



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**14 JANUARY 2018:
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

Mass Readings

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 39 (40): 2, 4, 7-10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20

Gospel: John 1: 35-42

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 14 January	SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 16 January	Tuesday of Week 2 in Ordinary Time	NO MASS	-
Wednesday 17 January	St Antony, Abbot	NO MASS	-
Thursday 18 January	Thursday of Week 2 in Ordinary Time	* FUNERAL MASS OF EWAN MACDONALD * NO EVENING MASS	<u>10.00 am</u>
Sunday 21 January	THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Second Sunday of the Year: Hearing the Call

In the call of Samuel and the first Apostles, today's Readings shed light on our own calling to be followers of Christ.

Notice in the Gospel today that John's disciples are prepared to hear God's call. They are already looking for the Messiah, so they trust in John's word and follow when he points out the Lamb of God walking by.

Samuel is also waiting on the Lord – sleeping near the Ark of the Covenant where God's glory dwells, taking instruction from Eli, the high priest. Samuel listened to God's word and the Lord was with him. And Samuel, through his word, turned all Israel to the Lord (see 1 Samuel 3:21; 7:2-3). The disciples too, heard and followed – words we hear repeatedly in today's Gospel. They stayed with the Lord and by their testimony brought others to the Lord.

These scenes from salvation history should give us strength to embrace God's will and to follow His call in our lives. God is constantly calling to each of us – personally, by name (see Isaiah 43:1; John 10:3). He wants us to seek Him in love, to long for His word (see Wisdom 6:11-12). We must desire always, as the apostles did, to stay

where the Lord stays, to constantly seek His face (see Psalm 42:2).

We are not our own, but belong to the Lord, as Paul says in today's Second Reading.

We must have ears open to obedience, and write His word within our hearts. We must trust in the Lord's promise – that if we come to Him in faith, He will abide with us (see John 15:14; 14:21-23), and raise us by His power. And we must reflect in our lives the love He has shown us, so that others too may find the Messiah.

As we renew our vows of discipleship in this Eucharist, let us approach the altar singing the new song of today's Psalm: "Behold I come . . . to do your will O God." (Scott Hahn)



God calls you to make definitive choices, and He has a plan for each of you: to discover that plan and to respond to your vocation is to move toward personal fulfillment.

— Pope Francis —

AZ QUOTES

GENERAL NEWS

Friday 26 January: Youth Ministry Gathering – this day event, organised by the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, will take place at Kilcoy Castle, Muir of Ord. It is intended for all those who are interested in starting a parish youth group. There will be invited guests and speakers, with talks and workshops. The programme is as follows:

10.00am: Holy Mass

10.30am: The Four Pillars of a Balanced, Relational

Youth Ministry

12.30pm: Lunch

1.30pm: Workshops. Topics include:

‘Tough Topics in Youth Ministry’;

‘Designing a Successful Youth Night’;

‘Take-Away Ideas’; ‘Preparing Youth Masses’.

4.00pm: Depart.

See the poster on our noticeboard. For further details, please contact Sr. Anna Christi, at: ogilvie@rcda.scot.

PARISH NEWS

Funeral Mass of Ewen Macdonald, RIP – this will take place at St Columba’s on **Thursday 18 January, at 10.00am**. Thereafter, to Cille Choirill (Killichurrel) Catholic Cemetery, near Roybridge, for the graveside committal.

St Columba’s Anniversary Meeting – Saturday 20 January, at 11.00am: there will be an informal meeting this Saturday, 20 January, in the meeting room at St Columba’s. This meeting is open for anyone who would like to come along and discuss/suggest possible initiatives for our Anniversary Year. Mass will be celebrated at 10.30am for anyone who wishes to attend. All welcome!

Faith in Film returns! - Wednesday 24 January, from 7.00pm: ‘Eye in the Sky’. Academy Award Winner Helen Mirren and Alan Rickman star in this nail-biting and thought-provoking film, which examines the moral and ethical implications of the war on terror, and, in particular, of drone strikes. There will be a short discussion after the film on the Catholic Church’s teaching on this topic, and on the theory of the ‘just war’. Certificate: 15 (c. 100 minutes).

Inverness Food Bank: During the month of January, we will provide a collection box for items to be donated to the Inverness Food Bank. Any unopened, non-perishable tins or packets of food can be placed in the box, and we will deliver

them to the Food Bank. Why not give a little helping hand to those who are starting 2018 faced with worries and challenges? Thank you for your support.

St Columba’s Mothers and Toddlers Group: Mondays at 9.30am-11.30am, in the Meeting Room. We are always looking to attract new babies and toddlers, plus parents and grandparents. Why not come along and join in the fun?! See the poster on the notice-board for details.

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 Sacrament of Holy Communion in Summer 2018, please see Fr Domenico.

Confirmation Classes in 2018: the dates for our next block of meetings are as follows: **18 January; 1 February**. As before, these will take place on Thursdays, and we will meet from 5.00pm–5.30pm. If you have any difficulty with the dates, please let Helen or Ewen know in advance. Many thanks.

Cleaning Team: Tuesday 16th January: Mary and Karen. Can you help? We are always looking for volunteers – only one hour a month! See Don for details.

“90 Club” – Next Draw on Sunday 28 January – please note that many dues are now payable again. Numbers are available if you would like to take part – only £2 monthly. Please speak to Don.

Prize Bingo: our first fun-filled fundraiser evening of the new year will take place on **Friday 26 January at 7.00pm**. All welcome! We are looking for extra volunteers to assist us with this successful event – can you help us? Items to give as prizes are always needed (we are particularly short of chocolates, and of wines and spirits; we’d also appreciate scented candles, toiletries, gift vouchers, tins of sweets/biscuits..). Thank you for your support of this important fund-raiser.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Rose Corbett + Amelia & John Drew + Murray Mackay + Peter Simpson + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher +

R.I.P: + Ewen Macdonald +

Anniversaries: + Mary Eleanor McKeever + Margaret Coryn + William Loftus + Cyril Ainsley +