus saw a publican, and since he looked at him with feelings of love and chose him, he said to him, ‘Follow me.’” The pope adds: “I think the Latin gerund *miserando* is impossible to translate in both Italian and Spanish. I like to translate it with another gerund that does not exist: *misericiordiando* [“mercy-ing”].

Pope Francis continues his reflection and tells me, in a change of topic that I do not immediately understand: “I do not know Rome well. I know a few things. These include the Basilica of St. Mary Major; I always used to go there.” I laugh and I tell him, “We all understood that very well, Holy Father!” “Right, yes”—the pope continues – “I know St. Mary Major, St. Peter’s...but when I had to come to Rome, I

always stayed in [the neighbourhood of] Via della Scrofa. From there I often visited the Church of St. Louis of France [San Luigi dei francesi], and I went there to contemplate the painting of ‘*The Calling of St. Matthew*’ by Caravaggio.” I begin to intuit what the pope wants to tell me.

“That finger of Jesus, pointing at Matthew. That’s me. I feel like him. Like Matthew.” Here the pope becomes determined, as if he had finally found the image he was looking for: “It is the gesture of Matthew that strikes me: he holds on to his money as if to say, ‘No, not me! No, this money is mine.’ Here, this is me, a sinner on whom the Lord has turned his gaze. And this is what I said when they asked me if I would accept my election as pontiff.” Then the pope whispers in Latin: “I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a spirit of penance.”

[The full text of the interview is available here: <http://www.americamagazine.org/pope-interview>]



GENERAL NEWS

Special Joint Meeting of Cradlehall and Croy Community Councils: Monday 19 September in Croy Village Hall. This joint meeting has been arranged to discuss the safety concerns, speed calming measures, and road gritting on the busy B9006 road. Representatives of Police Scotland, Highland Council Roads Department and two Community Councils will meet the public to hear first-hand their fears and concerns. The meeting is **open to the public and all residents along the length of the route of the B9006**, and all road users are most welcome to attend and share their experiences.

Harvest Festival: Thanksgiving Party on Saturday 24 September at 7.00pm, in St Mary's Church Hall. This is a great opportunity to experience a Harvest Thanksgiving celebration, and to join with our Polish and European congregations. All nationalities most welcome for this fundraising event at St Mary's. Live music presented by *The Brothers*, along with a taste of traditional Polish harvest. 'Bring your own bottle'. Entertainment and light buffet included in the price of £10 ticket board. Reserve your tickets from Deacon Andrew Niski in the Parish Office (01463 233519).

Youth Ministry Formation Weekend at Kilcoy Castle! – Thursday to Sunday, 22-25 September 2016. Accommodation is available for this weekend, which includes presentations by Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB, the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, and youth ministers from the United States. The weekend will conclude with the celebration of Holy Mass. If interested, please contact Sister Christiana at: ogilvie@dioceseofaberdeen.org, or call 07938 729895.

PARISH NEWS

Day of Prayer for Peace: Tuesday 20 September 2016 – Pope Francis has invited all of the Bishops' Conferences around the world to promote in their churches a Day of Prayer for Peace on 20 September, the very day of the Inter-religious gathering in Assisi presided over by Pope Francis.

Day Workshop for Catechists ('old' and 'new'), youth ministers, and those involved in Children's Liturgy – **Saturday 24 September at St Columba's, 9.30am-4.30pm.** Please do come along and support this important event.

Would you like to join our Altar Servers? – There will be the first practice for NEW altar servers here at St Columba's, on **Tuesday 27 September, from 4.30pm to 5.15pm.** We hope to form a Server's Club, with fun activities organised for all – why not come along and join our team?!

4 October – Feast of St Francis of Assisi: The Secular Franciscan Order will celebrate the Feast of St Francis on Tuesday 4 October at St Columba's, Culloden. **10.30am: Transitus service**, which prayerfully narrates the death of St Francis; **followed by 11.00am Mass.** All are invited to join with members of the local fraternity for the celebration and for refreshments. For more details phone Helen MacGilp on Inverness 792149.

Saturday 29 October – a fund-raising Coffee Morning at St Columba's, in aid of Mary's Meals. More details to follow.

Church cleaning – Monday 19 September at 9.30am: Margaret, Marie and Don.

"90 Club": August Draw – Next Prize-Winning Draw will be held on Sunday 25 September. Good luck to all who have a number! There are a few tickets still available; £2.00 monthly. Please ask Don.

PRIZE BINGO – FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER!! 'Eyes down' at 7.00pm. Items to give out as prizes are always needed (ten single-line prizes; ten 'full house' prizes; plus Raffle prizes). Many thanks to all who donated such marvellous gifts. Your help is crucial in making this fundraiser such a success for the parish.

Highland Hospitality! – tea, coffee, cake, and biscuits is served after Sunday Mass in the Meeting Room. A warm welcomes awaits everyone. Please come along and enjoy a friendly chat!

Ceud mile failte! – if you are new to St Columba's, a very warm welcome to you! Please take a moment to fill in a parish register form, and return it to Fr Domenico.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + Leslie Murray + Ellen Williams + Rhona MacGregor + Jock Shaw +

Anniversaries: + Hector McPhee + Malcolm MacDonald + Morag McInnes +

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of every month, at 7.30pm (**next meeting: 10 October**). The meeting is followed by dinner at the Craigmorie 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: 3 October**): contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). 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: 2 October**). 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.

The St Mary's Parent & Toddler Group meets on Wednesdays in the Marian Room, 11.00am – 2.45pm.

The St Ninian's Parent & Toddler Group meets on Friday 23 September. Enquiries to Jenny Wilson, tel. 07779 003434.

.. and St Columba's Parent & Toddler Group?? Why not? Let's think about organising our *own* group here!! Several Mums have already spoken to me about this; please see Fr Domenico after Mass if you are interested in getting involved.