



# St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW

Tel: (01463) 794619 / (01463) 233519

E-mail: [stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com](mailto:stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com)

Website: [www.stcolumbasculloden.org](http://www.stcolumbasculloden.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden](http://www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden)

Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

### 19 FEBRUARY 2017: SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

## Sunday Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18

Psalm: Ps 102 (103): 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 19 February	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 21 February	Tuesday of Week 7 in Ordinary Time	Evening Prayer Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 22 February	Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 23 February	Memorial of St Polycarp	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 26 February 2017	EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is available 30 minutes before every Mass.

## Seventh Sunday of the Year: Holy As God

We are called to the holiness of God. That is the extraordinary claim made in both the First Reading and Gospel this Sunday. Yet how is possible that we can be perfect as our Father in Heaven is perfect?

Jesus explains that we must be imitators of God as His beloved children (Eph. 5:1-2). As God does, we must love without limit —with a love that does not distinguish between friend and foe, overcoming evil with good (see Rom. 12:21).

Jesus himself, in his Passion and death, gave us the perfect example of the love that we are called to. He offered no resistance to the evil — even though he could have commanded twelve legions of angels to fight alongside him. He offered his face to be struck and spit upon. He allowed his garments to be stripped from him. He marched as his enemies compelled him to the Place of the Skull. On the cross he prayed for those who persecuted him (see Matt. 26:53-54, 67; 27:28, 32; Luke 23:34).

In all this he showed himself to be the perfect Son of God. By his grace, and through our imitation of him, he promises that we too can become children of our heavenly Father.

God does not deal with us as we deserve, as we sing in this week's Psalm. He loves us with a Father's love. He saves us from ruin. He forgives our transgressions.

He loved us even when we had made ourselves His enemies through our sinfulness. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (see Rom. 5:8).

We have been bought with the price of the blood of God's only Son (see 1 Cor. 6:20). We belong to Christ now, as St. Paul says in this week's Second Reading. By our baptism, we have been made temples of his Holy Spirit.

And we have been saved to share in his holiness and perfection. So let us glorify him by our lives lived in his service, loving as he loves. (Scott Hahn)



## GENERAL NEWS

**Tues 28 February at 7.00pm: Gabriel Society Talk:** – in the St Mary's Presbytery, at 30 Huntly Street. *Approaching Lent – Addresses & Discussion* Fr Andrew Niski: "Discipline & Mercy". At 8.30pm, there will be Shrove Tuesday pancakes & tea/coffee/infusions.

### Lent Station Masses 2017 (Fridays, at 7.00pm)

3 March St Ninian's, Inverness  
10 March St Mary's, Inverness  
17 March Our Lady & St Bean, Marydale  
24 March St Vincent's, Tain \*  
**31 March St Columba's, Culloden**  
7 April St Anne's, Thurso

\* Principal Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB. In addition, **Bishop Hugh will dedicate the new outdoor altar at Stratherrick, at 12 noon on Saturday 25 March.**

These Lent Station Masses are important occasions for us to share our Catholic faith and heritage with our brothers and sisters in neighbouring parishes and throughout the Highland Deanery. Please do make an effort to attend as many of these Masses as you can.

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Orkney: 900<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Martyrdom of St Magnus – 28th to 30th July 2017.** A weekend of talks, visits to the island of Egilsay and Birsay, and the celebration of Mass in St Magnus Cathedral. See the poster in the foyer. Those who are interested in attending should go to [www.magnus900.co.uk](http://www.magnus900.co.uk) for further details. Updates will be posted on the Diocesan website. Please note that pilgrims will need to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements; please have a look at [www.visitororkney.com](http://www.visitororkney.com), which provides a valuable guide for visitors.

## PARISH NEWS

**Wednesday 22 February, at 7.00 pm – "CATHOLICISM": Episode 4: "Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast: Mary, the Mother of God"** Bishop Barron masterfully correlates the Catholic Faith's testimony to the revelation of God in Christ with the vivid practices of reverence offered to his Mother. Mary is explained as an on-going presence, an actor in the life of the Church. Bishop Barron journeys to the humble remains of Mary's house in Nazareth, to the ruins of the ancient city of Ephesus and to the great Marian shrines of Lourdes and Guadalupe to explain the Church's teachings about Mary as the Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception, and the dogma of the Assumption.

**START OF LENT – Ash Wednesday, 1 March:** Please note that there will be **TWO Masses** on Ash

Wednesday at St Columba's: at 11.00am, and 7.30pm. Remember that **Ash Wednesday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence:** we fast by consuming only one main meal, and we abstain from eating meat.

**Stations of the Cross:** each Thursday evening during Lent – beginning Thursday 2 March – we will pray the Stations of the Cross, from 7.00pm, before the Evening Mass.

**FREE Daily Lent Reflections** - Would you like a deeper, more powerful Lent this year? Then sign up for Bishop Robert Barron's FREE daily Lent reflections at [LentReflections.com](http://LentReflections.com). Each day, from Ash Wednesday until Easter Sunday, the creator and host of the CATHOLICISM Faith Formation programme will send you a short reflection, straight to your inbox. There's simply no better way to super-charge your Lent. Be sure to sign-up at [LentReflections.com](http://LentReflections.com)!

### Parish Pilgrimages led by Fr Domenico:

**Rome, October 2017:** I am currently negotiating the cheapest price possible for 5 days in Rome, during the Autumn School Holidays. Watch this space for details!

**Holy Land, November 2018:** This pilgrimage will mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the dedication of our church. The approximate cost for 8 days will be in the region of £1,300. Why not join us for the trip of a life-time?! For details of the provisional itinerary, see the page on our parish website! If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer, or e-mail Fr Domenico asap.

**Cleaning Team:** Tuesday 21 February, at 4.30pm – Ji Ji, Shona, and Don. If you would like to help us clean the church, just come along, or speak to Don.

**"90 Club"** – drawn after Mass NEXT WEEK (26 February). Good luck to all who have number/s. New members are welcome to join in; only £2 per month!

**Prize Bingo: THIS FRIDAY, 24th February: 'eyes down' at 7.00 pm.** A family fun night! Come and join us! Items to give as prizes are always needed (toiletries, chocolates, wine/spirits, etc). Many thanks for your continued support – it is greatly appreciated!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + John Drew + Leslie Murray + Jane Green + Frances Boyle + Ewen Macdonald Snr + Brian Murray + Lachlan MacNeil + Louisa and Suzanne Williams + Cath Maclean

**Anniversaries:** Jack Hasterick + Mary & Joe Sharkey + Jim Murray + Moira McGoogan + John Armstrong