



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

Sunday Mass Readings

4th OCTOBER 2015

Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year B

1st Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm: 127:1-5

2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 4 October	Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Syrian Refugees Emergency Appeal)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Wednesday 7 October	Our Lady of the Rosary	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 8 October	Thursday of Wk 28 in Ordinary Time B	Mass	19.30
Sunday 11 October	Twenty-Eighth Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

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

Four Key Themes of the Synod on the Family (4-25 October)

The Synod on the Family will begin today, 4 October, and take place until 25 October. There will be representatives from the world's episcopal conferences in the Vatican. In addition, 18 married couples will attend at the Pope's request. During the three weeks, the main focus will be on the modern day challenges families face. The working document identifies these four points:

1) Fewer marriages among the young

For younger generations, it is challenging to make definitive decisions. This includes getting married. Fewer couples are getting married, while divorce and separations are on the rise: *"We must reflect profoundly on why today's youth do not want to get married, despite there being a desire for affectionate security and a stable marriage. Along with other reasons, there is a fear in the young, of being wrong and failing. This fear blocks them from trusting in Christ's promise of marriage."* (Pope Francis)

2) Helping marriages

The Catholic Church wants to find ways to better prepare individuals for marriage. Amid jokes, Pope Francis said that young adults spend more time studying for exams than preparing for marriage. The Pope wants to have married couples help those who are just starting out. It will be a way for newlyweds to learn the power of forgiveness and love: *"If you have fought, do not end the day without peace. How, you ask? On your knees? No. One small gesture is enough. Harmony can return to the family."* (Pope Francis, 13 May 2015)

3) Connecting with children

Raising children is a challenge in any continent. Many parents highlight just how difficult it is to reach out and get through to their kids. There is an "invasive environment due to technology and social media." Children continue to be influenced by smartphones and computers: *"If family education rediscovers the pride of its leadership, many things will change for the better, for uncertain parents and for disappointed children. It is time for fathers and mothers to return from their exile — for they have exiled themselves from their children's upbringing — and to fully resume their educational role."* (Pope Francis, 20 May 2015)

4) Broken families

It concerns the Pope that broken families do not feel included by the Catholic Church. He asks Catholics to treat broken families with mercy and offer spiritual support. Some churches do not allow those who are divorced to be Baptism godparents or teach catechism. The Synod will reconsider this. Some bishops have asked for it to be possible for divorced Catholics who remarry and receive the Sacraments: *"We must differentiate between those who have suffered separation and those who provoked it. If we look at the new union from a child's perspective, we can see the urgency in welcoming these families into the church. After all, how can we ask parents to raise children in the Christian faith, if they themselves are excluded from the church?"* (Pope Francis, 5 August 2015). As Pope Francis said, there is a search for a solution to emergencies reflecting these four aspects of marriage: indissolubility, unity, fidelity and openness to life. This will be the challenging task of the Synod. (www.romereports.com)

GENERAL NEWS

St Mary's October Talks: each Wednesday during the month of October, Fr James Bell will present a 50-minute reflection, with prayer and discussion, in the Marian Room, at St Mary's, from 6.30pm until 7.20pm. The topics are as follows:

Wed 7 October: Daughters of Divine Love;
Wed 14 October: 'Caritas Christi Urget Nos';
Wed 21 October: The Divine Compassion
Wed 28 October: Apostolic Witness

Ceilidh / Buffet, Saturday 21 November: this event will take place at the Craigmonie Hotel, and is in aid of World Youth Day 2016. Music by Captain Fantastic. Ticket prices: £20 per person, Children £1 per year; 6 year olds pay £6 / 15 year old pay £15 etc. (*B&B at rate of £60 per room, book directly with hotel*). Tickets now available from Deacon Patrick Darbyshire, Brian and Margaret Lamond, and St Mary's Parish Office.

PARISH NEWS

2nd Collection: Syrian Refugee Emergency Appeal: SCIAF's Syrian Refugee Emergency Appeal has received over £90,000 in donations from our supporters across Scotland. Your donations have helped our partners, Caritas Jordan, to reach out to Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanian families. However, the need is great and urgent. Tens of thousands of refugees continue to pour over the borders every day, please keep these people in your prayers.

Christmas Cards and Gifts: we have placed orders with CBC distributors and with the Apostleship of the Sea for festive cards and gifts. Visit our Piety Stall and stock up on shopping for the forthcoming festive season!

Parish Pastoral Council: St Columba's PPC will meet on **Thursday 22 October**, after the evening Mass.

Supporting St Columba's – can you help the Parish? We are looking for volunteers to help us with a variety of tasks, including the following: Readers at Sunday Mass, Hospitality Ministry (ushers and helping distribute and tidy away hymn books), kitchen duties, church cleaners. Are you able to offer a little of your spare time to help the Parish? Please speak to Fr Domenico or to Helen MacGilp.

Church cleaning this week: Wednesday at 4.30pm – Shona and Gi Gi.

'90 Club': September winners – 1st prize: Anna; 2nd prize: Neil; 3rd prize: John. : draw today! Our fund-raising '90 Club' draw takes place today, after Mass. There are three nice prizes to be won. Would you like to join us? Please see Don for details. Please do take a number, and support the parish – only £2 monthly!

Prize Bingo – 6 November: Eyes down at 7.00pm. The success of the Bingo evening depends so much on receiving items to give as prizes, so a big "thank you" to everyone for your generosity. **Please do come and support** this fund-raising initiative!

FINANCES

St Columba's no. 1	£ 299.49
St Columba's Building Fund	£ 221.98
– Thank you for your generosity and support –	

St Columba's Accounts

General Running Account:	Building Account:
Sort Code: 80-91-26	Sort Code: 80-91-26
Account No: 00809358	Account No. 00809390

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

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

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

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

Prayer and Praise Group every Thursday at St Columba's after 7.30pm Mass in the Lady Chapel. Call Brian (01463 790255) for details.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm. Meeting followed by dinner in the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045.) Visit www.thecatenians.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: contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity & fraternity in the local parishes. Visit www.ksc.org.uk.

The Parents & Toddlers Group meets on Wednesdays from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the Marian Room beside St Mary's.

The Cenacolo Prayer Group meets every Monday after the 6:00 pm Mass in St. Mary's. All welcome.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) meets every fortnight, on Sundays, in the Marian Room at St Mary's, at 10.00 am. 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.