



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

### 9 APRIL 2017: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

## Sunday Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm: Ps 21 (22):8-9, 17-20, 23-24

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 9 April	<b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION</b> Second Collection: Holy Places	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 11 April	Tuesday of Holy Week	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30am 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 12 April	Wednesday of Holy Week	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.00 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 13 April	<b>MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b>	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass of the Lord's Supper Watching at the Altar of Repose	6.30 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 14 April	<b>GOOD FRIDAY OF THE PASSION</b>	Stations of the Cross in Malayalam Liturgy of the Passion Stations of the Cross in English	10.00 am 3.00 pm 7.00 pm
Saturday 15 April	<b>HOLY SATURDAY AT THE TOMB / EASTER VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION</b>	Easter Vigil in Malayalam Easter Vigil in English	3.00 pm 8.30 pm
Sunday 16 April	<b>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION</b> Second Collection: Building Fund	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>

### Palm Sunday: "Who Am I Like?" (Pope Francis)

We have just listened to the Passion of our Lord. We might well ask ourselves just one question: Who am I? Who am I, before my Lord? Who am I, before Jesus who enters Jerusalem amid the enthusiasm of the crowd? Am I ready to express my joy, to praise him? Or do I stand back? Who am I, before the suffering Jesus? We have just heard many, many names. The group of leaders, some priests, the Pharisees, the teachers of the law, who had decided to kill Jesus. They were waiting for the chance to arrest him. Am I like one of them? We have also heard another name: Judas. Thirty pieces of silver. Am I like Judas? We have heard other names too: the disciples who understand nothing, who fell asleep while the Lord was suffering. Has my life fallen asleep? Or am I like the disciples, who did not realise what it was to betray Jesus? Or like that other disciple, who wanted to settle everything with a sword? Am I like them? Am I like Judas, who feigns loved and then kisses the Master in order to hand him over, to betray him? Am I a traitor? Am I like those people in power who hastily summon a tribunal and seek false witnesses: am I like them? And when I do these things, if I do them, do I think that in this way I am saving the people?

Am I like Pilate? When I see that the situation is difficult, do I wash my hands and dodge my responsibility,

allowing people to be condemned – or condemning them myself? Am I like that crowd which was not sure whether they were at a religious meeting, a trial or a circus, and then chose Barabbas? For them it was all the same: it was more entertaining to humiliate Jesus. Am I like the soldiers who strike the Lord, spit on him, insult him, who find entertainment in humiliating him? Am I like the Cyrenean, who was returning from work, weary, yet was good enough to help the Lord carry his cross? Am I like those who walked by the cross and mocked Jesus: "He was so courageous! Let him come down from the cross and then we will believe in him!". Mocking Jesus.... Am I like those fearless women, and like the mother of Jesus, who were there, and who suffered in silence? Am I like Joseph, the hidden disciple, who lovingly carries the body of Jesus to give it burial? Am I like the two Marys, who remained at the Tomb, weeping and praying? Am I like those leaders who went the next day to Pilate and said, "Look, this man said that he was going to rise again. We cannot let another fraud take place!", and who block life, who block the tomb, in order to maintain doctrine, lest life come forth?

Where is my heart? Which of these persons am I like? May this question remain with us throughout the entire week. (Homily, St Peter's Square, 13 April 2014)

## GENERAL NEWS

### **Sunday 23 April: Divine Mercy Sunday – afternoon of guided devotions at St Mary's, Inverness.**

The programme is as follows:

2.00 pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

- Guided meditation on the Mercy of God (English & Polish)
- Opportunity for Confession

3.00 pm: Divine Mercy Chaplet

3.20 pm: Address/Spiritual Conference

3.45 pm: Afternoon Prayer

4.00 pm: Benediction

4.10 pm: Solemn Veneration of the Image and Act of Consecration

See the poster on the notice board.

## PARISH NEWS

**Calling all Readers!** – we are looking for people to assist us in reading throughout Holy Week, but **particularly at the Easter Vigil next Saturday.** If you are able to help us, please see Fr Domenico or Helen.

**Today's Second Collection: The Holy Places** – Every day, young Christian families in the Holy Land try to live upright lives, centred on the teachings of Jesus, just as we do. These Christians, living where Christ walked and taught, lived and died, still live in a land of war, death and destruction. The work of the Franciscan Friars for these native Christians, for the poor, and for the pilgrims who come to visit, depends greatly on your support. Please be as generous as you can to the people of the Holy Land, and to the Friars who preserve the Shrines and Holy Places.

**CATHOLICISM – Wednesday 12 April, from 7.00pm – “The Life of His Love: Prayer and the Life of the Spirit”.** In this lesson, Bishop Barron explores Catholic spirituality, which is centred on prayer. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: “Prayer is the lifting up of the mind and the heart to God.” On pilgrimage to the places where the great saints and spiritual masters lived, Bishop Barron explores the different types of prayer: contemplation; adoration; petition; and intercession. In telling the stories of Catholics like Thomas Merton, St. Theresa of Avila, and St. John of the Cross, Bishop Barron demonstrates how the human person can be transformed through prayer that manifests a deep, spiritual commitment centred in Christ.

**Friends in Retirement (FIRs) Meeting – Thursday 13 April, from 2.00pm:** A speaker from Women's Aid will be coming to talk to us. All are welcome!

**THANK YOU!** – to our extremely generous donors who made a very kind **contribution of £520.00**, for our Building Fund! May the Good Lord bless your

generosity and thoughtfulness! All of our benefactors are remembered at the altar, during our Masses.

**Gift Aid:** we have just received a cheque for the sum of **£ 3,426.58** from Mr. Taxman as our Gift Aid rebate for the tax year 2015-16. It definitely pays to Gift Aid your contributions!! Why not consider it?!

**Easyfundraising:** we have just received **£223.63** as a donations payment, through the Easyfundraising scheme. At the moment, we have **15 parishioners** signed up on the site. Imagine how much extra we would receive in donations for the parish if we had 50 or more parishioners using Easyfundraising?! It costs absolutely nothing to you, and is so simple: whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be collecting free donations for St Columba's Church, Culloden! There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, etc. – It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Go to the following internet address: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcolumbas-culloden/> and join for free.

2. Every time you shop online, go to *easyfundraising* first to find the site you want and start shopping.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever! There are no catches or hidden charges and St Columba's Church, Culloden will be really grateful for your donations. Please do support us!

**Cleaning Team:** Tuesday 11 April at 4.30pm: Margaret and Don. Assistance is always gratefully accepted. Come along and help us!

**GRAND EASTER RAFFLE!** – Drawn on Easter Sunday. £1.00 for a strip of five tickets. Please include your name and phone number on the back! Good luck!

**“90 Club”** – Numbers are drawn on the last Sunday of the month. Good luck to everyone who has a ticket. There are a few still left; only £2 per month! 3 prizes to be won. See Don for details

**PRIZE BINGO:** Many thanks to all who donate items to give as prizes; your continued support is very much appreciated. Without your help, we would not be so well supported by the local community. Thank you!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + John Drew + Leslie Murray + Frances Boyle + Ewen Macdonald Snr + Brian Murray + Lachlan MacNeil + Louisa and Suzanne Williams + Cath Maclean + Eilidh McPherson + Morag Macintyre + Elspeth Angus

**Anniversaries:** + Francis Black + June Olga Hall + Peggy Johnstone