



St. Columba's, Culloden

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RC Diocese of Aberdeen: Registered Charity No. SC005122.



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

21ST FEBRUARY 2016
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR C

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Psalm: Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14

2nd Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 21 February	Second Sunday of Lent (Year C) (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Tuesday 23 February	Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent	Mass	19.30
Wednesday 24 February	Wednesday of the Second Week of Lent	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 25 February	Thursday of the Second Week of Lent	* Stations of the Cross * Mass	19.00 19.30
Friday 26 February	Friday of the Second Week of Lent	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Sunday 28 February	Third Sunday of Lent (Year C) (Second Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

Journey to the Foot of the Cross: 10 Things to Remember For Lent

Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, offers "10 Things to Remember for Lent":

1. Remember the formula. For Lent, the Church gives us almost a slogan—Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving—as the three things we need to work on during the season.

2. It's a time of prayer. Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with him.

3. It's a time to fast. With the fasts of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics these days actually fast. Fasting is actually a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.

4. It's a time to work on discipline. The 40 days of Lent are also a good, set time to work on personal discipline in general. Instead of giving something up, it can be doing something positive. "I'm going to exercise more. I'm going to pray more. I'm going to be nicer to my family."

5. It's about dying to yourself. The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it's about more than self-control – it's about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent, and we join in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ and being resurrected in a purified form.

6. Don't do too much. It's tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but it's best to keep it simple and focused. There's a reason the Church

works on these mysteries year after year. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don't try to cram it all in one Lent. That's a recipe for failure.

7. Lent reminds us of our weakness. Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. When we fast, we realize we're all just one meal away from hunger. In both cases, Lent shows us our weakness. This can be painful, but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God's help with renewed urgency and sincerity.

8. Be patient with yourself. When we're confronted with our own weakness during Lent, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. "What a bad person I am!" But that's the wrong lesson. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with unconditional love.

9. Reach out in charity. As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. It's about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God's unconditional love.

10. Learn to love like Christ. Giving of ourselves in the midst of our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the cross on Good Friday, as we seek him out, ask his help, join in his suffering, and learn to love like him.

GENERAL NEWS

St Mary's Lenten Catechesis (Talk and Discussion)

- Tuesday 23 February: "*Lumen Gentium* for the Year of Mercy" – Mgr Basil Loftus.
- Thursday 3 March: "*Laudato Si'* of Pope Francis and the Year of Mercy" – Alistair Dutton, SCIAF
- Tuesday 8 March: "Oriental Religious Interface: Catholicism, Orthodoxy, and Islam" – Fr Zeljko Pasa
- Tuesday 15 March: "*The Imitation of Christ: The Royal Road for Holy Week*" – Fr James Bell

All talks take place in the Marian Room, at 7.00pm.

HCPT Indian Restaurant Buffet Night: Wednesday 2 March from 7.00 pm onwards, in the Cinnamon Restaurant, Milburn Road, Inverness. Indian Buffet Night with Silent Auction, in aid of HCPT Group 29. Very popular – limited tickets available. £20 each. To book, please contact Iona Mackay on 07851 420948.

PARISH NEWS

easyfundraising.org.uk

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising a **free donation for St Columba's Church, Culloden?**

There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's – it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It's really simple, all you have to do is:

1. **Join.** Go to the following website: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stcolumbasculloden/> and sign up for free.
2. **Shop.** Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first, pick the retailer you want and start shopping.
3. **Raise.** After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever! There are **no catches or hidden charges** and St Columba's Church, Culloden will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

Parish Register Forms: have you filled in yours?! In order to update our Parish records, could you please fill in one of the Parish Register Forms, which you will find on the table in the entrance foyer, and pop the completed form into the bag beside them. You will see on the reverse that there is the opportunity for you to express your interest(s) in any of the activities and ministries of the Parish. If you would like to become more involved in the Parish, please do indicate this on the form, and/or speak to Fr Domenico. Your assistance in building up our Parish is gratefully appreciated!

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

Lenten Station Masses: all Station Masses take place on **Fridays during Lent, beginning at 7.00pm**. A large 24-seater minibus has been pre-booked to allow as many parishioners as possible to attend these pilgrimages to our Lenten Station Masses. **Please reserve your seat on the minibus NOW – they are going quickly!** Subsidised costs

per person are dependent on filling all 24 seats. Please book your seat(s) by phoning PJ in the office at St Mary's Presbytery, Huntly Street, on (01463) 233519, or filling in the travel list at the back of St Mary's Church. The travel cost is listed after each destination:

26 February	St Joseph's, Invergordon (£7 per person)
4 March	Christ the King, Brora (£12 per person)
11 March	St Martin's, Ullapool (£12 per person) **
18 March	St Mary's, Nairn (£6 per person) **

** Please note that the Principal Celebrant at the Ullapool and Nairn Station Masses is Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB.

Confirmation Class: our dates for this month are as follows: **Thursday 25th February, from 6.30 pm to 7.15 pm**. We will be learning about the Creed and talking about our faith.

Saturday 27 February – "The Sacrament of Confession: Reconciling Ourselves with Our Merciful Father". This will be a day of discussion and reflection on the Church's 'neglected sacrament', as part of our wider programme of parish initiatives for the Year of Mercy. We will look at its history and development, and discuss some of the reasons for its lack of popularity nowadays. There will also be a presentation on "Confession 'do's and 'don'ts", and a Q&A session. **The day will begin with Mass at 10.00am in St Columba's.** There will be a pot-luck lunch – please feel free to bring along something to share with others. The day will conclude around 3.00pm. **If you would like to attend, could you please inform Fr Domenico, either in person, or by e-mail, at stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com.**

Saturday 5 March – Blooming Youth! A Day for Teenagers and Young Adults at Stratherrick. The day begins at 10.30am, and ends at approx. 4.00pm. Everyone is welcome – please spread the word, and come along!

Church cleaning: Tuesday 23rd February, 4.30pm – Shona and Gi Gi.

"90 Club": draw takes place NEXT WEEK on Sunday 28 February. Are you paid up to date? You could be a winner if you get one of the few numbers left – only £2.00 monthly; please ask Don. Good luck to all.

Prize Bingo: our great Fund-raising Bingo will take place NEXT WEEK on **FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY**. Eyes down at 7.00pm. A warm welcome awaits you all! Helpers needed to shift tables and chairs, Friday 9pm.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Audrey O'Connell + Anna Black + Amelia Drew + Cathy Thomson + Marie Coyle

Anniversaries: + Jim Murray + Moira McGoogan + John Armstrong + Margaret and William Donnelly + Donald John MacMillan.