



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

21 APRIL 2024:
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
(Year B (II); Psalter: Week 4)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 4: 8-12
Resp. Psalm 117 (118)
2nd Reading: 1 John 3: 1-2
Gospel: John 10: 11-18

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 21 April	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (pp. 433 ff.) ~ 'GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY' ~ Special Collection for Vocations	CONFIRMATION MASS, WITH BISHOP HUGH Holy Mass	9.30 am 12 Noon
Tuesday 23 April	Tuesday of Week 4 in Eastertide	NO MASS TODAY	---
Thursday 25 April	St. Mark, Evangelist (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 27 April	Saturday of Week 4 in Eastertide Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 28 April	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (pp. 437 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter: The Shepherd's Voice

Jesus, in today's Gospel, says that He is the good shepherd the prophets had promised to Israel. He is the shepherd-prince, the new David—who frees people from bondage to sin and gathers them into one flock, the Church, under a new covenant, made in His blood (see Ezekiel 34:10–13, 23–31). His flock includes other sheep, He says, far more than the dispersed children of Israel (see Isaiah 56:8; John 11:52). And He gave His Church the mission of shepherding all peoples to the Father. In today's First Reading, we see the beginnings of that mission in the testimony of Peter, whom the Lord appointed shepherd of His Church (see John 21:15–17). Peter tells Israel's leaders that the Psalm we sing today is a prophecy of their rejection and crucifixion of Christ. He tells the "builders" of Israel's temple that God has made the stone they rejected the cornerstone of a new spiritual temple, the Church (see Mark 12:10–13; 1 Peter 2:4–7).

Through the ministry of the Church, the shepherd still speaks (see Luke 10:16), and forgives sins (see John 20:23), and makes His body and blood present, that all may know Him in the breaking of the bread (see Luke 24:35). It is a mission that will continue until all the world is one flock under the one shepherd.

In laying down His life and taking it up again, Jesus made it possible for us to know God as He did—as sons and daughters of the Father who loves us. As we hear in today's Epistle, He calls us His children, as He called Israel His son when He led them out of Egypt and made His covenant with them (see Exodus 4:22–23; Revelation 21:7).

Today, let us listen for His voice as He speaks to us in the Scriptures, and vow again to be more faithful followers. And let us give thanks for the blessings He bestows from His altar. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

[Jesus] accepts us as we are, even with our sins, so as to heal us, to forgive us; he guides us with love, so that we can cross even impervious paths without losing the way. He accompanies us. (*Regina Caeli* Address, St. Peter's Square, 22 April 2018)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year B (pp. 433 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 433: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 543: The Apostles' Creed

p. 561: Preface II of Easter
p. 611: Eucharistic Prayer III
p. 631: Communion Rite

A warm welcome to our visitors! Toilets are available in the entrance foyer. Join us for tea/coffee & cake after Sunday Mass!

New to the Parish? Please introduce yourself to Fr. Domenico, and fill in a Parish Register Form (in the entrance foyer).

Welcome to Bishop Hugh, and congratulations to our *Confirmati!* – our Bishop has joined us here today to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on seventeen of our young people. We offer our congratulations and prayers to our *Confirmati*: Benjamin, Caitlin, Calum, Eilish, Emily, Joel, John, Julia, Julian, Katie, Maciej, Maksymilian, Nicolas, Nojus, Samuel, Tomasz, and Weronika. Please keep them in your prayers. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in them, bring it to fulfilment!

TODAY: TWO SUNDAY MASSES! – Today, there will be TWO morning Masses: our Confirmation Mass with Bishop Hugh at 9.30am, and a later liturgy at 12 noon. Given the number of candidates who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, we anticipate a full church at 9.30am. If you can come to the 12 noon Mass, it would be appreciated!

Piety Stall – Looking for cards and gifts for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**? We have a wide range for sale at our Piety Stall! We also have cards and gifts to celebrate First Holy Communion – please ask Helen Macdonald.

Tuesday 21 May – Thursday 23 May: Pluscarden Pentecost Lectures – these will take place in St. Scholastica's Guesthouse, at Pluscarden Abbey. This year's lecturer will be Dr Linden Bicket from the Edinburgh University School of Divinity. She will give four lectures on the theme of Scottish Catholic Literature and the 'transfiguration of the commonplace'. The talks are as follows:

Tuesday 21st May at 3.00pm:

Wednesday 22nd May at 10.30am:

Wednesday 22nd May at 3.00pm:

Thursday 23rd May at 10.30am:

Faithful Fictions: what is Catholic Literature?;

George and Ann Scott-Moncrieff;

George Friel and Muriel Spark;

George Mackay Brown.

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 write to: Pluscarden Abbey, Elgin, IV30 8UA; or email guestmaster@pluscardenabbey.org

Catholic Marriage Counselling Service – the Diocese now offers a Marriage Counselling Service for Catholic couples in need of Couples Counselling. The Service offers a supportive unbiased and non-judgemental space that enables couples to identify and resolve their interpersonal issues and disagreements, while building on the strengths of their relationship. The contact person for this service is Ms Rosaline Nain Chia, (MBACP, Accred). You can contact Rosaline by using the referral form on the Diocesan website (https://www.rcda.scot/?page_id=34139) or by emailing her directly at counsellor1@rcda.scot.

90 Club: Next Draw on Sunday 28 April! This year, money raised will be used to tarmac additional disabled parking spaces outside the Church.

Our LAST Prize Bingo will take place Friday 26 April – Doors open: 6.30pm; eyes down: 7.00pm. Items to give as prizes are will be gratefully received; thank you for your support. There is a box in the entrance foyer, under the Piety Stall, in which you can place your donations. ** Please note that **this will be our LAST Bingo evening at St. Columba's**. Our sincere thanks go to Don Williams for his selfless efforts in organising and hosting the evenings. Over the course of twenty years, he has raised almost £55,000 for the parish. This is an incredible sum, which was instrumental in helping to pay back some of the Building Fund loan to the Diocese. Many thanks, Don, for your wonderful support to the Parish and to the local community.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Kathleen Macpherson, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Katie MacCormick, Brian Hamilton, Dorothy Macdonald, Cathy Grant, Patrick O'Donnell, Julie Marr, Alan Mackenzie

R.I.P: Walter Grant, Rose Corbett

Anniversaries: Flora Morrison, Des Coleman, Neil McDaid, John Prendergast