



# St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW

Tel: 01463 794619 / 01463 782232

e-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com

website: <http://www.stcolumbasculloden.org>

Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dr Helen Macdonald



## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2015**

**Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year B**

## Sunday Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8

Psalm: 14: 2-5

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27

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

| Date                  | Details   | Service   | Time           |
|-----------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Sunday 30 August      | Twenty-Second Sunday of the Year B<br>(2nd Collection: Building Fund) | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel)<br>Mass | 09.00<br>09.30 |
| Wednesday 2 September | Wednesday of Week 22 in Ordinary Time                                 | Mass<br>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament       | 11.00<br>11.30 |
| Thursday 3 September  | St Gregory the Great (Memorial)                                       | Mass  | 19.30          |
| Sunday 6 September    | Twenty-Third Sunday of the Year B<br>(2nd Collection: Building Fund)  | Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel)<br>Mass | 09.00<br>09.30 |

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available every Sunday before Mass, and at any other time upon request.

## Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B): Pure Religion

Today's Gospel casts Jesus in a prophetic light, as one having authority to interpret God's law.

Jesus' quotation from Isaiah today is ironic (see Isaiah 29:13). In observing the law, the Pharisees honour God by ensuring that nothing unclean passes their lips. In this, however, they've turned the law inside out, making it a matter of simply performing certain external actions.

The gift of the law, which we hear God giving to Israel in today's First Reading, is fulfilled in Jesus' gospel, which shows us the law's true meaning and purpose (see Matthew 5:17).

The law, fulfilled in the gospel, is meant to form our hearts, to make us pure, able to live in the Lord's presence. The law was given that we might live and enter into the inheritance promised to us - the kingdom of God, eternal life.

Israel, by its observance of the law, was meant to be an example to surrounding nations. As James tells us in today's Second Reading, the gospel was given to us that we might have new birth by the Word of truth. By living the Word we've received, we're to be examples of God's wisdom to those around us, the "first fruits" of a new humanity.

This means we must be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers of it. As we sing in today's Psalm and hear again in today's Second Reading, we must work for justice, taking care of our brothers and sisters, and living by the truth God has placed in our hearts.

The Word given to us is a perfect gift. We should not add to it through vain and needless devotions. Nor should we subtract from it by picking and choosing which of His laws to honour.

"Hear me," Jesus says in today's Gospel. Today, we're called to examine our relationship to God's law.

Is the practice of our religion a pure listening to Jesus, a humble welcoming of the Word planted in us and able to save our souls? Or are we only paying lip-service?

(Scott Hahn)

## Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"The Lord is knocking at the door of our hearts. Have we put a sign on the door saying: 'Do not disturb'?" (13 January 2014)

## GENERAL NEWS

**“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 as follows: Adults £10, Concessions/OAPs £8, Students/Children £5; with Early Bird Discount, these reduced prices apply: Adults £8, Concessions/OAPs £6, Students/Children £3. Don’t miss it!

**Justice and Peace Group, 2 September, 7.15pm:** The Justice and Peace group will be meeting again on Wednesday 2 September, at 7.15pm at the Olive Grove Cafe. The guest speaker will be Caireen Ros from SCIAF to give an overview of their work. All are welcome to come and hear where our contributions are making a difference and learn about what challenges and opportunities are on the horizon. Please join us if you can.

### **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

**‘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!

### **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 Ewen.

**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.

### **PRIZE BINGO THIS FRIDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER, 7PM!**

– This essential “fun fund-raiser” resumes again on Friday, 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? Cost to play: £2 entry (includes a raffle prize!); raffle tickets for sale with some lovely prizes, at only £1 for a strip of tickets. Please do join us!!

**Cleaning:** this Wednesday, 2 September, at 6.30pm – Rhona and Margaret.

**‘90’ Club – draw today!** Our next draw takes place today, after Mass. Good luck to you all. Numbers are still available: please take one and support the parish! £2 monthly, with three prizes to be won. See Don for further details.

## FINANCES

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| St Columba’s no. 1                            | £ 416.80 |
| St Columba’s building fund:                   | £ 159.13 |
| – Thank you for your generosity and support – |          |

### **St Columba’s Accounts**

|                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>General Running Account:</b> | <b>Building Account:</b>    |
| <b>Sort Code: 80-91-26</b>      | <b>Sort Code: 80-91-26</b>  |
| <b>Account No: 00809358</b>     | <b>Account No. 00809390</b> |

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

**Anniversaries:** Hector MacLean + Steven Peebles + Walter Grant + Mary Cassey + Fiona Dickson + Christopher Nimmo