

St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

19 JANUARY 2020: SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A (II); Psalter: Week 2)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6 Psalm: Ps 39 (40): 2, 4, 7-10 2nd Reading: 1 Cor 1: 1-3 Gospel: John 1: 29-34

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 19 January	SECOND SUNDAY	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 693)	Mass	9.30 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund		
Tuesday 21 January	St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr	Sacrament of Reconciliation	6.30 pm
	Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Evening Prayer	7.00 pm
		Mass	7.30 pm
Wednesday 22 January	St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr	Sacrament of Reconciliation	10.30 am
	Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Mass	11.00 am
		Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.30 am
Thursday 23 January	Thursday of Week 2 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation	7.00 pm
	Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Mass	7.30 pm
Friday 24 January	Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor	Sacrament of Reconciliation	10.30 am
	Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Mass	11.00 am
		Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.30 am
		& Benediction	12 noon
Saturday 25 January	The Conversion of St. Paul – Feast	Sacrament of Reconciliation	10.15 am
	Mass Intention: 'Private Intention'	** Rosary **	10.40 am
		Mass	11.00 am
Sunday 26 January	THIRD SUNDAY	Sacrament of Reconciliation	9.00 am
	IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 696)	Mass	9.30 am
	Second Collection: Building Fund		

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: Perfect Offering

Jesus speaks through the prophet Isaiah in today's First Reading. He tells us of the mission given to Him by the Father from the womb: "You are My servant,' He said to Me." Servant and Son, our Lord was sent to lead a new exodus—to raise up the exiled tribes of Israel, to gather and restore them to God. More than that, He was to be a light to the nations, that God's salvation may reach to the ends of the earth (see Acts 13:46–47).

Before the first exodus, a lamb was offered in sacrifice and its blood painted on the Israelites' door posts. The blood of the lamb identified their homes and the Lord "passed over" these in executing judgment on the Egyptians (see Exodus 12:1–23, 27).

In the new exodus, Jesus is the "Lamb of God," as John beholds Him in the Gospel today (see 1 Corinthians 5:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19). Our Lord sings of this in today's Psalm.

He has come, He says, to offer His body to do the will of God (see Hebrews 10:3–13).

The sacrifices, oblations, holocausts, and sin offerings given after the first exodus had no power to take away sins (see Hebrews 10:4). They were meant not to save but to teach (see Galatians 3:24). In offering these sacrifices, the people were to learn self-sacrifice—that they were made for worship, to offer themselves freely to God and to delight in His will. Only Jesus could make that perfect offering of Himself.

Only Jesus could make that perfect offering of Himself. And through His sacrifice, He has given us ears open to obedience, He has made it possible for us to hear the Father's call to holiness, as Paul says in today's Second Reading.

He has made us children of God, baptised in the blood of the Lamb (see Revelation 7:14). And we are to join our sacrifice to His, to offer our bodies—our lives—as living sacrifices in the spiritual worship of the Mass (see Romans 12:1). (Scott Hahn).

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS Sunday Missal) - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (p. 693):

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 693: Readings and Proper Prayers

p. 541: Creed

p. 567: Preface II of Sundays in Ordinary Time

p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 631: Communion Rite

Exploring our new Sunday Missal, Part 2: DID YOU KNOW that your new Sunday Missal contains the Rite of Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction, on pp. 1227-30? There are Eucharistic hymns such as the Salutaris Hostia, the Pange Lingua and Tantum Ergo, and Sweet Sacrament Divine; Prayers; and The Divine Praises: everything you need for a truly rich spiritual experience before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. The Service of Benediction developed during the Middle Ages, during the Corpus Christi processions in which the Blessed Sacrament was held up for veneration. The service was subsequently used at other times throughout the year as an opportunity to give thanks for the Mass and adore Christ present under the form of bread. Today the Church encourages this rite to be celebrated in the context of a longer period of reading, prayer, and reflection. At St. Columba's, we currently have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament twice a week, on Wednesdays and Fridays after Mass. Why not come along and join us as we give thanks to the Lord and adore His Divine Presence?

Welcome to the Friends of LSU! – today, we welcome the Friends of La Sainte Union, the Religious Congregation of Sr. Barbara Campbell, who passed away six years ago, in 2014. The Friends of LSU will be joining us for tea and coffee after Mass and there will be a chance to meet them, and to share memories of Sr. Barbara. Janice Morton, a regular attender at St. Columba's, is gathering together any stories of Sr. Barbara that you may have. She will be in the meeting room after Mass, and can be reached at jan1955morton@btinternet.com. She looks forward to hearing from you!

Automated External Defibrillator at St. Columba's thanks to the generosity of a benefactor, we will soon be having an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) fitted to the outside wall of St. Columba's. Together with this essential piece of life-saving equipment, we will be organising Emergency Life Support Training to as many parishioners as wish to participate. This training is ENTIRELY FREE. We have a half-dozen names already, but are looking for between 25-30 people to take part. It involves 3 hour's worth of training, here at St. Columba's, and is extremely worthwhile. It is a mandatory part of having the Defibrillator. There is a signup sheet in the foyer: if anyone would like to take part in this, please do add your name to the sheet. The more parishioners we have taking part, the better. The date of the training day has yet to be confirmed: watch this

Sunday 9 February: Youth Mass at St. Columba's! – We are organising a Mass, led by young people from our parish and throughout the Highland Deanery. This will be

the first of a number of different occasions, to be held throughout the Deanery, for our young people to come together and to share their enthusiasm and talent through the medium of music! We would like our own youth here at St. Columba's to have a good representation in the Mass: in the music group (playing an instrument or singing). There will be short practices after Sunday Mass to learn new hymns. We are ALSO looking for young people to assist us as Readers, as Assistant Passkeepers, with the Offertory Procession, and so on. If you would like to be involved, please see David or Fr. Domenico, or wait behind after Mass to join the musicians and singers. No specialist experience required! Why not come along and try it?

House Blessings – if you would like to have your house blessed at the beginning of this new year (new decade!), please leave a message for Fr. Domenico in the Sacristy with your name, postal address, and contact details, or send a message to the parish e-mail address. Thank you!

CONFIRMATION CLASS THIS THURSDAY: the next class is on Thursday 23 January, at 6.30pm, and lasts for 30 minutes. If you have any difficulty getting to class, just let Ewen or Helen know.

Highland Foodbank: November to January — Your donations help to provide emergency food and support to local people in crisis. As part of their Winter Appeal, the Highland Foodbank would be grateful for donations of the following items: * Cartons of Long Life Fruit Juice * Small Washing Powder/Gel * Tins of Corned Beef * Tins of Ham * Jam. Please leave these items in the box at the front door of the church. Thank you!

Baby and Toddlers' Group: the group will meet tomorrow, 20 January, from 9.30am to 11.30am. We are looking for new children to join the group, and to take part in the fun! Why not come along?

Cleaning Team – Monday 20th January at 1.30pm: Margaret, Isobel and Don. Would you like to help out too?! See Don for details.

90 Club – First Draw of 2020 to be held NEXT SUNDAY. Fees are now due again; for details, please see Don.

Fundraiser Prize Bingo returns NEXT WEEK, Friday 31 January!! Eyes down at 7.00pm. ALL WELCOME. Thanks for your help with items to give as prizes; it is greatly appreciated!

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE: The THIRD prize has still not been claimed. It belongs to 'TA' or 'JA' from Woodside Drive. Is this you?! If so, please see Don!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Angus Johnson + Michael Good + Laura Johnstone + Norman Wood + Alec Mackintosh + Katie Mary Fraser + John Smith + Stuart MacLennan + Jeanette Catto +

R.I.P: + Mary Macintyre +

Anniversaries: + Cyril Ainsley + William Loftus + Margaret Coryn + Harry Lawless + Sister Barbara Campbell LSU +