

# St. Columba's, Culloden

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# ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~ 20 AUGUST 2017: TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR. A

# **Sunday Mass Readings**

1st Reading: Isaiah 56: 1,6-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 66 (67): 2-3, 5-6, 8 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 11: 13-15. 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 20 August	TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund	Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 22 August	Memorial of the Queenship	Sacrament of Reconciliation	6.30 pm
	of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Evening Prayer	7.00 pm
		Mass	7.30 pm
Wednesday 23 August	Optional Memorial of St Rose of Lima	Sacrament of Reconciliation	10.30 am
	-	Mass	11.00 am
		Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.30 am
Thursday 24 August	Feast of St Bartholomew, Apostle	Sacrament of Reconciliation	7.00 pm
	, ,	Mass	7.30 pm
Sunday 27 August	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund	Mass	9.30 am

# 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: A Foreigner's Faith

Most of us are the foreigners, the non-Israelites, about whom today's First Reading prophesies.

Coming to worship the God of Israel, we stand in the line of faith epitomised by the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel. Calling to Jesus as Lord and Son of David, this foreigner shows her great faith in God's covenant with Israel.

Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Then, He tells her His mission is only to Israelites. Finally, he uses "dog," an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites (see Matthew 7:6). Yet she persists, believing that He alone offers salvation.

In this family drama, we see fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy and the promise we sing of in today's Psalm. In Jesus, God makes known among all the nations His way and His salvation (see John 14:6). At the start of salvation history, God called Abraham (see Genesis 12:2). He chose his offspring, Israel, from all the nations on the face of the earth, to build His covenant kingdom (see Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Isaiah 41:8).

In God's plan, Abraham was to be the father of many nations (see Romans 4:16-17). Israel was to

be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God, made up of all who believe what the Canaanite professes—that Jesus is Lord (see Exodus 4:22-23; Romans 5:13-24).

Jesus came first to restore the kingdom to Israel (see Acts 1:6; 13:46). But His ultimate mission was the reconciliation of the world, as Paul declares in today's Epistle.

In the Mass we join all peoples in doing Him homage. As Isaiah foretold, we come to His holy mountain, the heavenly Jerusalem, to offer sacrifice at His altar (see Hebrews 12:22-24,28). With the Canaanite, we take our place at the Master's table, to be fed as His children. [Scott Hahn]

## Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"Faith is no refuge for the fainthearted, but something which enhances our lives. It makes us aware of a magnificent calling, the vocation of love." (Encyclical Letter *Lumen Fidei*, 53)

#### **GENERAL NEWS**

Saturday 26 August: St Ninian's Summer Fair, 12 noon to 3.00pm – this fun-filled family day includes a barbeque lunch, with numerous stalls and events, raffles, a bouncy castle, and much more! Come along and join in the fun – all welcome!

Sunday 3 September: National Pilgrimage to Carfin, 2017 – In Honour of Our Lady of Fatima, and with the Consecration of Scotland to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Mass begins at 3.00pm. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop Philip Tartaglia; Homilist: Bishop Brian McGee.

Saturday 23 September: "Jesus the Healer" – a Day of Recollection led by Fr Domenico, at St Mary's, Beauly. The day begins at 10.30am, and includes: Holy Mass; Talk; Group Discussion; Lunch; Exposition and Adoration; and Sacrament of Confession. The day concludes with Benediction at 2.30pm.

## Saturday 21 October: Sponsored Hill Walk

Do you like walking up hills big and small? Would you, or someone you know, like to fundraise with Inverness Street Pastors by taking part in our sponsored WALK up Bin Hill of Cullen, Ben Aigan and Ben Rinnes on 21 October?

The day starts at 8.00am, ready to climb Bin Hill of Cullen, then to Ben Aigan for about 10.00am. We will have our packed lunch once we have completed Ben Aigan, before heading off to Ben Rinnes, ready to start the climb at about 1.00pm. You will be climbing 986m, more than height of a Munro, and walking 16 kms in total. Join us for all three hills or just one, make it you own challenge! Please reply for registration and sponsor forms. You can also create your own sponsorship page by following this link and click on the 'start fundraising': https://tinyurl.com/3hillchallenge.

For further details, please contact Robyn at: robyn@loveinverness.org, or phone 07752 099966.

#### **PARISH NEWS**

**Light of the North:** the new issue is now available. There is a wealth of good information in its pages from throughout the diocese, with many interesting articles. Please do pick up a copy, and consider making a donation to the publication costs!

Faith in Film Evening: Wednesday September, from 7.00pm: Courageous As law enforcement officers, Adam Mitchell, Nathan Hayes and their partners willingly stand up to the worst the world can offer, yet at the end of the day, they face a challenge that none of them are truly prepared to tackle: fatherhood. While they consistently give their best on the job, they quickly discover that their children are beginning to drift further away from them. When tragedy hits home, these men are left with a newfound urgency to renew their faith and reach out to their own children. Will they be able to find a way to serve and protect those who are most dear to them? Certificate: 12 (c. 120 minutes).

Friday 22–Sunday 24 September: "Filled to Overflowing" – Faith Formators' Retreat and Workshops, held at St Columba's, Culloden. See the poster on the noticeboards for the full programme. For further details, or to register your interest, please e-mail ogilvie@rcda.scot, or phone 01343 547806.

Cleaning Team: Monday 21 August, 9.30am – Margaret and Don. Anyone offering to help to keep the church nice and clean only needs to give one hour a month. You won't be left on your own! Ask Don for details.

**"90 Club": Next Draw 27 August!** – Join in now; you might be lucky! Only £2 a month. All profits go to our Building Fund. Please ask Don for details.

OUR PRIZE BINGO begins again on Friday 1 September! Eyes down at 7.00pm! Come and take part in a fun-filled family evening. Refreshments provided during the interval! Thanks to the generosity of so many of you we have some lovely prizes to be won. Your support is much appreciated!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia and John Drew + Ewen Macdonald Senior + Lachlan MacNeil + Rose Corbett + Murray Mackay +

**Anniversaries:** + Jim McKelvie + Mary Bell + Jock Parker + John Tracy +