



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

7 APRIL 2024:
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
(Year B (II); Psalter: Week 2)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Acts 4: 32-35
Resp. Psalm 117 (118): 2-4, 15-18, 22-24
2nd Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6
Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 7 April	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) (pp. 424 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 9 April	Tuesday of Week 2 in Eastertide Mass Intention: Joanne Macmillan, RIP (Recently departed: 3 March 2024)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 11 April	St. Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr Mass Intention: Francis Black, RIP (Anniversary: 11 April 2009)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 13 April	St. Martin I, Pope, Martyr Mass Intention: John Angus O'Henley, RIP (Recently departed: 5 March 2024)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 14 April	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (pp. 429 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am

Second Sunday of Easter: The Day The Lord Made

Three times in today's Psalm we cry out a victory shout: "His mercy endures forever." Truly we've known the everlasting love of God, who has come to us as our Saviour. By the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' pierced side (see John 19:34), we've been made God's children, as we hear in today's Epistle. Yet we never met Jesus, never heard Him teach, never saw Him raised from the dead. His saving Word came to us in the Church—through the ministry of the apostles, who in today's Gospel are sent as He was sent.

He was made a life-giving Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 15:45) and He filled His apostles with that Spirit. As we hear in today's First Reading, they bore witness to His resurrection with great power. And through their witness, handed down in the Church through the centuries, their teaching and traditions have reached us (see Acts 2:42). We encounter Him as the apostles did—in the breaking of the bread on the Lord's day (see Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Revelation 1:10).

There is something liturgical about the way today's Gospel scenes unfold. It's as if John is trying to show us how the risen Lord comes to us in the liturgy and sacraments. In both scenes it is Sunday night. The doors are bolted tight, yet Jesus mysteriously comes. He greets them with an expression, "Peace be with you," used elsewhere by divine messengers (see Daniel 10:19; Judges 6:23). He shows them signs of His real bodily presence. And on both nights the disciples respond by joyfully receiving Jesus as their "Lord."

Isn't this what happens in the Mass—where our Lord speaks to us in His Word, and gives himself to us in the sacrament of His body and blood? Let us approach the altar with joy, knowing that every Eucharist is the day the Lord has made—when the victory of Easter is again made wonderful in our eyes. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

[...] for God, no door is ever completely closed. As the Gospel tells us, he loves to enter precisely, as we heard, "through closed doors", when every entrance seems barred. There God works his wonders. He never chooses to abandon us; we are the ones who keep him out. (Homily, St. Peter's Square, 8 April 2018)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: Second Sunday of Easter, Year B (pp. 424 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 424: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 543: The Apostles' Creed

p. 559: Preface I of Easter
p. 591: Eucharistic Prayer I
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 take a moment to fill in a Parish Register Form (forms are available in the entrance foyer).

Piety Stall – Looking for cards and gifts for the **Sacrament of Confirmation**? We have a wide range for sale at our Piety Stall!

Highland Foodbank: items needed for March/April 2024 – 1 kg bags of rice, microwave packs of rice, tins of custard, cartons of long-life juice, UHT milk, tins of ham/corned beef, tins of macaroni cheese, washing-up liquid, cat food. All items can be placed in the box at the piety stall.

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:	Faithful Fictions: what is Catholic Literature?;
Wednesday 22nd May at 10.30am:	George and Ann Scott-Moncrieff;
Wednesday 22nd May at 3.00pm:	George Friel and Muriel Spark;
Thursday 23rd May at 10.30am:	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: Pentecost Lectures, Pluscarden Abbey, Elgin, Moray IV30 8UA enclosing SAE; 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: March Winners! – First Prize: Es Loftus; Second Prize: Angus & Crissie Sinclair; Third Prize: Ellen Williams. Next Draw on Sunday 28 April! This year, money raised from the 90 Club 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, Rose Corbett, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Katie MacCormick, Brian Hamilton, Dorothy Macdonald, Cathy Grant, Patrick O'Donnell, Julie Marr

R.I.P: Joanne Macmillan, John Angus O'Henley, Margaret MacDonald, Esther Smith, Walter Grant

Anniversaries: Eleanor Bongor, Steven Gallagher, Velma Batty, Margaret Miller, June Olga Hall, Francis Black