



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**8 APRIL 2018:**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**(DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 4: 32-35

Psalm: Ps 117 (118): 2-4, 15-18, 22-24

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 8 April	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> <b>(DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)</b> Second Collection: Building Fund	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 10 April	Tuesday of the Second Week of Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 11 April	Wednesday of the Second Week of Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 12 April	Thursday of the Second Week of Eastertide	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 15 April	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> Second Collection: Building Fund	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>

## Second Sunday of Easter: My Lord and My God!

Today is the eighth day after Easter, and the Gospel according to John documents for us the two appearances of the Risen Jesus to the Apostles gathered in the Upper Room, where on the evening of Easter Thomas was absent, and eight days later, he was present. The first time, the Lord showed them the wounds to his body, breathed on them and said: "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (Jn 20:21). He imparts his same mission, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

But that night Thomas, who did not want to believe what the others witnessed, was not there. "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side", he said, "I will not believe" (cf. Jn 20:25). Eight days later — which is precisely today — Jesus returned to stand among them and turned immediately to Thomas, inviting him to touch the wounds in his hands and his side. He faced his incredulity so that, through the signs of the passion, he was able to reach the fullness of faith in the Paschal Mystery, namely faith in the Resurrection of Jesus.

Thomas was one who was not satisfied and seeks, intending to confirm himself, to have his own personal experience. After initial resistance and apprehension, in the end even he was able to believe, even though through effort, he came to believe. Jesus waited for him patiently and offered himself to the difficulties and uncertainty of the last to arrive. The Lord proclaimed "blessed", those who believe without seeing (cf. v. 29) the first of which is

Mary his Mother. He also met the needs of the doubting disciple: "Put your finger here, and see my hands..." (v. 27). In the redeeming contact with the wounds of the Risen One, Thomas showed his own wounds, his own injuries, his own lacerations, his own humiliation; in the print of the nails he found the decisive proof that he was loved, that he was expected, that he was understood. He found himself before the Messiah filled with kindness, mercy, tenderness. This was the Lord he was searching for, he, in the hidden depths of his being, for he had always known He was like this. And how many of us are searching deep in our heart to meet Jesus, just as He is: kind, merciful, tender! For we know, deep down, that He is like this. Having rediscovered personal contact with Christ who is amiable and mercifully patient, Thomas understood the profound significance of his Resurrection and, intimately transformed, he declared his full and total faith in Him exclaiming: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28). Beautiful, Thomas' expression is beautiful!

He was able to "touch" the Paschal Mystery, which fully demonstrated God's redeeming love (cf. Eph 2:4). All of us too are like Thomas: on this second Sunday of Easter we are called to contemplate, in the wounds of the Risen One, Divine Mercy, which overcomes all human limitations and shines on the darkness of evil and of sin. (Pope Francis, *Regina Caeli* Address, 12 April 2015)

## GENERAL NEWS

### **Funeral Arrangements for Canon Bernard MacDonald, RIP:**

At **St Ninian's Church**, Culduthel Road, Inverness, IV2 4AN.

**Thursday 12 April at 18.00 hrs:** Reception of Remains and Vespers of the Dead.

**Friday 13 April at 11.00 hrs:** Funeral Mass, thereafter to Fodderty Cemetery (on Dingwall to Strathpeffer road).

**14.30 hrs (approx):** Funeral Refreshments /buffet at Lochardil House Hotel, Stratherrick Rd, Inverness IV2 4LF - 01463 235995

**22nd-24th May 2018: Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures** – *“You Have Come to Mount Sion”:* *The Christian Pilgrimage in the Letter to the Hebrews.* Four talks by Fr. Richard Ounsworth OP, which are as follows:

Tuesday 22nd May at 3.00pm: “Potato Stamps: Reading the Old Testament in the Light of Christ”.

Wednesday 23rd May at 10.30am: “Jesus is Joshua: What’s in a Name?”

Wednesday 23rd May at 3.00pm: “Passing Through the Veil: Christ the High Priest and the Day of Atonement

Thursday 24 May at 10.30am: “Robed in Flesh, Our Great High Priest”

There is no charge for these lectures, and all are welcome to attend. To register for the talks, make further enquiries, or book accommodation, please contact: Pluscarden Abbey, Elgin, Moray, IV30 8UA, or e-mail: [guestmaster@pluscardenabbeyorg](mailto:guestmaster@pluscardenabbeyorg). See the poster on the front page of our parish website.

## PARISH NEWS

**Light of the North magazine** – the new Spring edition is now available! Be sure to collect your copy! There are some photos and features on Inverness and the Highland Deanery (we always punch above our weight!!). Please consider making a donation towards the cost of each copy. All donations go to the Parish!

**Mary Magdalene at Eden Court!** – The new movie on the life of Mary Magdalene, starring Rooney Mara and Joaquin Phoenix, will be screening at Eden Court cinema, from Friday 20 April – Thursday 26 April. Certificate 12A.

**Weekly Offertory Envelopes:** there are still a few envelopes for the new financial year (April onwards) are now available in the entrance foyer. Please do pick them up and use them in the coming year. Thank you!

**RETURN OF SCIAF WEE BOXES** – Please return these boxes to us from Easter Sunday onwards. The UK government is matching, pound-for-pound, all donations given to our WEE BOX appeal made before the 8th May. Every pound you save will go even further to helping our brothers and sisters around the world to survive and thrive. **WEE BOX PACKS are available in the entrance foyer – please take one home.**

**Cleaning Team:** Tuesday 10th April – Mary and Karen, and anyone else who would like to come along. Can you help? Only one hour a month! See Don for details.

**‘EASTER RAFFLE’ PRIZES!** – A few prizes await collection from the table in the foyer. Make sure you have yours!

**“90 Club” – Next Draw on Sunday 29 April** – There are still a few numbers available; only £2 monthly. Please ask Don.

**Prize Bingo: FRIDAY 27 APRIL – ‘eyes down’ at 7.00pm.** Family fun for all! A warm welcome awaits you. Items to give as prizes are always needed. Thank you for your support!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Rose Corbett + Amelia & John Drew + Murray Mackay + Peter Simpson + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zandre

**R.I.P:** Canon Bernard MacDonald

**Anniversaries:** + Francis Black + Peggy Johnstone + Isobel Campbell +