



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

20 SEPTEMBER 2020:
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year A (II); Psalter: Week 1)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 55: 6-9
Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 144 (145): 2-3,8-9,17-18
2nd Reading: Philippians 1: 20-24,27
Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 20 September	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 776 – Year A)	LIVE-STREAMED PUBLIC MASS PUBLIC MASS	9.30 am 11.00 am
Monday 21 September	Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist Mass Intention: Catriona MacRury, RIP (Recently Departed)	Live-Streamed PUBLIC Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 22 September	Tuesday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Jenner Martin, RIP (Recently Departed)	Live-Streamed PUBLIC Mass	9.30 am
Wednesday 23 September	Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) Mass Intention: Morag MacIntyre, RIP (First Anniversary)	Live-Streamed PUBLIC Mass	9.30 am
Thursday 24 September	Thursday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: John Aver (Health and Intentions)	Live-Streamed PUBLIC Mass	9.30 am
Friday 25 September	Friday of Week 25 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Matty & Fabio (Health and Intentions)	Live-Streamed PUBLIC Mass	9.30 am
Saturday 26 September	Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Live-Streamed PUBLIC Mass	9.30 am
Sunday 27 September	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 780 – Year A)	LIVE-STREAMED PUBLIC MASS PUBLIC MASS	9.30 am 11.00 am

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: First and Last

The house of Israel is the vine of God, who planted and watered it, preparing the Israelites to bear fruits of righteousness (see Isaiah 5:7; 27:2–5).

Israel failed to yield good fruits and the Lord allowed His vineyard, Israel's kingdom, to be overrun by conquerors (see Psalm 80:9–20). But God promised that one day He would replant His vineyard and its shoots would blossom to the ends of the earth (see Amos 9:15; Hosea 14:5–10).

This is the biblical backdrop to Jesus' parable of salvation history in today's Gospel. The landowner is God. The vineyard is the kingdom. The workers hired at dawn are the Israelites, to whom He first offered His covenant. Those hired later in the day are the Gentiles, the non-Israelites, who, until the coming of Christ, were strangers to the covenants of promise (see Ephesians 2:11–13). In the Lord's great generosity, the same wages, the same blessings promised to the first-called, the Israelites, will be paid to those called last, the rest of the nations.

This provokes grumbling in today's parable. Doesn't the complaint of those first laborers sound like that of the older brother in Jesus' prodigal son parable (see Luke 15:29–30)? God's ways, however, are far from our ways, as we hear in today's First Reading. And today's readings should caution us against the temptation to resent God's lavish mercy.

Like the Gentiles, many will be allowed to enter the kingdom late—after having spent most of their days idling in sin. But even these can call upon Him and find Him near, as we sing in today's Psalm. We should rejoice that God has compassion on all whom He has created. This should console us, too, especially if we have loved ones who remain far from the vineyard.

Our task is to continue labouring in His vineyard. As Paul says in today's Second Reading, let us conduct ourselves worthily, struggling to bring all men and women to the praise of His name. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (p. 776) –

- p. 521: Introductory Rites
- p. 776: Readings & Proper Prayers
- p. 543: Apostles' Creed
- p. 567: Preface II: The Mystery of Salvation
- p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
- p. 631: Communion Rite

Remember one another – Please try to support one another in these challenging times: a phone call to check up on elderly and vulnerable parishioners and friends; a friendly call to see if anyone needs shopping; supporting your local shops and businesses, which will be hit hard from a financial perspective. We are all in this together.

Remember your parish – If you would like to support the maintenance of our parish during this time of lockdown, here are some different ways that the parish can be assisted:

- **A regular Standing Order:** the account details are in the next column opposite, under 'Parish Finances'.
- **Donations in an envelope, put through the church letterbox.** During this period, and for the foreseeable future, any offerings, donations or benefactions to the parish will be paid in to our No. 1 (Running) Account.
- **A re-evaluation of your level of giving.** If every parishioner at Mass gave an extra £5 (two coffees at Costa or Starbucks..), it would make an enormous difference to the future of the parish!!
- **A Bequest,** or gift left in a will, is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Building Fund Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU!! – Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme (GASDS): A cheque was paid into our account on 10 September for the **wonderful sum of £1, 811.06.** This money was paid to us based on your contributions to our Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme – at no extra expense to yourself. Thank you! It once more underlines the importance of the Gift Aid scheme to our parish. Do YOU Gift Aid? If not, please consider it! See Fr. Domenico for details.

"I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to God's House!" (Psalm 121/122) – Have you been back to God's House? St. Columba's is open every day for Mass at 9.30am. Fr. Domenico will continue to offer two Masses each Sunday: at 9.30am (which will also be live-streamed) and at 11.00am. To book a seat(s) for Mass next Sunday, here are the links:

27 September 9.30am:

<https://mass-at-st-columbas-culloden-27-09-2020-0930am.eventbrite.co.uk>

27 September 11.00am:

<https://mass-at-st-columbas-culloden-27-09-2020-1100am.eventbrite.co.uk>

Please note that seats for both Masses will be available to book online from Sunday 20 September at 12 noon.

If you have a problem or query, contact Fr. Domenico.

SEASON OF CREATION: 1 September-4 October: to mark five years since the publication of Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*, on the care of our common home, a 'Season of Creation' has been organised, to run from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for Creation) to 4 October (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). Various online resources are available, including a novena (9 days of prayer), beginning on Friday 25 September, leading up to the feast of St. Francis. See the CAFOD website for a copy of the Novena prayers: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Novena-to-St-Francis>

Thursday 1 October: Justice and Peace Inverness monthly meeting at 7:30pm. We will be having a guest speaker, Andy Kent, who will be giving a presentation about his recent experience in Beirut after the large explosion in August. The meeting will be via Zoom. For more information, see the Facebook page of Justice and Peace Inverness, or contact Jill Kent (jillkent@me.com). You are all welcome to join in a 4-week reflection, beginning in mid-October, of Pope Francis' document *Laudato Si' – Care for Our Common Home*. We will be following the study guide created by SCIAF, via Zoom. We will be focusing on the following subjects

Week 1- Creation is a caress of God

Week 2- The climate is a common good

Week 3- A universal Family

Week 4 - We were made for love

THE HIGHLAND GATHERING: MEN'S VIRTUAL CONFERENCE – ONLINE NOW!! What does a Catholic man in Scotland in 2020 look like? How does or should our faith affect our lives? Does it look different to what the world tells us it is? If you are looking for help to find these answers, then this FREE virtual conference is for you. All of the talks are available on the conference's dedicated YouTube page, which can be accessed here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrnp0AkM97GesZiQNKehD3g/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Confessions will be heard in the Parish Meeting Room. If you would like to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, simply contact Fr. Domenico to make an appointment.

90 Club: SEPTEMBER DRAW NEXT WEEK! – there are a few numbers available; Speak to Fr. Domenico for details.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Michael Good, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Stuart MacLennan, John Macdonald, Evelyn MacGregor, Rena Herbison, Louise Flett, Alex Fruters, Morag Lloyd, Patrick Macpherson, Kathleen Macpherson, Steve Knight, Ricci Hudson-Storey

Anniversaries: + Mary MacKinnon + Malcolm MacDonald + Morag McInnes + Katie Anne McDaid + Bridget Tierney + Eddie Pocock + Morag McIntyre +