



St. Columba's, Culloden

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Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

9th AUGUST 2015

Nineteenth Sunday of the Year B

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: 1 Kings 19:4-8

Psalm: 33:2-9

2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Gospel: John 6: 41-51

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 9 August	Nineteenth Sunday of the Year B (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Wednesday 12 August	Wednesday of Week 19 in Ordinary Time ** INSTALLATION MASS **	Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament MASS – WITH BISHOP HUGH GILBERT	11.00 19.00
Thursday 13 August	Thursday of Week 19 in Ordinary Time	Communion Service	19.30
Sunday 16 August	Twentieth 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.

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – The Eucharist, part III: the Real Presence.

“Our reflection this week will focus on the Eucharist as the “Real Presence” of Jesus. As the Catechism reminds us, Jesus is present to us in so many ways: in the Scriptures, in all of the sacraments, in our prayers, in the poor and the sick and in each other. But, in the Eucharist, this presence is special and unique. Not surprisingly, there have been many questions and controversies about this unique and special presence - not least about whom or what we receive in the Eucharist and how this can happen.

Our Catholic belief, shared by a number of other Christian traditions, is that when Jesus said, “This is my body....This is my blood,” He meant what He said. Elsewhere in the Gospels, we also have this sense of a real presence: for example, when Jesus says, “The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh” (John 6: 51). We can summarise our belief by saying that, in the Eucharist, we receive the Lord in a sacramental and a ‘substantial’ way under the form of the consecrated and converted bread and wine.

Writing some 1,700 years ago about the Eucharist, St. Ambrose said: “Be convinced that this is not what nature has formed, but what the blessing has consecrated...for by the blessing, nature itself is changed.” Later on, a more technical word was used to describe what happens to the bread and wine when they are blessed and consecrated and how they become the true body and blood of Jesus: “Transubstantiation.” “Trans,” as in the words “transplant” or “transportation,” implies a movement or dynamic from one place or reality to another. “Substantiation” refers to the substance of a thing - what it is. “Transubstantiation” means that the reality of the bread and wine, what they are, is moved or changed or converted into the body and blood of Christ, even though the appearance of the bread and wine appears to remain before our eyes.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, in a homily to children who were making their First Communion, was asked by a child, “How do we know that Jesus is there when all we see is bread and wine?” The pope told the children to think of things like electricity, music, thinking or loving: “We cannot see them as such, yet know that they are there, and we can see their effects on us and others. The

same is true with the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.” Another question is about who is actually present in the Eucharist. Do we really eat flesh and drink blood? Are we like cannibals - as many thought Christians were in the early days of the Church?

Look back to the words of Jesus mentioned above: “This is my body... This is my blood;” or, “Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you” (John 6:52). We have the truth of Jesus’ words and we accept them in faith. We are not cannibals, of course, eating actual meat and blood as we understand it in everyday life; but we must not reduce the presence of the Lord to just some sort of vague metaphorical or spiritual presence, either. Nor should we reduce the power and meaning of Jesus’ words. Christ is really present in the Eucharist and we truly receive Him in the form of bread and wine: real food and real drink (John 6:53). In the Eucharist, we have the whole Christ (body, blood, soul and divinity), truly, really and substantially present and received in a sacramental way.

Incidentally, because of this presence of the whole of Christ in the Eucharist in this sacramental way, we do not receive more or less of our Lord depending on the size of the host! This is also why Christ can be present to us and yet present in many other churches and places, as well as in heaven, all at the same time.

Finally, this is why we receive the whole of our Lord whether we consume either the consecrated bread or wine. We usually receive both to give a fuller sign of who we receive and what we are celebrating, but the Lord is fully and wholly present in either. This presence of Christ is also permanent. How and why? Well, God does not take back His words or promises. Once the bread and wine are consecrated and the words of Jesus are said (“This is my body...”), then that same Word of God abides.

This is why we reserve the sacrament in a special container called a tabernacle, and why we have adoration of the Eucharist: It is a great form of prayer and a way of celebrating and prolonging the encounter with the Lord that we experience at Mass.

(Rev. Anthony Barrett)

GENERAL NEWS

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is running a 'roadshow' in Inverness on **Wednesday 12th August, 12 noon to 4pm**. Young people will be distributing information to promote the right to life. Please come along to support them, at their stall near the Eastgate shopping centre. For information, contact SPUC on (0141 221 2094).

Highland Deanery Pilgrimage, Saturday 22 August: St Duthac Collegiate Church, Tain: Mass 1200 noon. Principal Celebrant: Archbishop Mario Conti. This year, the Deanery pilgrimage coincides with celebrations to commemorate the granting of a Papal Bull to Tain. After Mass, there will be a procession to the Old Church of St Duthac. After prayers and a hymn, we will join Archbishop Mario Conti and people at St Vincent's Church in Tain, for Highland refreshments. Please mark this in your diaries so that we can make it a very special event.

Special Clachan Comar Mass of St Bean, Sat 29 August. A special Mass will be celebrated for those who are interred at Clachan Comar, nr Tomich, Marydale/Cannich, at 3.00 pm, on Sat 29 August – a date for your diary!

"A Song for St Cecilia 2": Sunday 30 August at 2.30pm: the Dominican Sisters at Greyfriars Convent in Elgin are organising a fundraising concert to support their work with youth and with the World Youth Day fund. Please join them for what is sure to be an enjoyable afternoon!

Martin Aelred concert, Wednesday 2 September, 7.30pm: world-renowned tenor and classical guitarist Martin Aelred is returning to Inverness to perform 'Around the world in 80 minutes', at St. Mary's, Inverness. Get your ticket before 15 August to qualify for an Early Bird Discount of £2 off per ticket! For tickets, contact St Mary's on 01463 233519, and ask for 'PJ'. Ticket Prices as follows: Adults £10, Concessions/OAPs £8, Students/Children £5; with Early Bird Discount, these reduced prices apply: Adults £8, Concessions/OAPs £6, Students/Children £3. Don't miss it!

PARISH NEWS

Congratulations! – to Patricia and Ignatius, on their recent Tenth Wedding Anniversary, and to Lewis George Arenas, who was baptised yesterday. May the Good Lord bless you all in abundance.

Wednesday 12 August, 7.00pm: Installation Mass of Fr Domenico. Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB, will be the Principal Celebrant. Priests and parishioners from throughout the Deanery and Diocese are attending this special event. Please put this date in your diaries!

'World Youth Day' for Teenagers and Young Adults: this will take place on **5 September 2015** at St Columba's. The day is aimed at young people throughout the Highland Deanery; it will be an opportunity to meet one another, to enjoy a meal in good company, and to share our faith. Gaynoll Craig will be giving a presentation on next Year's World Youth Day, and we will look at developing different initiatives for our young people. Please do join us!

OUR PRIZE BINGO RESUMES! – This essential "fun fund-raiser" resumes again on Friday 4 September at 7.00pm, here at St Columba's. Please do come along and support us. Not only is it an enjoyable evening, but it raises much-needed cash for our Building Fund. Can you help us – either with prizes or by donating your time on the night?

'90' Club: our next draw takes place on Sunday 30 August. There are still some numbers available: £2 monthly, with three prizes to be won. See Don for further details.

Cleaning Team – Wednesday 12 September at 4.30pm: GiGi, Shona, and Anne-Marie.

Gardening: we will meet this Tuesday, 11 August, to give the outside a little tidy-up before the arrival of the Bishop and guests on Wednesday. Thank you!

FINANCES

St Columba's no. 1	£ 356.67
St Columba's building fund:	£ 365.28
– 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: Des Gair + Anna Black + Peggy Horne + Leslie Murray + Mary Gribben + Michelle Campbell + Claire Macpherson

Anniversaries: + Peter Tierney + Donald and Dorothy MacDonald + Jessie Williams

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.

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.