



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
 Tel: (01463) 794619 (Sacristy) / (01463) 794993 (House)
 E-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
 Website: www.stcolumbasculloden.org
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden
 Parish Priest: Fr. Domenico Zanrè
 Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Dr. Helen Macdonald



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

12 DECEMBER 2021:
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
~ GAUDETE SUNDAY ~
(Year C (II); Psalter: Week 3)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18
 Resp. Psalm: Isaiah 12
 2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7
 Gospel: Luke 3:10-18

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 12 December	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ GAUDETE / BAMBINELLI SUNDAY ~ (p. 69 – Year C)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass Holy Mass	9.30 am 11.00 am
Monday 13 December	St. Lucy, Virgin, Martyr	NO LITURGIES	---
Tuesday 14 December	St. John of the Cross, Priest, Doctor	* Sacrament of Confession * Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	5.30 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 15 December	Wednesday of Week 3 in Advent	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Thursday 16 December	Thursday of Week 3 in Advent	* Sacrament of Confession * Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	5.30 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 17 December	Of the Day	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Saturday 18 December	Of the Day	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 19 December	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (p. 73 – Year C)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass Holy Mass	9.30 am 11.00 am

Third Sunday of Advent: What Do We Do?

The people in today's Gospel are "filled with expectation." They believe John the Baptist might be the messiah they've been waiting for. Three times we hear their question: "What then should we do?" The messiah's coming requires every man and woman to choose—to "repent" or not. That's John's message and it will be Jesus' too (see Luke 3:3; 5:32; 24:47). "Repentance" translates a Greek word, *metanoia* (literally, "change of mind"). In the Scriptures, repentance is presented as a twofold "turning"—away from sin (see Ezekiel 3:19; 18:30) and toward God (see Sirach 17:20–21; Hosea 6:1). This "turning" is more than attitude adjustment. It means a radical life change. It requires "good fruits as evidence of your repentance" (see Luke 3:8). That's why John tells the crowds, soldiers, and tax collectors they must prove their faith through works of charity, honesty, and social justice.

In today's Liturgy, each of us is being called to stand in that crowd and hear the "good news" of John's call to repentance. We should examine our lives, asking from our hearts as they did: "What should we do?" Our repentance should spring not from our fear of coming wrath (see Luke 3:7–9) but from a joyful sense of the nearness of our saving God.

This theme resounds through today's readings: "Rejoice! . . . The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all," we hear in today's Second Reading. In today's Responsorial Psalm, we hear again the call to be joyful, unafraid at the Lord's coming among us. In today's First Reading, we hear echoes of the angel's Annunciation to Mary. The prophet's words are very close to the angel's greeting (compare Luke 1:28–31). Mary is the Daughter Zion—the favoured one of God, told not to fear but to rejoice that the Lord is with her, "a mighty Saviour." She is the cause of our joy. For in her draws near the Messiah, as John had promised: "One mightier than I is coming." (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Third Sunday of Advent (p. 69)

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 69: Readings & Proper Prayers

p. 541: The Creed

p. 549: Preface I of Advent

p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 631: Communion Rite

TODAY: 'BAMBINELLI SUNDAY'! – Each year on *Gaudete* Sunday, children in Rome bring their baby Jesus figures to St. Peter's Square where the Pope blesses both them and the figurines during the Angelus. Families at St. Columba's are invited to participate spiritually in this tradition by bringing their 'bambinelli', or baby Jesus figures, to be blessed at this Sunday's Masses. Simply place them on the bench in front of the altar before the start of Mass. Remember which is yours!

Christmas Flowers: if you would like to assist us with purchasing flowers for our Christmas celebrations, please consider placing a contribution in an envelope, marked 'Christmas Flowers', and leaving it in the Sacristy. Thank you.

Icon of St. Joseph: A sincere 'thank you' to those of you who have already donated to the cost of this work; if you would like to do so, please place any offerings in an envelope, address it as 'icon donation', and hand it in to the Sacristy. Thank you!

Christmas Items at our Piety Stall! we have many new items in stock: Advent calendars; Christmas cards; nativity scenes; children's books; rosaries, and much, much more! Why not browse our stall?

Children's Advent & Christmas Resources: we have copies of a newly published book on the Rosary for Children; meanwhile, Ewen has prepared Sunday liturgy packs: make sure to pick one up in the entrance foyer!

ADVENT STUDY COURSE – 'THE CHRISTMAS STORY': Fr. Domenico's course on 'The Christmas Story' continues this week. It is streamed via Zoom, on **Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm** during December.

Wednesday 15 December

Realisation

Wednesday 22 December

Adoration

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Fr. Domenico is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at **any mutually convenient time; simply get in touch with him.** The Sacrament is also available **in the Meeting Room** on the following days.

Tuesday 14 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Tuesday 21 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Thursday 16 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Thursday 23 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Christmas Masses:

Vigil (24 December)

Christmas Day

7.00pm: carols and readings

10.30am: Holy Mass

7.30pm: Holy Mass

12.00 Noon: Holy Mass

90 Club: Final Draw of the Year is on Sunday 26 December! Please note that there are envelopes on the foyer table, in which to place your 2022 contributions to the 90 Club. Simply fill in the details, and return the envelope to Fr. Domenico. Thank you.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Ian Macdonald, Kathleen Macpherson, Marian Ellis, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Rose Corbett.

R.I.P: Norman Wood, James Pearce, Donald MacPhee

Anniversaries: Joe Smith, Gerry Brown