

St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~ 2 JULY 2017: THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR, A

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: 2 Kings 4: 8-11, 13-16

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 88 (89): 2-3, 16-19

2nd Reading: Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11 Gospel: Matthew 10: 37-42

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 2 July	THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund	Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 4 July	Optional Memorial of St Elizabeth of Portugal	Sacrament of Reconciliation	6.30 pm
		Evening Prayer	7.00 pm
		Mass	7.30 pm
Wednesday 5 July	Optional Memorial of St Anthony Zaccaria	Sacrament of Reconciliation	10.30 am
		Mass	11.00 am
		Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.30 am
Thursday 6 July	Optional Memorial of St Maria Goretti	Sacrament of Reconciliation	7.00 pm
		Mass	7.30 pm
Sunday 9 July	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	Second Collection: Sea Sunday	Mass	9.30 am

The Church's Teaching on Asylum and Migration

Healing a global wound

All people have the right to live a dignified life in their homeland. Tragically, over 45 million people around the world are displaced. This festering wound typifies and reveals the imbalances and conflicts of the modern world. War, natural calamities, persecution and discrimination of every kind have deprived millions of their home, employment, family and homeland.

The right to seek asylum

Anyone whose life is threatened has the right to protection. Whether because of persecution, armed conflicts, natural disasters, or economic conditions that threaten their lives or physical integrity. It is the element of persecution, threat or danger, or being forcibly displaced that gives rise to a right to seek asylum rather than to migrate through ordinary channels.

Human Dignity

Human life is sacred because each person is created in the image and likeness of God. Human dignity is inalienable. The human dignity and human rights of asylum seekers must be respected, regardless of their citizenship, visa status or mode of arrival.

Devotion to humanity

All nations have a right to regulate migration across their borders. This right is coupled with the duty to protect and help innocent victims and those fleeing for their lives. The right of nations to regulate their borders is an extension of the right of all persons to live a dignified life in their community. Borders are for the protection of people, not for the exclusion of people seeking protection.

Justice and Mercy

The purpose of the law is to serve justice and mercy. Laws, which subject asylum seekers to arbitrary and prolonged immigration detention or banish them from seeking protection, fail to uphold justice and mercy and are immoral. It is not illegal to seek asylum. Many asylum seekers are survivors of crimes, torture and trauma. Indefinite detention adds further stress and suffering, impacting on their mental and physical health. The Catholic Church advocates the implementation of just and rapid procedures to determine each person's claim for protection.

Solidarity

The most vulnerable people are not simply those who are in a needy situation to whom we kindly offer an act of solidarity, but are members of our family with whom we have a duty to share the resources we have. Solidarity towards migrants and refugees is inscribed in the common membership to the human family.

The right to be part of a community

All people have the right to be part of a community. Asylum seekers who have been forced from their homeland have a duty to integrate into the host community. We must favour this integration by helping migrants to find a place where they can live in peace and safety, where they can work and take on the rights and duties that exist in the country that welcomes them. [http://www.acmro.catholic.org.au/]

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY WITH POPE FRANCIS

"To change the world we must be good to those who cannot repay us... Welcoming others means welcoming Christ!"

GENERAL NEWS

HIGHLAND MULTICULTURAL FRIENDS are organising a Community Day on **Monday 3 July, from 11.00am – 2.00pm,** at Cameron Youth Centre, Planefield Road, Inverness, IV3 5DN. This is a family-friendly event, with Bouncy Castle, Kids' Activities, Global Snacks, Tea Ceremony, and Cultural Exchange. This event is part of Refugee Festival Scotland 2017. All welcome!

GABRIEL SOCIETY: Tuesday 4 July at 7.30pm in the Marian Room, Huntly Street. The title of the talk is: "St Paul: Our Missionary Journey". All welcome!

PARISH NEWS

THANK YOU! – to a very kind parishioner who recently made a £200 donation to our Building Fund. We also received a donation of £40 from a long-standing benefactor. Your generosity is much appreciated. May the Good Lord bless you both!

THANK YOU also to DJ MacMillan, who has taken the time and effort to fix our external noticeboard at the entrance to the car park. Great job, DJ – many thanks indeed!

SCIAF WEE BOX APPEAL 2017: Thanks to your generosity, St Columba's has raised £434.74, for the SCIAF "Wee Box Big Change" Appeal. It just shows you how our 'spare change' soon mounts up!

Photographs of last week's First Holy Communion Mass would be much appreciated! We have a few photos on the website, but it would be good to include many more from this wonderful day! Please do e-mail them to the parish website, listed overleaf. Thank you!

New Altar Servers? – we are building an excellent team of youngsters as Altar Servers at St Columba's, and we are always very happy to welcome more new recruits! Any child who has received First Holy Communion is encouraged to consider helping the Parish Liturgy by serving at Mass. Full training will be given!

Highland Deanery Day for Altar Servers: Saturday 19 August, from 10.30am – 4.00pm. We have organised a special day for all Altar Servers on 19 August. This is a 'three-line whip', 'MUST ATTEND event' for our present servers! The Diocesan Master of Ceremonies, Mr George Brand, is coming from Aberdeen to instruct us all on the finer points of Serving, and there will be fun activities, lots of food, and friendship for our young people!

Singing Group: would you like to be involved in an informal singing group in our parish? The purpose of the group would be to meet every so often with the musicians, to look at new hymns and help with singing at the Sunday Mass. We are hoping to begin this group

in September. If this sounds ideal to you (no pun intended!), please speak to Fr Domenico, or to the musicians.

Sr Eva Flannery, LSU – some of you will remember Sr Eva, who worked in Inverness, and was a Parish Sister from 1985-2001. She is seriously ill, and needs our prayerful and spiritual support. Please do remember her in your intentions.

Living Faith Scripture Course: "From Genesis to Jesus – Unlocking the Bible" – Part 3 ("Arks and Altars"), focusing on Noah and Abraham, will be held on Wednesday 5 July, at 7.00pm. This informal course gives an overview of the Old and New Testaments, and takes the form of visual presentations, with discussion and Bible reading! Come and join us! All welcome!

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic? Each year thousands of adults choose to become Catholics. They come from different backgrounds, and for different reasons: some are already Christians from other traditions; some are from another faith, or no faith at all; some are non-Catholics who have been coming regularly to Mass for years with their Catholic spouses or relatives. If you would like to know more about the Catholic faith, please speak to Fr Domenico.

Cleaning Team: Tuesday 4 July at 4.30 pm – Margaret and Don, and anyone else who would like to join in. Anyone offering to help to keep the church nice and clean only needs to give one hour a month. You won't be left on your own! Ask Don for details.

"90 Club": June Winners! – First Prize: No. 46 – Catriona Robertson; Second Prize: No. 28 – DJ MacMillan; Third Prize: No. 37 – Mary MacKinnon. Congratulations to our lucky winners! Next draw on 30 July. Would you like to join in? There are a few numbers left – only £2 a month. All profits go to our Building Fund.

PRIZE BINGO: there is a break over the months of July and August. NEXT EYES DOWN IN SEPTEMBER! However, we always appreciate non-perishable items to give as prizes; they are much needed (chocolates, wine, toiletries, stationery, or any item you would like to win)! Can you help? Your support is essential! Very many thanks to all who contribute to make our fundraiser so successful!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia and John Drew + Ewen Macdonald Senior + Lachlan MacNeil + Rose Corbett + Murray Mackay + Sr. Eva Flannery, LSU +

Anniversaries: + Julie Anne Edwards + Matthew Steel +