



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**23 SEPTEMBER 2018:
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR B**

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

Psalm: Ps 53 (54):3-6, 8

2nd Reading: James 3:16 – 4:3

Gospel: Mark 9: 30-37

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 23 September	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 'CATECHIST SUNDAY' ~ Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Confession Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 25 September	Tuesday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Morag MacIntyre (Heath and Intentions)	Sacrament of Confession Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 26 September	Memorial of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs Mass Intention: Calum and Mary MacIntyre (Heath and Intentions)	Sacrament of Confession Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 27 September	Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul, Priest Mass Intention: Donald Angus McCormick (Anniversary Today)	Sacrament of Confession Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 30 September	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Confession Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Servant of All

In today's First Reading, it's like we have our ears pressed to the wall and can hear the murderous grumblings of the elders, chief priests, and scribes—who last week Jesus predicted would torture and kill Him (see Mark 8:31; 10:33–34).

The liturgy invites us to see this passage from the Book of Wisdom as a prophecy of the Lord's Passion. We hear His enemies complain that "the Just One" has challenged their authority, reproached them for breaking the law of Moses, for betraying their training as leaders and teachers.

And we hear chilling words that foreshadow how they will mock Him as He hangs on the Cross: "For if the Just One be the Son of God, He will . . . deliver Him. . . ." (compare Matthew 27:41–43).

Today's Gospel and Psalm give us the flip side of the First Reading. In both, we hear of Jesus' sufferings from His point of view. Though His enemies surround Him, He offers himself freely in sacrifice, trusting that God will sustain Him.

But the apostles today don't understand this second announcement of Christ's passion. They begin arguing over issues of succession—over who among them is greatest, who will be chosen to lead after Christ is killed.

Again they are thinking not as God, but as human beings (see Mark 8:33). And again Jesus teaches the Twelve—the chosen leaders of His Church—that they must lead by imitating His example of love and self-sacrifice. They must be "servants of all," especially the weak and the helpless—symbolised by the child He embraces and places in their midst.

This is a lesson for us, too. We must have the mind of Christ, who humbled himself to come among us (see Philippians 2:5–11). We must freely offer ourselves, making everything we do a sacrifice in praise of His name.

As James says in today's Second Reading, we must seek wisdom from above, desiring humility, not glory, and in all things be gentle and full of mercy. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

Hard times may come, when the cross casts its shadow, yet nothing can destroy the supernatural joy that "adapts and changes, but always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved" (*Gaudete et Exsultate*, §125).

PARISH NEWS

TODAY: 'CATECHIST SUNDAY' – This is a new initiative, providing us with an opportunity to affirm the valuable work undertaken by our parish catechists. After the homily, Helen and Ewen will be invited to come forward and receive a blessing, together with a Certificate of Re-commission, signed by the Bishop. Please keep them in your prayers, as they continue to prepare our young parishioners to receive the Sacraments.

PROFESSION MASS OF JOHN TAYLOR INTO THE SECULAR FRANCISCAN ORDER: The Franciscan Fraternity of San Damiano invites you to this special event, which will take place at St. Columba's on **Wednesday 3 October at 11.00am** (the Vigil of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi). There will be a light lunch after the Mass, to which all are invited. The Fraternity will celebrate the *Transitus of St. Francis* in the afternoon, and visitors are invited to pray this with them. Please do consider coming along to support this special event, and to find out more about the Secular Franciscans!

FAITH IN FILM EVENING: 'ROMERO' – **Wednesday 10 October at 7.00pm.** *Romero* is a compelling and deeply moving look at the life of Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, who made the ultimate sacrifice in a passionate stand against social injustice and oppression in his country. Certificate: 15; duration 100 minutes.

'THE HOLY MASS: GIFT OF CHRIST' – A half-day workshop at St. Columba's, **on Saturday 20 October, from 11.00am onwards.** The workshop will include: Presentation on the History and Development of the Mass; Q&A and Discussion Sessions; A Scriptural 'Walk' Through the Mass; and more! With 'pot-luck lunch' (bring along something to share with others!). This is your opportunity to learn everything about the Mass that you ever wanted to know, but never had the opportunity to ask! All welcome: from post-Confirmation candidates, and teenagers, to the 'young at heart'! Spread the word!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: We have 2 meetings left: 1 class, together with a full rehearsal with the candidates. Please note the new time: Thursday, 5.45 – 6.15pm. The class takes place on 27 September. Rehearsal during the class on 4 October. Confirmations will be on Sunday 7 October during the 9.30am Mass.

HIGHLAND FOODBANK HARVEST APPEAL: Your donations help to provide three days of emergency food and support to local people in crisis. We would be grateful for the following items: * Breakfast Cereal * Tins of Tomatoes * Tins of Corned Beef * Jars of Instant Coffee * Cartons of Long Life Juice * Toothpaste/Toothbrushes. Please leave them in the plastic box at the front door of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

NEW ITEMS in our Piety Stall! Do you know of any young people preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation? We have a number of different gift ideas for you! Looking for a 2019 diary? Why not pick up a copy of our slimline Catholic diaries, suitable for jacket pockets and handbags, with all of the saints' days and holidays included! Beginning to think about Christmas? We already have a stock of Christmas cards and gifts for you! Have a browse after Mass!

Celebrating 100 years of Catholic Education in Scotland: There are new opportunities in Aberdeen for University Students and Teachers, for the academic year 2018–2019. For those studying to become a teacher, the new courses include the Catholic Teachers' Certificate in Religious Education, accredited by the St. Andrew's Foundation at the University of Glasgow. For those who are currently teaching, there is the new 'Setting out on the Road' course, which leads to the Catholic Teacher's Certificate, as well as other online courses. Please see the poster and information booklets in the entrance foyer.

Hospital Admissions: if you, or any member of your family, is to be admitted to hospital, and would like a visit from Fr. Domenico, please do inform him. Please note that it is neither the duty, nor, indeed, the policy, of hospitals to inform priests and ministers when congregation members are admitted; the responsibility is placed solely on family and friends.

Cleaning Team: Tuesday 25th September – Mary and Karen. Would you like to help clean the church? It only takes up one hour a month! See Don for details.

'90 Club': DRAW NEXT SUNDAY! – Would you like a number? There is still time to get one! Only £2 monthly! Ask Don for details.

NEXT PRIZE BINGO: FRIDAY 5 OCTOBER – 'EYES DOWN' AT 7.00PM! – We are looking for any non-perishable items for prizes (toiletries, gift packs, store vouchers, wine, spirits, chocolates, boxes of biscuits, etc.). A sincere 'thank you' for all of the items that have been handed in; these are very important to us, and are much appreciated. Your support is instrumental in making the Bingo such a success for the parish! Why not come along and join us in the family fun?!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + John Drew + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zanre + Richard Karasek + Brian Carr +

R.I.P.: + Catrina Greig +

Anniversaries: + Malcolm MacDonald + Morag McInnes + Kate McDaid + Bridget Tierney + Eddie Pocock +