



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
Tel: (01463) 794619 (Sacristy) / (01463) 794993 (House)
E-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
Website: www.stcolumbasculloden.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden
Parish Priest: Fr. Domenico Zanrè
Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Dr. Helen Macdonald



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

31 MAY 2020:
SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST
(Year A (II); Psalter: Week 1)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 2: 1-11
Psalm: Ps 103 (104): 1, 24, 29-31, 34
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12: 3-7, 12-13
Sequence: Veni, Sancte Spiritus
Gospel: John 20: 19-23

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 31 May	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST (p. 417 – Year A)	Private Sunday Mass offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am
Monday 1 June	Mary, Mother of the Church Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Tuesday 2 June	Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Wednesday 3 June	St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs Mass Intention: John Hagley, RIP (Anniversary Today)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Thursday 4 June	Thursday of Week 9 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Francis Black, RIP (Birthday Yesterday)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Friday 5 June	St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Saturday 6 June	Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Sunday 7 June	SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (p. 816 – Year A)	Private Sunday Mass offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am

Solemnity of Pentecost: A New People and A New Heart

Today concludes the Easter season, the fifty days that, from Jesus' resurrection to Pentecost, are marked in a particular way by the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is in fact the Easter Gift par excellence. He is the Creator Spirit, who constantly brings about new things. Today's readings show us two of those new things. In the first reading, the Spirit makes of the disciples *a new people*; in the Gospel, he creates in the disciples *a new heart*.

A new people. On the day of Pentecost, the Spirit came down from heaven, in the form of "divided tongues, as of fire... [that] rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak in other languages" (Acts 2:3-4). This is how the word of God describes the working of the Spirit: first he rests on *each* and then brings *all* of them together in fellowship. To each he gives a gift, and then gathers them all into unity. In other words, the same Spirit creates *diversity and unity*, and in this way forms a new,

diverse and unified people: the *universal Church*. First, in a way both creative and unexpected, he generates diversity, for in every age he causes new and varied charisms to blossom. Then he brings about unity: he joins together, gathers and restores harmony..

Now we come to the second new thing brought by the Spirit: *a new heart*. When the risen Jesus first appears to his disciples, he says to them: "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them" (Jn 20:22-23). Jesus does not condemn them for having denied and abandoned him during his passion, but instead grants them the spirit of forgiveness. The Spirit is the first gift of the risen Lord, and is given above all for the forgiveness of sins. Here we see the beginning of the Church, the glue that holds us together, the cement that binds the bricks of the house: *forgiveness*. Because forgiveness is gift to the highest degree; it is the greatest love of all. It preserves unity despite

everything, prevents collapse, and consolidates and strengthens. Forgiveness sets our hearts free and enables us

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Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Solemnity of Pentecost, Year A (p. 417) –

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 417: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 541: Creed
p. 422: Preface – The Mystery of Pentecost
p. 591: Eucharistic Prayer I (Roman Canon, with Proper)
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.

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.

Forthcoming courses on Holy Scripture at St. Columba's! – Fr. Domenico is busy putting together two courses – on the Old and New Testaments – that will be delivered virtually, via video-conferencing. The first of these will focus on the **Gospel of St. Matthew**, whilst the second will look at the Old Testament **books of Samuel**, and in particular on the figure of David. If you would be interested in taking part, simply contact Fr. Domenico, to give him an idea of numbers. If you have never used video-

to start afresh. Forgiveness gives hope; without forgiveness, the Church is not built up. (Pope Francis, 4 June 2017)

conferencing software before, don't worry! Full details will be given! Watch this space for further information!

TODAY: 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.

Put the kettle on.. You are all invited by Mary's Meals for a virtual 'cuppa' on Thursday 4 June at 7.00pm! This virtual event is a first for Mary's Meals, and a new way for them to stay in touch during this unprecedented time. They will share information on how they are reaching children through the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as an update direct from Kenya, inspirational stories from supporters here in the UK, and an exclusive preview of their new film featuring Hollywood star Gerard Butler! MM's Executive Director Daniel Adams will host the event. Simply go to Youtube, and type in Mary's Meals, to find their channel, or [click here!](#)

St. Vincent de Paul: "THANK YOU" on behalf of the SVDP for your generous financial support. Your generosity has enabled the local SVDP group to continue to support a number of families in the Culloden area. There is still great need in our community, a need which can only increase during these difficult times. If you would like to help, could you please post an envelope containing your donation marked 'SVDP' through St. Columba's letterbox, or contact: David Atkinson on 07570 993713.

90 Club – DRAW TODAY, 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, Alex Fruters, Pat McDaid, Morag Lloyd, Robert Tarr.

Anniversaries: + Elspeth Angus +