



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

24 JUNE 2018:

BIRTHDAY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

~ FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS ~

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6

Psalm: Ps 138 (139):1-3, 13-15

2nd Reading: Acts 13:22-26

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66,80

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 24 June	SOLEMNITY OF THE BIRTHDAY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST *** FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS *** Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 26 June	Tuesday of Week 12 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Dr. Andrew Townsend (Anniversary)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 27 June	Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving Mass Intention: Private Intentions	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 28 June	VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF STS. PETER AND PAUL Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 1 July	13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Pope Benedict speaks to children about First Holy Communion

Holy Father: What are your own memories of your First Holy Communion Day?

"I remember my First Communion day very well. It was a sunny day, the church looked very beautiful, there was music.... There were so many beautiful things that I remember. There were about 30 of us, boys and girls from my little village of no more than 500 inhabitants.

But at the heart of my joyful and beautiful memories is this one: I understood that Jesus had entered my heart, he had actually visited me. And with Jesus, God himself was with me. And I realised that this is a gift of love that is truly worth more than all the other things that life can give.

So on that day I was really filled with great joy, because Jesus came to me and I realised that a new stage in my life was beginning, I was 9 years old, and that it was important to stay faithful to that encounter, to that communion. I promised the Lord as best I could: "I always want to stay with you", and I prayed to him, "but above all, stay with me". So I went on living my life like that; thanks be to God, the Lord has always taken me by the hand and guided me, even in difficult situations.

Thus, that day of my First Communion was the beginning of a journey made together. I hope that for all of you too, this First Holy Communion will be the beginning of a lifelong friendship with Jesus, the beginning of a journey together,

because in walking with Jesus we do well and life becomes good."

Your Holiness, everyone tells us that it is important to go to Mass on Sunday. We would gladly go to it, but often our parents do not take us because on Sundays they sleep. The parents of a friend of mine work in a shop, and we often go to the country to visit our grandparents. Could you say something to them, to make them understand that it is important to go to Mass together on Sundays?

"I would think so, of course, with great love and great respect for your parents, because they certainly have a lot to do. However, with a daughter's respect and love, you could say to them: "Dear Mommy, dear Daddy, it is so important for us all, even for you, to meet Jesus. This encounter enriches us. It is an important element in our lives. Let's find a little time together, we can find an opportunity. Perhaps there is also a possibility where Grandma lives". In brief, I would say, with great love and respect for your parents, I would tell them: "Please understand that this is not only important for me, it is not only catechists who say it, it is important for us all. And it will be the light of Sunday for all our family".

(Pope Benedict XVI, St. Peter's Square, 15 October 2005)

GENERAL NEWS

TODAY! (Sunday 24 June): Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Pluscarden Abbey – This year marks the Centenary of the 1918 Education Act (Scotland), and all of our Catholic Primary Schools have been invited to participate, along with various youth groups, to mark this special anniversary. The programme for the day is as follows:

1.00pm-2.30pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Lady Chapel).

1.00pm-2.30pm: Confessions in Saint Benedict's Retreat.

3.00pm: Pilgrimage Mass and Procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady.

Refreshments will be available in the Marquee from 12 noon onwards. All welcome.

Saturday 30 June: Highland Deanery Day of Renewal for Young People / Altar Servers at the Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Stratherrick (IV2 6UL) – this Day of Renewal is intended for Altar Servers, Confirmation Candidates, Post-Confirmation young people, teenagers, .. and the young at heart! It has been organised by the priests of St. Mary's, Inverness, and the programme is as follows:

10.30am: Registration / Tea and Coffee

11.00am: Introduction / Talk 1: 'Sacred Signs' (Fr. Andrew Niski)

12.00 noon: Angelus and Mass (Celebrant: Fr. Andrew Harden;
Homily: Fr. James Bell)

1.15pm: Lunch

2.00pm: Rosary Walk to the Grotto

3.00pm: Talk 2: 'How to take part in the Mass' (Rev. Emmet O'Dowd)
~ Adoration, Benediction

4.30pm: Tea and Depart.

Sunday 1 July: Scaln Annual Pilgrimage: Mass at the venerable house of Scaln, in the Braes of Glenlivet, **beginning at 4.00pm**. Scaln was the site of a hidden seminary, and during the 18th century, more than a hundred 'Heather Priests' were trained there. For those with sat navs, the postcode is **AB37 9JS**; this will take you to Chapeltown of Glenlivet – please walk, or ask for a lift from others, for the last 1½ miles.

Friday 6 July: Priestly Ordinations of Deacon Emmet O'Dowd and Deacon Rafal Szveda at St. Mary's Cathedral in Aberdeen, at 6.00pm. A coach has been organised for anyone wishing to travel to Aberdeen for this special Ordination Mass; the price is £10 each. The coach will depart

from King Street (near St. Joseph's School) at 12.30pm, and will depart from Aberdeen after the Mass at approximately 9.30pm. If you would like to add your name to the list of those travelling on the coach, please phone St. Mary's Parish Office on (01463) 233519.

PARISH NEWS

A HUGE 'THANK YOU' to Helen and Ewen for their tremendous work in preparing our children to receive the Sacraments; they have done a terrific job in ensuring that the youngsters are ready to receive Holy Communion, and on behalf of the entire Parish I would like to express my gratitude for their commitment, support, and enthusiasm!

'Thank you' also to you parents, for encouraging your children in their spiritual development. Your support in their faith lives – and your own example to them – is crucial.

Finally to our children, who make their First Holy Communion today: congratulations to you all, and remember: this is the start of a new and deeper life in Jesus, as you grow ever closer to him!

Cleaning Team: Monday 25th June at 4pm – Gi Gi, Shona and Don. Would you like to help out? Only one hour a month! See Don for details.

"90 Club": DRAW TODAY! Good luck to our ticket holders! You can join in too; ask Don for details. Only £2 monthly!

PRIZE BINGO: THIS FRIDAY 29 JUNE! – 'eyes down' at 7.00pm. Family fun! This is our last meeting before the Summer break (we resume in September). Non-perishable items to give as prizes are always needed. Thank you for your generosity! **Since last September, we have raised c. £ 3,500!** A sincere 'thank you' also to our marvellous helpers; your efforts are very much appreciated!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia & John Drew + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zandre

Anniversaries: + Angela Prendergast + John Sloan + Dr. Andrew Townsend +