



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

2 SEPTEMBER 2018:

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8

Psalm: Ps 14 (15): 2-5

2nd Reading: James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27

Gospel: Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 2 September	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Second Collection: SCIAF Rohingya Appeal	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 4 September	Tuesday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Millie Drew R.I.P.	Reception of Millie Drew Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 5 September	Funeral Mass of Millie Drew ** 11.15 am **	Mass	11.15 am
Thursday 6 September	Thursday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Leslie Collins R.I.P.	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 9 September	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: A Pure Heart Create for Me, O God

The Gospel for this Sunday concerns a dispute between Jesus and several Pharisees and scribes. The discussion is about the value of the “tradition of the elders” (Mk 7:3) which Jesus, quoting the Prophet Isaiah, defines as the “precepts of men” (v. 7) which must never take precedence over the “commandment of God” (v. 8). The ancient rules in question consisted not only in the precepts God revealed to Moses, but in a series of norms that the Mosaic Law indicated. The interlocutors observed these norms in an extremely scrupulous manner and presented them as the expression of authentic religiosity. Therefore, they rebuked Jesus and his disciples for transgressing them, specifically the norms regarding the external purification of the body (cf. v. 5). Jesus’ response has the force of a prophetic pronouncement: “You leave the commandment of God”, he says, “and hold fast the tradition of men” (v. 8). These are words which fill us with admiration for our Teacher: we sense that in him there is truth and that his wisdom frees us from prejudice.

Pay heed! With these words, Jesus wants to caution us too, today, against the belief that outward observance of the law is enough to make us good Christians. Dangerous as it was then for the Pharisees, so too is it for us to consider ourselves acceptable or, even worse, better than others simply for observing the rules, customs, even though we do

not love our neighbour, we are hard of heart, we are arrogant and proud. Literal observance of the precepts is a fruitless exercise which does not change the heart and turn into practical behaviour: opening oneself to meet God and his Word in prayer, seeking justice and peace, taking care of the poor, the weak, the downtrodden. We all know, in our communities, in our parishes, in our neighbourhoods, how much harm and scandal is done to the Church by those people who say they are deeply Catholic and often go to Church, but who then neglect their family in daily life, speak badly of others and so on. This is what Jesus condemns because this is a counter-witness to Christianity... Jesus said: “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”. What is my treasure? Is it Jesus, is it his teaching? If so, then the heart is good. Or is my treasure something else? Thus it is a heart which needs purification and conversion. Without a purified heart, one cannot have truly clean hands and lips which speak sincere words of love — it is all duplicitous, a double life — lips which speak words of mercy, of forgiveness: only a sincere and purified heart can do this. Let us ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin, to give us a pure heart, free of all hypocrisy. A heart free from all hypocrisy, thus we will be able to live according to the spirit of the law and accomplish its aim, which is love. (Angelus, St. Peter’s Square, 30 August 2015)

GENERAL NEWS

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER: HIGHLAND DEANERY PILGRIMAGE in honour of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – at **Our Lady and St. Bean, Cannich (IV4 7LT)**. Mass at 12 noon. Celebrant: the Most Reverend Mario Conti, Archbishop Emeritus of Glasgow, and former Bishop of Aberdeen. Please put this date in your diaries!

Sunday 9 September: Annual Pilgrimage to pray for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair – this annual pilgrimage will take place on from 2.00pm to 6.00pm at St Patrick's Church, Cowgate, in Edinburgh. 2pm: Opening; 3pm: 'The Story of Margaret Sinclair, Servant of God'; 4.30 pm: Holy Mass.

Friday 14 September: Diaconal Ordination of Dominic Nwaigwe – this special event for our Deanery and the Diocese will take place at **St. Mary's, Inverness, beginning at 6.00pm**. Seating availability is on a 'first come-first served' basis, so make sure you get there early! The Principal Celebrant is Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB, and the Diocesan Choir, together with the St. Mary's 'Canaries', will be leading us in the singing. There will be a light finger-buffet available afterwards in the parish hall. All welcome!

Saturday 15 September: The Salvation Army International Staff Songsters – at 7.30pm in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Ardross Street, Inverness, IV3 5NS. Ticket prices: £10 Adults; £5 for under-16s, plus booking fee. Available from Eventbrite:
<https://the-international-staff-songsters.eventbrite.co.uk>

PARISH NEWS

SCIAF Rohingya Appeal: This appeal ties in with our current Photo Exhibition, sponsored by Justice & Peace Scotland / SCIAF. Nearly 700,000 Rohingya refugees – more than the population of Edinburgh – fled for their lives to Bangladesh last year, having experienced unimaginable horrors at the hands of the Myanmar military. They are now living in poverty in a giant refugee camp. SCIAF is working with Caritas Bangladesh to help some of the most vulnerable refugees. Donations from Scotland have already helped provide rice, lentils, sugar and oil, as well as plates, saucepans, glasses and cooking utensils to over 40,000 families. They are also distributing blankets and sleeping mats to 14,600 families so they can keep warm at night. There is still an immediate need to get food, other items and shelter to the many thousands of people in need. **You can support this Appeal by handing in your donations in an envelope marked 'SCIAF Rohingya Appeal' to St. Columba's, or by contributing to our Second Collection today.**

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR BISHOP BARRON IN EDINBURGH, THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER! – I have THREE tickets available (a FULL PRICE ticket - £10; and two CONCESSION tickets - £6 each) for this Thursday's special event. They are available on a first come-first served basis; to reserve one, please speak to Fr. Domenico.

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!

'Gaudete et Exsultate' Reading Group – The last meeting of the group will be on **Wednesday 5 September, from 7.00pm**. We will be looking at Chapter 5 of the document. All welcome!

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: Monday 3rd September at 12 noon – Marie, Laura and Don. Would you like to help out? Only one hour a month! See Don for details.

"90 Club": Winners for August! – First Prize: Ian MacDonald; Second Prize: John McGlade; Third Prize: Catriona Robertson. Congratulations to all our winners! Next Draw: 30 September. There are a few numbers available; would you like one? Only £2 monthly! Ask Don for details.

ST. COLUMBA'S PRIZE BINGO RETURNS THIS WEEK! – FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER AT 7.00PM! – A sincere 'thank you' for all of the items that have been handed in; these are very important and those who get a shout are always delighted with their prize. Our Bingo Sessions are the talk of the local community and enjoyed by all who attend. 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 Zandre + Richard Karasek + Brian Carr + Catrina Greig +

R.I.P: Millie Drew + Les Collins + James Lovie +

Anniversaries: + Walter Grant + Mary Cassey + Fiona Dickson + Christopher Nimmo +