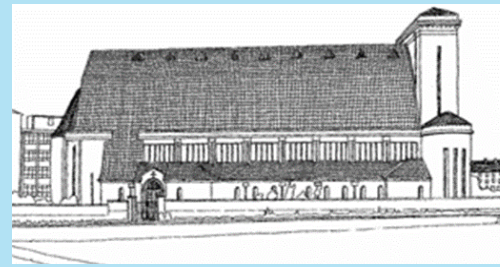


PRAYER FOR ST COLUMBA'S PARISH

Almighty Father, we wish to commit our parish of St Columba of Iona into Your merciful hands. We want to be a vibrant and flourishing parish formed after your heart, a family of missionary disciples of Jesus where love and service spread out from us to everybody. Touch the hearts of all of us and everybody within our parish to experience once again the power of the risen Christ so that our hearts can be filled with your love, joy, courage, strength and unity. We commit to you, in a special way, the sick, the housebound, the struggling, even the weary. May Mary our mother be always close to us her children in all our hour of need. We make all these prayers through the merits of Jesus Christ your son. Amen.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN



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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

READINGS

1st reading—Acts 2:14,22-33 ; Psalm 15; 2nd Reading— 1 Peter 1:17-21

GOSPEL—Luke 24:13-35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of

of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. THANKS BE TO GOD

IT IS NEARLY EVENING AND THE DAY IS ALMOST OVER...

The Covid 19 crises has given rise to lots of conspiracy theories and 'doomsday' speculations. Personally I don't have enough facts to form an opinion about any of these. We are all in the hands of a God who loves us so much that He died to grant us everlasting life. Nothing should really separate us from Him and we shouldn't allow fear to rule our lives. However we should take the advice of St Peter in today's 2nd reading to heart: "...you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home". We always need to be prepared because we don't know when night will befall any of us.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year A

DAILY MASSES

OUR PARISH MASSES ARE CELEBRATED EVERY DAY AT 5PM VIA ZOOM. THE ADVANTAGE OF ZOOM IS THAT PARISHIONERS CAN PARTICIPATE, ALTHOUGH AT COMMUNION TIME WE ALL MAKE AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION.

MASSES ARE CELEBRATED FOR ALL THE PARISHIONERS. YOU ARE ALSO WELCOME TO CONTACT THE PARISH HOUSE IF YOU HAVE PARTICULAR INTENTIONS. THE ZOOM LINK IS BELOW.

HOW TO JOIN OUR SERVICES

STEP 1. DOWNLOAD ZOOM APP



STEP 2. CLICK 'JOIN' USING: ID

523-686-9263

Password: 538289

STEP 3. YOU ARE CONNECTED

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL THE PARISH AT ANY TIME IF YOU FEEL YOU NEED SOME SPIRITUAL SUPPORT.

OFFERINGS

WE STILL HAVE A PARISH TO MAINTAIN AND BILLS TO PAY. THEY REFUSE TO STAY AT HOME. PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH DURING THESE DIFFICULT TIMES.

IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO PAY BY CHEQUE, PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO ST COLUMBA'S PARISH. IF YOU PREFER TO DONATE THROUGH INTERNET BANKING, PLEASE CALL 07549260379 FOR THE DETAILS. IF YOU WOULD PREFER TO PAY THROUGH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE OR WEBSITE (SEE PAGE ONE FOR LINKS), WE HAVE THE LINKS THERE TOO. THANKS AND MAY GOD BLESS YOU.