

St. Columba's, Culloden

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Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dr Helen Macdonald



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

23rd AUGUST 2015 Twenty-First Sunday of the Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18

Psalm: 33: 2-3, 16-23

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 2, 25-32 (shorter rdg.)

Gospel: John 6: 60-69

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 23 August	Twenty-First Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Wednesday 26 August	Wednesday of Week 21 in Ordinary Time	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 27 August	St Monica (Memorial)	Mass	19.30
Sunday 30 August	Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last Tuesday, Revd. Dr. Andrew McLellan published his Commission's Report, a review of current Safeguarding policies, procedures and practice within the Catholic Church in Scotland. This review was called for by the Bishops two years ago. We deliberately sought help from those outside the Catholic Church, and we have accepted the Report's Recommendations in full

The Report is available on our diocesan website, and the leaflets in your church summarise its findings and our response. Please take a copy.

On the same day last week, Archbishop Philip Tartaglia and other bishops concelebrated Mass at St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow. I was also there. On behalf of us all, Archbishop Philip renewed our commitment to Safeguarding, voiced our acceptance of the Report's recommendations and apologised to survivors and victims of abuse within the Catholic Church. The text of the apology is also in the leaflet.

I associate myself wholly with all this. I know you will too. We want to put aside for ever what Pope Francis has called this "terrible darkness" of the abuse of children and the vulnerable. We want to continue and still further improve the good work of our Safeguarding coordinators in our parishes and communities and of our diocesan Safeguarding Team. My thanks to all of them! Above all, we want to find new and creative ways of providing justice and healing for survivors and victims. We will need their help.

Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year of Mercy. It opens on 8th December. It is an opportunity to turn to God's mercy shown in Christ, to allow that mercy into our lives and to show it to one another. There could not be a better horizon for our journey. Like Simon Peter, we know there is nowhere else to go but Jesus. He has the words of eternal life. May the Gospel be our guide! May we never forget his terrible words of warning against those who despise 'one of these little ones' (Mt 18:10). May we remember his words of promise to those who serve him in their brothers and sisters who suffer (Mt 25:31ff) - and may we be among them.

Yours devotedly in Christ, Hugh Gilbert OSB, Bishop of Aberdeen

GENERAL NEWS

Special Clachan Comar Mass of St Bean, Sat 29 August. A special Mass will be celebrated for those who are interred at Clachan Comar, near Tomich, Marydale/Cannich, IV4 7LT at 3.00 pm, on Sat 29 August – a date for your diary!

"A Song for St Cecilia II": Sunday 30 August at 2.30pm: the Dominican Sisters at Greyfriars Convent in Elgin are hosting a classical concert to support their work with the youth of the Diocese and with their World Youth Day fundraising. The concert will feature Gregorian Chant from the monks of Pluscarden, together with pieces by top local musicians. Please join them for an afternoon of traditional and classical music in the beautiful surroundings of historical Greyfriars convent. Tickets: £10 Adults; Concessions £8; Student/Child £5. Tickets from St Mary's office, or tel: 07730 438 403.

Martin Aelred concert, Wednesday 2 September, 7.30pm: world-renowned tenor and classical guitarist Martin Aelred is returning to Inverness to perform 'Around the world in 80 minutes', at St. Mary's, Inverness. Get your ticket before the end of August to qualify for an Early Bird Discount of £2 off per ticket! For tickets, contact St Mary's on (01463) 233519, and ask for 'PJ'. Ticket Prices follows: Adults £10, Concessions/OAPs Students/Children £5; with Early Bird Discount, these reduced prices apply: Adults £8, Concessions/OAPs £6, Students/Children £3. Don't miss it!

Befriend a Prisoner

Brian is in the second half of a 'life' prison sentence. He has become a Catholic, and studied the Faith through Maryvale courses; he is very involved in the prison chaplaincy, and is responsible for preparing prisoners for baptism and the other sacraments. For five years he has benefited from friendly correspondence. He is now hoping to find penpals for the men he is instructing. It is a very rewarding ministry, in keeping with the Lord's request. Anyone interested, please contact Jane MacMaster (email janeruth@btinternet.com or phone: 01463 236 275)

PARISH NEWS

Safeguarding in the Catholic Church

In response to the 'McLellan Commission Report', which offers an analysis of the Safeguarding procedures and protocols in the Catholic Church in Scotland, Archbishop Philip Tartaglia, President of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland, has issued, 'An Apology to Survivors of Abuse'. Please pick up a leaflet in the foyer of St Columba's. A full copy of the 'McLellan Commission Report' is available on our parish website & on the Diocese of Aberdeen website. Our Parish Safeguarding Officer is Dr Helen Macdonald. Any issues relating to safeguarding should be taken to Helen (tel: 01463 794619).

'World Youth Day' for Teenagers and Young Adults: this will take place on 5 September 2015 at St Columba's from 12 noon until around 3.30pm. The day is aimed at young people throughout the Highland Deanery, aged 16-35 years; it will be an opportunity to meet one another, to enjoy a meal in good company, and to share our faith. Gaynoll Craig will be giving a presentation on next Year's World Youth Day in Krakow, and we will look at developing different Catholic youth initiatives for our young people. Please do join us!

Congratulations to Rosie!

Rosie Goode recently celebrated the first anniversary of her Reception into the Catholic Church (15 August 2014). Very many congratulations, Rosie! May the Good Lord continue to bless you in abundance with His grace and love.

Confirmation classes: meeting on 10 Sept at 6.30pm

An initial meeting with all candidates and their parent(s), together with the catechists (Helen MacGilp and Ewen Macdonald), will take place at St Columba's on 10th September 2015 at 6.30 p.m., so we can discuss the course and confirm a timetable. We are planning to have four classes in 2015: two in October on Thursday the 1st and 8th, and then two in November on 12th and 19th. If you have not already completed a form, please speak to Helen or

Altar Servers: Calling all young people – would you like to help your Parish? As long as you have made your First Holy Communion, you can serve! Full training provided. Please see Fr Domenico.

OUR PRIZE BINGO RESUMES! - This essential "fun fund-raiser" resumes again on Friday 4 September at 7.00pm, here at St Columba's. Please do come along and support us. Not only is it an enjoyable evening, but it raises much-needed cash for our Building Fund. Can you help us either with prizes or by donating your time on the night?

Cleaning: this Wednesday, 26 August, at 1.00pm – Mary and Marie Cumming.

Gardening: no gardening this Tuesday. Many thanks to Catriona and Donald for their hard work.

'90' Club: our next draw takes place next Sunday, 30 August. There are still some numbers available: £2 monthly, with three prizes to be won. See Don for further details.

FINANCES

St Columba's no. 1 £ 291.86 St Columba's building fund: £ 568.48 (this includes the Installation Mass collection £ 291.30) - Thank you for your generosity and support -

St Columba's Accounts

General Running Account: Building Account: Sort Code: 80-91-26 Sort Code: 80-91-26 Account No: 00809358 Account No. 00809390

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black + Peggy Horne + Leslie Murray + Mary Gribben + Michelle Campbell + Claire Macpherson + Des Gair

Anniversaries: + Jim McKelvie + Mary Bell + Jock Parker + John Tracey