



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

10 JANUARY 2021:
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
(Year B (I); Psalter: as indicated)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 1-11
 Resp. Psalm: Is. 12: 2-6
 2nd Reading: 1 John 5: 1-9
 Gospel: Mark 1: 7-11

Date	Details	Live-Streamed Liturgies	Time
Sunday 10 January	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (p. 133 – Year B) Retiring Collection: Building Fund	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Monday 11 January	Monday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: William Stuart and beneficiaries	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Tuesday 12 January	Tuesday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: William Stuart and beneficiaries	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Wednesday 13 January	Feast of St. Kentigern, Bishop Mass Intention: Alexander and Helen Forbes	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Thursday 14 January	Thursday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Canon Bernard Macdonald's Intentions	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Friday 15 January	Friday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Canon Bernard Macdonald's Intentions	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Saturday 16 January	Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Intention: Mary MacIntyre (Anniversary Tomorrow)	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm
Sunday 17 January	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 835 – Year B) Retiring Collection: Building Fund	Morning Prayer & Adoration Holy Mass Angelus, Evening Prayer, & Rosary	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.00 pm

The Baptism of the Lord: Our Initial Sanctification

Today's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Christmas Season and invites us to think about our baptism. Jesus wished to receive the baptism that John the Baptist preached and administered in the Jordan. It was a baptism of repentance: those who approached expressed the wish to be purified of sins and, with the help of God, they committed to begin a new life.

Thus we understand the great *humility of Jesus*, the One who had no sin, in joining the queue of the penitents, mingling among them to be baptized in the waters of the river. How humble Jesus is! And in so doing, he manifested what we celebrated at Christmas: Jesus' willingness to immerse himself in the river of humanity, to take upon himself the failings and weaknesses of men and women, to share their wish for liberation and the triumph over all that distances one from God and renders one a stranger to brothers and sisters. As in Bethlehem, even along the banks of the Jordan, God keeps his promise to take upon himself the destiny of the human being, and Jesus is the tangible and definitive sign of

it. He took all of us upon his shoulders; he carries all of us, in life, in our days.

Today's Gospel passage emphasizes that when Jesus "came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove" (Mk 1:10). The *Holy Spirit*, who had worked from the beginning of creation and had led Moses and the people in the desert, now descends in fullness upon Jesus to give him the power to accomplish his mission in the world. The Spirit is the creator of Jesus' baptism and also of our baptism. He opens the eyes of our hearts to the truth, to the whole truth. He propels our life along the path of charity. He is the gift that the Father has given to each one of us on the day of our baptism. He, the Spirit, transmits the tenderness of divine forgiveness to us. And it is again he, the Holy Spirit, who makes the revelatory Word of the Father resonate: "You are my Son" (cf. v. 11). The celebration of Jesus' baptism invites every Christian to *remember his or her own baptism*. I cannot ask you whether you remember the day of your baptism, because most of you

were infants, like me; we were baptized as infants. But I ask you another question: do you know the date of your baptism? Do you know what day you were baptized? Each one think about it. And if you do not know the date or have forgotten it, upon returning home, ask your mom, grandma, uncle, aunt, grandpa, godfather, godmother: what is the date? We must always keep that date in our memory, because it is a date of celebration; it is the date of our initial sanctification; it is the

date on which the Father gave us the Holy Spirit who encourages us to walk; it is the date of the great forgiveness. Do not forget: what is the date of my baptism? Let us invoke the maternal protection of Mary Most Holy, that all Christians can understand ever better the gift of baptism and commit to living it with coherence, witnessing to the love of the Father and of the Son and of the Spirit. (Pope Francis, Angelus, 7 January 2018).

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): The Baptism of the Lord, Yr. B (p. 133)

- p. 521: Introductory Rites
- p. 133: Readings & Proper Prayers
- p. 541: The Creed
- p. 131: Preface of the Baptism of the Lord
- p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
- p. 631: Communion Rite

Remember one another – Please try to support one another in these challenging times: a phone call to check up on elderly and vulnerable parishioners and friends; a friendly call to see if anyone needs shopping; supporting your local shops and businesses, which will be hit hard from a financial perspective. We are all in this together.

Remember your parish – If you would like to support the maintenance of our parish during this time of lockdown, here are some different ways that the parish can be assisted:

- **A regular Standing Order:** the account details are in the next column opposite, under 'Parish Finances'.
- **Donations in an envelope, put through the church letterbox.** During this period, and for the foreseeable future, any offerings, donations or benefactions to the parish will be paid in to our No. 1 (Running) Account.
- **A re-evaluation of your level of giving.** If every parishioner at Mass gave an extra £5 (two coffees at Costa or Starbucks..), it would make an enormous difference to the future of the parish!!
- **A Bequest,** or gift left in a will, is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Building Fund Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

Schedule of Online Daily Devotions – Our new daily schedule of parish devotions are as follows. Please feel free to join us, and do spread the word!

- 8.45 am: Morning Prayer
- 9.00 am: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 9.30 am: Holy Mass
- 6.00 pm: Angelus, & Evening Prayer
- 6.15pm: Holy Rosary

SYRIAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

– In his latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis encourages us to show compassion to our brothers and sisters. Specifically, he asks us to welcome, protect, promote and integrate refugees fleeing tragic situations (#129). In response, a group of parishioners from the Highlands are planning to take advantage of the Home Office's Community Resettlement Programme to sponsor one Syrian family to come to the Inverness area. We are currently looking to set up a steering group to take this forward. If you would like to get involved with this project, please contact Jill Kent at: welcometohighland@gmail.com

90 Club: Next Draw: Sunday 31 January 2021. You too could be a winner! It's only £2 a month! Please speak to Fr. Domenico for further information.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Michael Good, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Stuart MacLennan, John Macdonald, Evelyn MacGregor, Rena Herbison, Alex Fruters, Patrick Macpherson, Kathleen Macpherson, June Lee, Marian Ellis, Morag Lloyd

RIP: + Ishbel McGillivray MacGregor + Adrian Pieraccini +

Anniversaries: + Peter Horne + Lachlan MacNeil + Audrey O'Connell + Mollie Pocock + Robert Gibson + Moira Cook + Donald Brown + MacPherson & Campbell families + Pat O'Riordan + Robert Gibson + Ewen Macdonald +