



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

4TH SEPTEMBER 2016

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Wisdom 9: 13-18

Psalm: Ps 89: 3-6, 12-14, 17

2nd Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17

Gospel: Luke 14: 25-33

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 4 September	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00am 9.30am
Tuesday 6 September	Tuesday in the Twenty-Third Week of the Year	Mass	7.30pm
Wednesday 7 September	Wednesday in the Twenty-Third Week of the Year	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00am 11.30am
Thursday 8 September	BIRTHDAY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ~ FEAST ~	Mass	7.30pm
Sunday 11 September	TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00am 9.30am

Sunday 4th September – Canonisation of Mother Teresa: Carrier of God's Tender of Merciful Love (Fr. Brian Kolodiejchuk, M.C., Postulator)

The canonisation [formal acknowledgment of sainthood] of Mother Teresa invites us to look to her as a Christian hero, an outstanding model of the Christian life. But as *Lumen Gentium* of the Second Vatican Council tells us, "It is not only through their example that we cherish the memory of those in heaven; rather we seek, by devotion to them, to exercise that bond of fraternal charity which unites and strengthens the whole Church in the Spirit (cf. Eph 4:1-6). Just as Christian charity brings us closer to Christ on our earthly journey, so does the communion of saints join the People of God to Christ, the fountainhead of all grace and life, on their eternal journey" (LG 50).

The Holy Father's desire is to have Mother Teresa's canonisation during this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, particularly during the Jubilee celebration for workers and volunteers of mercy. The whole pontificate of Pope Francis is marked by attention and love for the last, the least and the lost, for the marginalized, for those at the peripheries of human existence – the poorest of the poor. How fitting, then, to have Mother Teresa to be, we could even say, the saint of this Jubilee!

Wishing to place Mother Teresa, with her example and message, directly and clearly into the context of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, the theme, "Carrier of God's Tender and Merciful Love" has been chosen.

At the time of the Inspiration (1946), Jesus gave to Mother Teresa the name of the religious community He was asking her to begin: *Missionaries of Charity*. Mother Teresa "translated" this to "carriers of God's love." In this too, she was following Jesus' directions; He had invited her: "You come - go amongst them [the poor] - carry Me with you into them." Thus, she would exhort her religious family to be faithful to the mission entrusted to them: "Carry Him and His light into the homes of the poor, especially to the souls most in need. Spread the charity of His Heart wherever you

go." The theme expresses as well those particular qualities of charity that she was to make known to the poorest of the poor: the tenderness of God's merciful love for those most in need. She urged her followers to "serve the poor with tender and compassionate love." This is "carrying" the love of Jesus who, she was absolutely convinced, "loves each one of us tenderly with mercy and compassion." and "wants us to love each other as He loves each one of us with a tender love." Mother Teresa insisted that love "cannot remain still. It has to get into action, and that action is service."

The service that the Missionaries of Charity render to the poorest of the poor is actually comprised of what are traditionally called the "works of mercy." The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that "*works of mercy*" are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbour in his spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. Among all these, giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice pleasing to God" (CCC 2447).

As we approach the canonisation of Mother Teresa, we may be encouraged by her example and message of God's tender and merciful love to put "love into living action" as she did, to do "ordinary things with extraordinary love." We may not be called to do exactly what Mother Teresa did, but we can do what God entrusts uniquely to each one of us. Mother Teresa understood this so well: "As I often say to people who tell me they would like to serve the poor as I do, "What I can do, you cannot; what you can do, I cannot. But together we can do something beautiful for God."

GENERAL NEWS

The National Pilgrimage to Carfin in the Jubilee Year of Mercy takes place on **Sunday 4 September** and is in honour of *St Margaret*, Patroness of Scotland and an exemplary witness to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. **The Pilgrimage Mass will be celebrated at 3pm.** Principal Celebrant is Archbishop Philip Tartaglia, and the Homilist is Archbishop Leo Cushley. There will be opportunities for Confession before the Mass in St Francis Xavier's parish church and at points in the grotto, as well as a chance to pass through the parish church's Door of Mercy.

Highland Deanery Annual Pilgrimage: Saturday 10 September 2016 – St Mary's, Beaulieu. The Principal Celebrant will be **Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB.** Mass begins at **12 noon** and is followed by a procession to the old Priory. The pilgrimage concludes with a picnic.

40 Days for Life: if you sometimes feel helpless in the face of the advance of the culture of death, then you may be interested in a major new prayer initiative. Rose Docherty (Campaign Director, Glasgow) of 40 Days for Life is giving a presentation at Bishop's House, Aberdeen, on **Wednesday 14 September at 7.00pm.** All are welcome. Please e-mail Deacon Tony Schmitz at: tony.schmitz@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

Uplifting Walks in Inverness! – Join us on **Saturday 17 September**, as we explore the Caledonian Canal to the locks at Dochgarroch. Everyone is most welcome! To register, and to get more information, please contact Sabrina at sabrina@rediscovered.me, or visit the following website: upliftingwalks.wordpress.com.

Harvest Festival: Thanksgiving Party on Saturday 24 September at 7.00pm, in St Mary's Church Hall. This is a great opportunity to experience a Harvest Thanksgiving celebration, and to join with our Polish and European congregations. All nationalities most welcome for this fundraising event at St Mary's. Live music presented by *The Brothers*, along with a taste of traditional Polish harvest. 'Bring your own bottle'. Entertainment and light buffet included in the price of £10 ticket board. Reserve your tickets from Deacon Andrew Niski in the Parish Office (01463 233519).

Youth Ministry Formation Weekend at Kilcoy Castle! – Thursday to Sunday, 22-25 September 2016. Accommodation is available for this weekend, which includes presentations by Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB, the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, and youth ministers from the United States. The weekend will conclude with the celebration of Holy Mass. If interested, please contact Sister Christiana at: ogilvie@dioceseofaberdeen.org, or call 07938 729895.

PARISH NEWS

FIRS Group: The new 2016-2017 programme for the Friends in Retirement Group (FIRs) is available on our website. The first meeting of the new session takes place on **Thursday 8 September, from 2.00pm.** Margaret Ryles will give a talk on the work of the Samaritans. All welcome.

Day Workshop for Catechists ('old' and 'new'), youth ministers, and those involved in Children's Liturgy –

Saturday 24 September at St Columba's, 9.30am-4.30pm. Please do come along and support this important event.

Church cleaning – Tuesday: GiGi and Shona.

"90 Club": August Draw – 1st Prize: no. 33 (Margaret); 2nd Prize: no. 63 (Malcolm); 3rd Prize: no. 12 (Duncan). Next Prize-Winning Draw will be held on Sunday 25 September. Good luck to all who have a number! There are a few tickets still available; £2.00 monthly. Please ask Don.

PRIZE BINGO – FRIDAY 7 OCTOBER!! 'Eyes down' at 7.00pm. Items to give out as prizes are always needed (ten single-line prizes; ten 'full house' prizes; plus Raffle prizes). Many thanks to all who donated such marvellous gifts. Your help is crucial in making this fundraiser such a success for the parish.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + Leslie Murray + Rhona MacGregor +

Anniversaries: + Walter Grant + Mary Casey + Fiona Dickson + Christopher Nimmo + Mary Bell + Jock Parker + John Tracy +

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

The Secular Franciscan Order meets at 2.00pm on the Second Saturday of each month at St Columba's, Culloden. Contact Helen MacGillp (01463 792149). Visit www.ofsgb.org.uk.

Prayer and Praise Group every Thursday in the Lady Chapel at St Columba's, after the 7.30pm Mass.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of every month, at 7.30pm (**next meeting: 12 September**). The meeting is followed by dinner at the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045). Visit www.catenians.co.uk.

The Knights of St Columba meets on the first Monday of every month in the Marian Room at St. Mary's, at 7.30 pm (**next meeting: 5 September**): contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Visit www.ksc.org.uk.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) meets every fortnight, on Sundays, in the Marian Room at St Mary's, at 10.00 am (**next meeting: 4 September**). Requests for assistance and support can be made by contacting any SVP member or by dropping a note in a SVP collection box. Visit www.svp.org.uk.

The St Mary's Parent & Toddler Group meets on Wednesdays in the Marian Room, 11.00am – 2.45pm.

The St Ninian's Parent & Toddler Group is now meeting again. Enquiries to Jenny Wilson, tel. 07779 003434.

.. and St Columba's Parent & Toddler Group?? Why not? We have a large number of Mums and kids in this parish. Let's think about organising our *own* group here!! We can easily obtain toys and other resources. Please speak to Fr Domenico if you are interested in getting involved.