

St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

24 MAY 2020: SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A (II); Psalter: Week 3)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 1: 12-14 Psalm: Ps 26 (27): 1, 4, 7-8 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 4: 13-16

Gospel: John 17: 1-11

Date Sunday 24 May	Details SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (p. 399 – Year A)	Service Private Sunday Mass offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	Time 9.30 am
Tuesday 26 May	St. Philip Neri, Priest Mass Intention: Morag Lloyd (Health and Intentions)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Wednesday 27 May	St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop Mass Intention: Katie Rusk and family (in thanksgiving)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Thursday 28 May	Thursday of Week 7 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Friday 29 May	St. Paul VI, Pope Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Saturday 30 May	Saturday of Week 7 of Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Sunday 31 May	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST (p. 417 – Year A)	Private Sunday Mass offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Knowing God

Jesus has been taken up into heaven as we begin today's First Reading. His disciples—including the Apostles and Mary—return to the upper room where He celebrated the Last Supper (see Luke 22:12).

There, they devote themselves with one accord to prayer, awaiting the Spirit that He promised would come upon them (see Acts 1:8).

The unity of the early Church at Jerusalem is a sign of the oneness that Christ prays for in today's Gospel. The Church is to be a communion on earth that mirrors the glorious union of Father, Son, and Spirit in the Trinity.

Jesus has proclaimed God's name to His brethren (see Hebrews 2:12; Psalm 22:23). The prophets had foretold this revelation—a new covenant by which all flesh would have knowledge of the Lord (see Jeremiah 31:33–34; Habakkuk 2:14).

By the new covenant made in His blood and remembered in every Eucharist, we know God as our Father. This is the

eternal life Jesus promises. And this is the light and salvation we sing of in today's Psalm.

As God made light to shine out of darkness when the world began, He has enlightened us in Baptism, making us new creations (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), giving us knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ (see Hebrews 10:32; 2 Corinthians 4:6).

Our new life is a gift of "the Spirit of glory," we hear in today's Second Reading (see John 7:38–39). Made one in His name, we are given a new name—"Christians"—a name used only here and in two other places in the Bible (see Acts 11:16; 26:28). We are to glorify God, though we will be insulted and suffer because of this name.

But as we share in His sufferings, we know we will overcome (see Revelation 3:12) and rejoice when His glory is once more revealed. And we will dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Seventh Sunday of Easter, Year A (p. 399) -

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 399: Readings & Proper Prayers

p. 541: Creed

p. 563: Preface V of Easter p. 611: Eucharistic Prayer III p. 631: Communion Rite

Remember one another – Please try to support one another in these challenging times: a phone call to check up on elderly and vulnerable parishioners and friends; a friendly call to see if anyone needs shopping; supporting your local shops and businesses, which will be hit hard from a financial perspective. We are all in this together.

Remember your parish – if you would like to support the maintenance of our parish during this time of lockdown, here are some different ways that the parish can be assisted:

- A regular Standing Order: the account details are in the next column opposite, under 'Parish Finances'.
- Donations in an envelope, put through the church letterbox. During this period, and for the foreseeable future, any offerings, donations or benefactions to the parish will be paid in to our No. 1 (Running) Account.
- A re-evaluation of your level of giving. If every parishioner at Mass gave an extra £5 (two coffees at Costa or Starbucks..), it would make an enormous difference to the future of the parish!!
- A Bequest, or gift left in a will, is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Building Fund Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

Welcome to the world, Katie! – congratulations to Paul and Kathryn Rusk on the birth of their daughter Katie. Mum and baby are doing well, thank God, though Paul may be feeling a little outnumbered with all the ladies in the house! We look forward to welcoming Katie properly to our community!

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): after recent discussion with the Bishop, the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available for those who wish to avail themselves. Confessions will be heard in the Parish Meeting Room. Entrance is by the back patio door – opposite the entrance to the House. There will be a comfy chair for the penitent, near the door, and Fr. Domenico will be seated in the other corner of the room, observing social distancing. If you would like to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, simply e-mail Fr. Domenico, or phone the Parish House (794993), to make an appointment.

Are you a 'Skyper'? Are you familiar with Skype or Zoom, or any of the other video-conferencing

software? If so, would you like to get together (virtually, of course!) with Fr. Domenico for discussions, online prayers, and future study courses, during this time of lockdown? One or two parishioners have already responded; if you would also like to be a part of a Skype parish group, please let Fr. Domenico know, by e-mail, or phone.. or better still, Skype him!!

Next Sunday, 31 May: Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally: Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the Pandemic is making us aware of the value of our families and making it possible for us to pray together in lockdown at home. We are invited to join in an initiative that follows on the Pope's request, the **Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally,** from 9.00am to 9.00pm across Scotland England and Wales. **The Diocese of Aberdeen has been asked to pray a Rosary Hour** at **2.00pm** and Bishop Hugh warmly invites us to take part. We are encouraged to pray the Rosary individually, in families, or as online prayer groups or parish groups, at any time within the specified hour.

St. Vincent de Paul: Can you help? The local SVDP group at St. Ninian's regularly supports ten families from Culloden Academy through the academy's guidance teachers. With the closure of churches, their income has disappeared; in fact, they only have funds to provide support for a few more weeks. There is still great need in our community, a need which can only increase during these difficult times. If you are able to help, could you please post an envelope containing your donation marked 'SVDP' through St. Columba's letterbox, or contact: David Atkinson, 31 MacKenzie Park Gardens, Inverness IV2 3SU. Telephone: 07570 993713.

Family Faith Formation – The Ogilvie Centre exists to encourage, strengthen and build the faithful in encountering Christ. It does this by providing on-going support and resources for evangelisation, catechesis and adult formation. Apart from Adult and Children's Faith Formation and Catechesis, The Ogilvie Centre is eager to assist families in deepening their faith. To find out more, go to: https://ogilvie.rcda.scot/family-formation/

'90 Club - NEXT DRAW: 31 MAY. Good luck to all who have a number!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Michael Good, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Margaret and Stuart MacLennan, Jeanette Catto, John Macdonald, Evelyn MacGregor, Denise Maclean, Rena Herbison, Louise Flett, Alistair Macleod, Robert Tarr, Alex Fruters, Pat McDaid, Morag Lloyd.

RIP: + Mary McCann +

Anniversaries: + Bishop Emeritus Joseph Devine + Neil Munro + Jimmy Cascarino + Canon Duncan Stone + Noel Hadnett +