



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
Tel: (01463) 794619 / (01463) 233519
e-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
website: <http://www.stcolumbasculloden.org>
Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dr Helen Macdonald



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

10TH JANUARY 2016 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, YEAR C

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4. 6-7
Psalm: Psalm 28:1-4. 9-10
2nd Reading: Acts 10:34-38
Gospel: Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 10 January	The Baptism of the Lord, Year C	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Tuesday 12 January	Tuesday in the First Week of the Year	Mass	19.30
Wednesday 13 January	Feast of St Kentigern	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 14 January	Thursday in the First Week of the Year	Mass	19.30
Friday 15 January	Friday in the First Week of the Year	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Sunday 17 January	Second Sunday of the Year C	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available 30 minutes before each Mass.

The Baptism of the Lord: The Anointing

The liturgy last week revealed the mystery of God's plan - that in Jesus all peoples, symbolised by the Magi, have been made "co-heirs" to the blessings promised Israel. This week, we're shown how we claim our inheritance.

Jesus doesn't submit to John's baptism as a sinner in need of purification. He humbles Himself to pass through the waters of the river Jordan in order to lead a new "exodus" - opening up the promised land of heaven so that all peoples can hear the words pronounced over Jesus today, words once reserved only for Israel and its king: that each of us is a beloved son or daughter of God (see Genesis 22:2; Exodus 4:22; Psalm 2:7).

Jesus is the chosen servant prophesied by Isaiah in today's First Reading, anointed with the Spirit to make things right and just on earth. God puts His Spirit upon Jesus to make Him "a covenant of the people," the liberator of the captives, the light to the nations. Jesus, today's Second Reading tells us, is the One who has been long expected in Israel, "anointed...with the Holy Spirit and power."

The word Messiah means "one anointed" with God's Spirit. King David was "the anointed of the God of Jacob" (see 2 Samuel 23:1-17; Psalm 18:51;

132:10,17). The prophets taught Israel to await a royal offshoot of David, upon whom the Spirit would rest (see Isaiah 11:1-2; Daniel 9:25).

That's why the crowds are so anxious at the start of today's Gospel. But it isn't John they're looking for. God confirms with His own voice what the Angel earlier told Mary - Jesus is the Son of the Most High, come to claim the throne of David forever (see Luke 1:32-33).

In the Baptism that He brings, the voice of God will hover over the waters as fiery flame, as we hear in today's Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, and made them a passage - a way to healing and freedom - a fountain of new birth and everlasting life.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY WITH POPE FRANCIS

"Our Baptism has changed us, given us a new and glorious hope, and empowered us to bring God's redeeming love to all, particularly the poor, in whom we see the face of Christ. Our baptism has given us a share in the Church's mission of evangelisation; as disciples, we are also missionaries."

PARISH NEWS

Confirmation Classes restart this month: with classes on on 14 and 21 January, 6.30pm- 7.15pm. We will be learning about celebrations at Church, and talking about our faith.

Year of Mercy: Evening of Reflection at St Columba's: the third of our Evenings will take place on **Wednesday 20 January, beginning at 7.00pm**. The format is as follows: a short talk, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, some quiet time, and concluding with Benediction. This month's Reflection is entitled '**Conversion: Beginning our Journey of Mercy**'. Do come and join us!

Sr Barbara's Anniversary: the Sisters and Friends of LSU warmly invite you to join them in an hour's reflection at St Columba's, on **Saturday 23 January, 2.30pm-3.30pm**, celebrating Sr Barbara's life in loving remembrance. The hour of reflection will be followed by soup, cake, and coffee. All welcome.

'Faith in Film' Evening: this month's film is entitled **Shadowlands** (1993), starring Anthony Hopkins and Deborah Winger. It will be screened on **Wednesday 27 January, from 7.00pm onwards**. This Oscar-nominated and BAFTA-Award winning film is an emotionally-moving drama based on the real-life romance between the writer and academic C. S. Lewis and the American poet Joy Gresham. It is an absorbing story of both personal and spiritual transformation. Certificate 12 (126 minutes).

Pilgrimage to the island of Iona, 10-14 October 2016

Pope Francis has encouraged all Catholics to make a pilgrimage of faith during this Year of Mercy. With this in mind, Fr Domenico has booked half-board accommodation in the Catholic House of Prayer on the beautiful island of Iona for a pilgrimage, departing from Inverness on Monday 10 October, and returning on Friday 14 October. The House of Prayer is a proper 'home from home', with en-suite bedrooms, a big, welcoming living-room, and even a chapel, where we can celebrate daily Mass. There are only a few places left, in the following room configurations:

1 Single Room; 1 Twin Room; 1 Double Room

The total price per person will be approx £300. A deposit of £40 per person is required by mid-January. Transport will be in shared cars. Please see Fr Domenico asap to book your place.

Old Christmas cards? Please save your Christmas cards (religious ones only, please) for Sr Anne Marie, who recycles them. They may be handed in to the Sacristy. Sr Anne Marie is very grateful for your support.

Church cleaning: Wednesday 13 January, 1.00pm – Mary and Marie. If anyone would like to **join the cleaning team**, and help to keep the church lovely and clean, please speak to Don. Only one shift a month!

"90 Club": The next draw will take place on Sunday 31 January. You could be a winner if you get one of the few numbers left; please ask Don.

Prize Bingo: our next 'eyes down' – subject to the weather, will be on Friday 29 January.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Audrey O'Connell + Anna Black + Leslie Murray + Laura Johnston + Amelia Drew +

R.I.P.: + Michelle Campbell + Isobel Macmillan +

Anniversaries: + Mary McGlade + Jim Murray + Donald Brown + Des Coleman + Ian Davie + Robert Gibson + Moira Cook + Campbell family + MacPherson family +

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

The Secular Franciscan Order meets at 2.00pm on the Second Saturday of each month at St Columba's, Culloden. Contact Helen MacGilp (01463 792149). Visit www.ofsfgb.org.uk.

Prayer and Praise Group every Thursday in the Lady Chapel at St Columba's, after the 7.30pm Mass. Call Brian (01463 790255) for details.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of every month, at 7.30pm. The meeting is followed by dinner at the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045). Visit www.catenians.co.uk.

The Knights of St Columba meets on the first Monday of every month in the Marian Room at St. Mary's, at 7.30 pm: contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity & fraternity in the local parishes. Visit www.ksc.org.uk.

The Parents & Toddlers Group meets on Wednesdays from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the Marian Room beside St Mary's.

The Cenacolo Prayer Group meets every Monday after the 6:00 pm Mass in St. Mary's. Join us for informal buffet meal in chapel house. All welcome.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) meets every fortnight, on Sundays, in the Marian Room at St Mary's, at 10.00 am. Requests for assistance and support can be made by contacting any SVP member or by dropping a note in a SVP collection box. Visit www.svp.org.uk.