



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**13 JANUARY 2019:  
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 103 (104): 1-4, 24-25, 27-30

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Titus 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7

Gospel: Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

Date	Details	Service	Time
<b>Sunday 13 January</b>	<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am 9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 15 January	Tuesday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation ** Evening Prayer ** Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 16 January	Wednesday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 17 January	Memorial of Saint Antony, Abbot	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 18 January	Friday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Saturday 19 January	Saturday of Week 1 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	10.30 am 11.00 am
<b>Sunday 20 January</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am 9.30 am</b>

## The Feast of 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 Jordan's waters 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 Isaiah prophesies 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 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 sing in today's Psalm. He has sanctified the waters, made them a passageway to healing and freedom—a fountain of new birth and everlasting life. (Scott Hahn)

## Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

“We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ.”

## PARISH NEWS

**Friday and Saturday Masses** – Fr. Domenico is now offering **Mass on Friday and Saturday mornings** as well. This will begin on **Friday 17 January, at 11.00am** (Week 1 in Ordinary Time). See overleaf.

**Pilgrimage to Northern Spain: September 2019 (dates to be confirmed)** – Fr. Domenico is organising a 5-day pilgrimage, centred on the vibrant Catalan city of Barcelona. The highlight of the pilgrimage will be Mass celebrated in Gaudi's famous *Sagrada Familia*, followed by a full tour led by an English-speaking guide. As well as a city tour of Barcelona, we will also have a day trip to the spectacular mountain monastery of Montserrat, with Mass, tour, and an opportunity to see the famous Black Madonna. St. Ignatius of Loyola visited the monastery in 1522, for prayer and discernment after his conversion, before journeying to Manresa; we will follow in his footsteps and visit this town, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Another day will be devoted to visiting the beautiful city of Tarragona. The price is expected to be approx. £900, dependant on flights, and includes half-board accommodation throughout our pilgrimage. If you are interested, please inform Fr. Domenico, in order to give him an idea of numbers.

**Pilgrimage to the Oberammergau Passion Play, 20-27 July 2020** – Since 1634, the entire town of Oberammergau, in Bavaria (Southern Germany), has been involved in organising and performing a play re-enacting the passion and death of Christ. This Passion Play is mounted every ten years! Fr. Domenico has an option to take **up to 33 pilgrims** to this spectacular event, courtesy of McCabe Pilgrimages. We will be flying from Edinburgh to Munich, and staying across the border in the Austrian Tyrol, where we will spend five nights in a country hotel, between the villages of Lofer and St. Martin. The pilgrimage includes visits to churches and Marian shrines (Maria Kirchentel), an opportunity to walk along the Jacobsweg (part of the Camino de Santiago), visits to Lake Achensee and Lake Pillersee, and a full day excursion, with guided tour, of the beautiful city of Salzburg. All this is a prelude to a two-night stay in Oberammergau, with guaranteed top grade tickets to the Passion Play, as well as lunch on the day of the performance. The price is £1,600 – this includes a return flight from Edinburgh to Munich, airport transfers, seven night's half-board accommodation, and a full excursion programme, with guides, together with the Oberammergau Passion Play ticket. Brochures and booking forms are forthcoming. Again, please see Fr. Domenico if you

would like to register your interest for this pilgrimage.

**Preparation for First Holy Communion in 2018:** if your child is of approximately P3 age at Primary School, and you would like to discuss the possibility of him/her being prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and of Holy Communion in Summer 2018, please see Fr. Domenico.

**Highland Foodbank – December and January:** Your donations help to provide emergency food and support to local people in crisis. During these winter months, we would be grateful for the following items: \* Jars of Coffee \* Packets of Oatcakes \* Tins of Corned Beef \* Cartons of Long Life Fruit Juice \* Tins of Ham. Please leave them in the plastic box at the front door of the church. During the recent Highland Foodbank Harvest Appeal, St. Columba's Culloden donated 71kgs of food. Thank you for your generosity!

**BABY AND TODDLERS' GROUP** – The group will resume its weekly meetings **tomorrow**, on **Monday 14 January**, from 9.30am to 11.30am. Why not come along and join in the fun?!

**Cleaning Team:** Tuesday 15th January: Mary and Karen. Would you like to help us in 2019? Helping just one hour a month would lighten the load of others who keep the church nice and clean. See Don for details.

**December "90" CLUB Draw – The Winners:** 1st prize = Shona Peteranna; 2nd prize = Chris Hamilton; 3rd prize = Amanda MacNeil. There are still some numbers available. Only £2 a month! Please speak to Don.

**90 CLUB – FEES DUE FOR 2019**, for those with a number. New members are always welcome to join in the fun. **THREE PRIZES TO BE WON EVERY MONTH!** Please speak to Don.

**PRIZE BINGO WILL BE BACK VERY SOON!:** **FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 2019** (thereafter the last Friday of the month until June) – 'EYES DOWN' AT 7.00PM! – Why not join us for our fun-filled Bingo evening?! A sincere 'thank you' for all of the items that have been handed in; these are very important to us, and are much appreciated.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Ellen Williams + Eva Zandre + Vinnie Walton + Laura Johnstone +

**R.I.P:** Donald John Kennedy + Effie Mackay

**Anniversaries:** Ewen Macdonald + Michelle Campbell + Robert Gibson + Mollie Pocock + Moira Cook + Campbell and MacPherson families +