



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

23 APRIL 2017: SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Psalm: Ps 117 (118):2-4, 13-15, 22-24

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 23 April	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 25 April	St Mark, Evangelist - Feast	NO MASS (Assembly of Priests' Meeting in Elgin)	-
Wednesday 26 April	Wednesday of the Second Week of Eastertide	NO MASS (Assembly of Priests' Meeting in Elgin)	-
Thursday 27 April	Thursday of the Second Week of Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 30 April	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Second Sunday of Easter: His Mercy Endures

We are children of Jesus' Resurrection from the dead. Through this wondrous sign of His great mercy, the Father of Jesus has given us new birth, as we hear in today's Epistle from 1 Peter.

Today's First Reading sketches the "family life" of our first ancestors in the household of God (see 1 Peter 4:17). We see them doing what we still do—devoting themselves to the Apostles' teaching, meeting daily to pray and celebrate "the breaking of the bread."

The Apostles saw the Lord. He stood in their midst, showed them His hands and sides. They heard His blessing and received His commission — to extend the Father's mercy to all peoples through the power and Spirit He conferred upon them.

We must walk by faith and not by sight, must believe and love what we have not seen (see 2 Corinthians 5:7). Yet the invisible realities are made present for us through the devotions the Apostles handed on.

Notice the experience of the risen Lord in today's Gospel is described in a way that evokes the Mass.

Both appearances take place on a Sunday. The Lord comes to be with His disciples. They rejoice, listen to His Word, receive the gift of His forgiveness and peace. He offers His wounded body to them in

remembrance of His Passion. And they know and worship Him as their Lord and their God.

Thomas' confession is a vow of faith in the new covenant. As promised long before, in the blood of Jesus we can now know the Lord as our God and be known as His people (see Hosea 2:20-25).

This confession is sung in the heavenly liturgy (see Revelation 4:11). And in every Mass on earth we renew our covenant and receive the blessings Jesus promised for those who have not seen but have believed.

In the Mass, God's mercy endures forever, as we sing in today's Psalm. This is the day the Lord has made—when the victory of Easter is again made wonderful in our eyes. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

Truly, God's mercy is forever; it never ends, it never runs out, it never gives up when faced with closed doors, and it never tires. In this *forever*, we find strength in moments of trial and weakness because we are sure that God does not abandon us.

GENERAL NEWS

Sunday 23 April: Divine Mercy Sunday – afternoon of guided devotions at St Mary’s, Inverness. The programme is as follows:

2.00 pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

- Guided meditation on the Mercy of God (English & Polish)
- Opportunity for Confession

3.00 pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet

3.20 pm: Address/Spiritual Conference

3.45 pm: Afternoon Prayer

4.00 pm: Benediction

4.10 pm: Solemn Veneration of the Image and Act of Consecration

See the poster on the notice board.

Saturday 29 April: Dancing Party in St Mary’s Hall, starting at 7.00pm. **Tickets priced £15** from Parish Office. Live music provided by the Group THE BROTHERS from Inverness and DJ COLI. Bring your own bottle and your food. Everyone is welcome. For enquiries, phone PJ in the Parish Office: Tel. 01463 233 519.

Wednesday 3 May: Inverness Justice and Peace Group will be meeting on the first Wednesday of the month (**3 May**) in St Ninian’s Parish Hall. The topic will be **‘I was a stranger and you welcomed me’**, exploring what we mean by the term ‘refugees’. New members are warmly welcomed. All enquiries to Jill Kent at: Jillkent@me.com.

Saturday 20 May: Spring Fair at St Mary’s, Inverness – The Tuesday Craft Group is organising a Spring Fair for Mary’s Meals on Saturday 20th May 2017. From 10:45 am until 12:30pm. The Group will be showing crafts for the first time and selling them for Mary’s Meals. Have you any wool you want to give away? Please give your wool to the members on Tuesdays in the Marian Room or to any of the Sisters (DDL) at any time. The Group will also welcome any of your knitting, crochets or any crafts which you want to donate for the Sales. Please come and support Mary’s Meals.

Sunday 11 June 2017: St Margaret Pilgrimage, Dunfermline. The programme is as follows:

10.00am: Visit the sites associated with St Margaret’s life. 2.00pm: Gather at gates of Pittencrieff Park for procession. 3.00pm: Holy Mass at St Margaret’s Memorial Church. Those

interested in attending should go to www.stmargaretsdunfermline.co.uk for further details or contact us by e-mail at: st.margaretdunfermline@gmail.com.

28–30 July 2017: Diocesan Pilgrimage to Orkney: 900th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of St Magnus – See the poster in the foyer. Those interested in attending should go to www.magnus900.co.uk for further details. Please note that pilgrims will need to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. www.visitororkney.com.

PARISH NEWS

CATHOLICISM – Wednesday 26 April, from 7.00pm – “World Without End: The Last Things”. Explore the Church’s conviction that life here and now is preparation for an extraordinary world that is yet to come – a supernatural destiny. Bishop Barron presents the Catholic vision of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory as he journeys to Florence, Ireland and Rome. The vision of the Church sees beyond this world and invites us to consider a world without end. Bishop Barron shows how this vision is supported by the mystery and truth of the Resurrection of Jesus.

Cleaning Team: Tuesday 25 April: Mary and Marie.

“90 Club” – NEXT DRAW: SUNDAY 30 APRIL. Good luck! There are a few tickets left; only £2 per month! 3 prizes to be won. See Don for details.

PRIZE BINGO THIS FRIDAY! – ‘EYES DOWN’ AT 7.00 PM – come and join in the laughter and fun! Many thanks to all who donate items to give as prizes; your continued support is very much appreciated. Without your help, we would not be so well supported by the local community. Thank you!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Amelia Drew + John Drew + Leslie Murray + Frances Boyle + Ewen Macdonald Snr + Brian Murray + Lachlan MacNeil + Louisa and Suzanne Williams + Cath Maclean + Eilidh McPherson + Morag Macintyre + Mary Johnstone

Anniversaries: + Flora Morrison + Des Coleman