



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

20 AUGUST 2023:
20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 4)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7
Resp. Psalm: 66 (67): 2-3, 5-6, 8
2nd Reading: Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32
Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28

| Date | Details | Liturgies | Time |
|--------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Sunday 20 August | 20 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 758 ff.) | Live-Streamed Holy Mass | 9.30am |
| Tuesday 22 August | Our Lady, Mother and Queen Mass Intention: Lachlan MacNeil, RIP (Anniversary on 20 August) | Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass | 6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm |
| Thursday 24 August | St. Bartholomew, Apostle (Feast) Mass Intention: Donor's Intention | Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass | 6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm |
| Saturday 26 August | Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Intention: Donor's Intention | Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass | 8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am |
| Sunday 27 August | 21 ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 762 ff.) | Live-Streamed Holy Mass | 9.30am |

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: A Foreigner's Faith

Most of us are the foreigners, the non-Israelites, about whom today's First Reading prophesies. Coming to worship the God of Israel, we stand in the line of faith epitomised by the Canaanite woman in today's Gospel. Calling to Jesus as Lord and Son of David, this foreigner shows her great faith in God's covenant with Israel. Jesus tests her faith three times. He refuses to answer her cry. Then, He tells her His mission is only to Israelites. Finally, He uses "dog," an epithet used to disparage non-Israelites (see Matthew 7:6). Yet she persists, believing that He alone offers salvation. In this family drama, we see fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy and the promise we sing of in today's Psalm. In Jesus, God makes known among all the nations His way and His salvation (see John 14:6).

At the start of salvation history, God called Abraham (see Genesis 12:2). He chose his offspring, Israel, from all the nations on the face of the earth to build His covenant kingdom (see Deuteronomy 7:6-8; Isaiah 41:8). In God's plan, Abraham was to be the father of many nations (see Romans 4:16-17). Israel was to be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God, made up of all who believe what the Canaanite professes; that Jesus is Lord (see Exodus 4:22-23; Romans 5:13-24). Jesus came first to restore the kingdom to Israel (see Acts 1:6; 13:46). But His ultimate mission was the reconciliation of the world, as Paul declares in today's Epistle.

In the Mass we join all peoples in doing Him homage. As Isaiah foretold, we come to His holy mountain, the heavenly Jerusalem, to offer sacrifice at His altar (see Hebrews 12:22-24, 28). With the Canaanite, we take our place at the Master's table to be fed as His children. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

[Today's] Gospel episode helps us to understand that we all need to grow in faith and fortify our trust in Jesus. He can help us to find our way, when we have lost the compass of our journey; when the road no longer seems flat but rough and arduous; when it is hard to be faithful to our commitments. (Angelus Address, St. Peter's Square, 20 August 2017)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (pp. 758 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 758: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 540: The Creed

p. 567: Preface II of Sundays in Ordinary Time
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

Highland Foodbank, July/August – can you help, by donating an item or two from the following list? The Foodbank store is short of: tins of corned beef, cartons of long life juice, jars of pasta sauce, oatcakes/crackers, tins of: chopped tomatoes, ham, and mince/meatballs, tins of fruit, washing-up liquid, deodorant, toilet rolls, new or used bags for life. Thank you.

Thursday 24 August: Rome Pilgrimage Meeting – there will be a get-together after Evening Mass on Thursday 24 August, to discuss the arrangements for the forthcoming pilgrimage to the Eternal City, from 11 to 18 September. Could all pilgrims endeavour to make this meeting, please? Mille grazie!!

Saturday 26 August: Updated Safeguarding training – this will be available in the meeting room on 26th August 2023. There will be two sessions, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. but only one needs to be attended. Sessions will be about 1 ½ hours long. As this is all new materials, **all existing PVG checked volunteers should attend** and hopefully any new volunteers. It is only for those working for the Church with children or vulnerable adults. Any such volunteer must have the training and a current PVG check for the Parish. Ewen would especially be grateful if any of the adults coming to Children's Liturgy with their children on a Sunday morning could attend training and get a PVG check so that he does not have to cancel any sessions because there are insufficient numbers of PVG checked persons in attendance (minimum of 2). If you would like to attend, or have any queries, please send an e-mail to Ewen at ewen1.macdonald@hotmail.co.uk.

Saturday 2 September at 11.30am: Highland Deanery Pilgrimage, with Mass, at the parish of St. Peter & St. Boniface, in Cathedral Square, Fortrose. Principal Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB. Come along and support this Deanery initiative!

Monday 25 September-Sunday 8 October: The Shroud of Turin Exhibition! – at St. Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen. A full-size replica of the Shroud is coming to our Cathedral! There will also be Group Guided Tours organised, together with screenings of 'The Silent Witness', and Q&A. If anyone would like to attend, as a group, let Fr. Domenico know ASAP.

Boost your giving – Direct Debits Tripled to Mary's Meals! – Setting up a regular gift (either through a Direct Debit, standing order or recurring card payment) is a very special way to support Mary's Meals. The certainty of your donation will give us the confidence to plan for the future – safe in the knowledge that, together, we are keeping our promise to the 2.4 million children receiving our school meals while striving to reach the next child waiting. Until Friday 29 September 2023, any new regular gift will be tripled for the first three payments – thanks to a group of generous donors who have made funds available up to £150,000! And, if you already have a regular gift and would like to increase your donation, the additional amount will be tripled for the next three payments. This means your donations will feed even more hungry children. Visit <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/direct-debits-tripled> for more details, or call 0800 6981212.

St. Andrew Community Youth Group – every Friday in the church hall at St. Mary's, in Huntly Street, Inverness. Ages 6-11: 5.00pm-6.00pm; Ages 12-18: 6.30pm-9.00pm. For details: youth@standrewx.org, or call 07754 891808.

'Angel Stories for Children': A Colouring Book – this book, complete with stories and drawings to colour in, was compiled by Ishbel McGillivray-McGregor, a former parishioner of St. Columba's. It only costs £2, and is available at our Piety Stall.

90 Club: Draw Next Week, Sunday 27 August! Would you like to take part, too? For details, please speak to Don.

Culloden Indoor Carpet Bowls – every Monday at 10.15am until noon, at the Smithton/Culloden Youth Centre next to the Library (Keppoch Road). See Don for details.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Kathleen Macpherson, Marian Ellis, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Rose Corbett, Winnie Ferrari, Eileen Anne Millar, Mary & Esther Smith, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Mary Pene MacNeil, Katie MacCormick

RIP: Donald Allan MacKiggan, Vi John, James Shortt, John Doherty

Anniversaries: Brian Longmore, Jim McKelvie, Mary Bell