



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

3 SEPTEMBER 2017:

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Jeremiah 20: 7-9

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62 (63): 2-6, 8-9

2nd Reading: Romans 12: 1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 3 September	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 5 September	Tuesday in the Twenty-Second Week of the Year	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 6 September	Wednesday in the Twenty-Second Week of the Year	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 7 September	Thursday in the Twenty-Second Week of the Year	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 10 September	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: "Taking up our Cross for Christ"

Today's First Reading catches the prophet Jeremiah in a moment of weakness. His intimate lamentation contains some of the strongest language of doubt found in the Bible. Following God's call, he feels abandoned. Preaching His Word has brought him only derision and reproach. But God does not deceive — and Jeremiah knows this. He tests the just (see Jeremiah 20:11–12), and disciplines His children through their sufferings and trials (see Hebrews 12:5–7).

What Jeremiah learns Jesus states explicitly in today's Gospel. To follow Him is to take up a cross, to deny yourself — your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His gospel. As Paul says in today's Second Reading, we have to join ourselves to the Passion of Christ, to offer our bodies — our whole beings — as living sacrifices to God.

By His Cross, Jesus has shown us what Israel's sacrifices of animals were meant to teach — that we owe to God all that we have.

God's kindness is a greater good than life itself, as we sing in today's Psalm. The only thanks we can

offer is our spiritual worship — to give our lives to the service of His will (see Hebrews 10:3–11; Psalm 50:14, 23).

Peter doesn't yet get this in today's Gospel. As it was for Jeremiah, the cross is a stumbling block for Peter (see 1 Corinthians 1:23). This too is our natural temptation—to refuse to believe that our sufferings play a necessary part in God's plan. That's how people think, Jesus tells us today. But we are called to the renewal of our minds — to think as God thinks, to will what He wills.

In the Mass, we once again offer ourselves as perfect and pleasing sacrifices of praise (see Hebrews 13:15). We bless Him as we live, confident that we will find our lives in losing them, that with the riches of His banquet, our souls will be satisfied. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"When we walk without the Cross, when we build without the Cross, and when we profess Christ without the Cross, we are not disciples of the Lord."

GENERAL NEWS

‘LSU Memories’ – “As suggested by the ‘Friends of La Sainte Union’, it would be really good to collect memories of Sr Barbara, Sr Teresa, and Sr Eva. I would ask everyone who went to Mass at Duncan Forbes school, or who was a member of St Mary’s parish, between 1985-2003, to get their thinking caps on! These Sisters did so much to build up the parishes in Inverness! Were you in Catechism classes, or prepared for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation by any of these Sisters? People will have many memories when they start thinking about this. If you have any information, please contact Jane MacMaster at: janeruth@btinternet.com.”

Saturday 9 September: Deanery Pilgrimage to Fortrose – Mass in the church of St Peter and St Boniface. Principal Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB. Poster in the foyer. All welcome!

Venerable Margaret Sinclair Pilgrimage 2017 – The National Pilgrimage for the Beatification of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair will take place on **Sunday 17 September at 2pm (Mass 4.30pm)**: Preacher Fr Richard Reid CSSR, St Patrick’s Church, 5 South Gray’s Close, Cowgate, Edinburgh, EH1 1TQ.

Saturday 23 September: “Jesus the Healer” – a Day of Recollection led by Fr Domenico, at St Mary’s, Beaulieu. The day begins at 10.30am, and includes: Holy Mass; Talk; Group Discussion; Lunch; Exposition and Adoration; and Sacrament of Confession. The day concludes with Benediction at 2.30pm. See the poster and parish website for details!

PARISH NEWS

Sacrament of Confirmation, 2018: Any young person who would like to be considered for the Confirmation preparation class should speak to Fr Domenico, Helen, or Ewen, to register their interest, in order to give us an idea of numbers.

Training for Altar Servers, new and old! – Our first meeting for NEW Servers will take place on **Thursday 14 September, from 5.00pm-5.30pm**. All NEW would-be Servers are encouraged to attend this first meeting! Please speak to Fr Domenico beforehand to register your interest. Meanwhile, further training for our CURRENT group of Servers will also begin on **Thursday 14 September, from 5.30pm-6.00pm**.

Please speak to Fr Domenico if you are unable to attend.

Faith in Film Evening: Wednesday 13 September, from 7.00pm: *Courageous* – As law enforcement officers, Adam Mitchell, Nathan Hayes and their partners willingly stand up to the worst the world can offer, yet at the end of the day, they face a challenge that none of them are truly prepared to tackle: fatherhood. While they consistently give their best on the job, they quickly discover that their children are beginning to drift further away from them. When tragedy hits home, these men are left with a newfound urgency to renew their faith and reach out to their own children. Will they be able to find a way to serve and protect those who are most dear to them? Certificate: 12 (c. 120 minutes).

Friday 22 – Sunday 24 September: “Filled to Overflowing” – Faith Formators’ Retreat and Workshops, held at St Columba’s, Culloden. See the poster on the noticeboards for the full programme. For further details, please e-mail ogilvie@rcda.scot, or phone 01343 547806.

Cleaning Team: Tuesday 5 September at 4.30pm – Shona and Gi Gi. Anyone offering to help to keep the church nice and clean only needs to give one hour a month. See Don for details.

“90 Club”: Winners in our August Draw – First Prize – No. 16: Frankie Grout; Second Prize – No. 37: Mary MacKinnon; Third Prize – No. 49: Magda MacLean. Next Draw: Sunday 24 September. There’s plenty of time to get a ticket – only £2 a month! All profits go to our Building Fund. Please ask Don for details.

PRIZE BINGO – Next eyes down: Friday 29 September at 7.00pm! Come and take part in a fun-filled family evening. Refreshments provided during the interval! Items to give as prizes are always required (chocolates, wine, spirits, vouchers, toiletries, stationery, etc.). Your support is much appreciated!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Ewen Macdonald Snr + Amelia & John Drew + Rose Corbett + Murray Mackay + Peter Simpson

RIP: + Lachlan MacNeil +

Anniversaries: + Christopher Nimmo +