



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**22 MARCH 2020:**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**(Year A (II); Psalter: Week 4)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13  
 Psalm: Ps 22 (23)  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14  
 Gospel: John 9: 1-41

Date	Details	Service	Time
<b>Sunday 22 March</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (p. 169)</b> <b>Second Collection: SCIAF</b>	<b>Church open; Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Benediction, Divine Praises, Angelus</b> <b>Church closes</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> <b>11.00 am</b> <b>12 noon</b> <b>12.30 pm</b>
Monday 23 March	Monday of Week 4 of Lent Mass Intention: Mary MacCormick, RIP (Anniversary Today)	Church open; Sacrament of Reconciliation Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Benediction, Divine Praises, Angelus Church closes	10.30 am 11.00 am 12 noon 12.30 pm
Tuesday 24 March	Tuesday of Week 4 in Lent Mass Intention: Private Intention	As Above	As Above
<b>Wednesday 25 March</b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION</b> Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	As Above	As Above
Thursday 26 March	Thursday of Week 4 in Lent Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	As Above	As Above
Friday 27 March	Friday of Week 4 in Lent Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	As Above	As Above
Saturday 28 March	Saturday of Week 4 in Lent Mass Intention: Elijah Macdonald Rusk (Baptism Today)	As Above	As Above
<b>Sunday 29 March</b>	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (p. 176)</b>	<b>Church open; Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>Benediction, Divine Praises, Angelus</b> <b>Church closes</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> <b>11.00 am</b> <b>12 noon</b> <b>12.30 pm</b>

## Fourth Sunday of Lent: Eyesight to the Blind

God's ways of seeing are not our ways, we hear in today's First Reading. Jesus illustrates this in the Gospel—as the blind man comes to see and the Pharisees are made blind. The blind man stands for all humanity. “Born totally in sin” he is made a new creation by the saving power of Christ. As God fashioned the first man from the clay of the earth (see Genesis 2:7), Jesus gives the blind man new life by anointing his eyes with clay (see John 9:11). As God breathed the spirit of life into the first man, the blind man is not healed until he washes in the waters of Siloam, a name that means “sent.” Jesus is the One “sent” by the Father to do the Father's will (see John 9:4; 12:44). He is the new source of life-giving water—the Holy Spirit who rushes upon us in Baptism (see John 4:10; 7:38–39). This is the Spirit that rushes upon God's chosen king David in today's First Reading. A shepherd like Moses before him

(see Exodus 3:1; Psalm 78:70–71), David is also a sign pointing to the good shepherd and king to come—Jesus (see John 10:11). The Lord is our shepherd, as we sing in today's Psalm. By His death and Resurrection, He has made a path for us through the dark valley of sin and death, leading us to the verdant pastures of the kingdom of life, the Church. In the restful waters of Baptism, He has refreshed our souls. He has anointed our heads with the oil of Confirmation and spread the Eucharistic table before us, filling our cups to overflowing. With the once-blind man we enter His house to give God the praise, to renew our vow: “I do believe, Lord.” “The Lord looks into the heart,” we hear today. Let Him find us, as Paul advises in today's Second Reading, living as “children of light”—trying always to learn what is pleasing to our Father. (Scott Hahn)

## PARISH NEWS

**Church Opening Times** – St. Columba's is **open for two hours EVERY day, from 10.30 am-12.30 pm**. Fr. Domenico will be in the Lady Chapel, if anyone wishes to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Confession, from 10.30am until 11.00am; thereafter Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 11.00am; Rosary; then a period of silence for personal prayer, followed by Benediction, The Divine Praises, Deposition, and the Angelus.

**Today's Lenten Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A (p. 169) –**

- p. 521: Introductory Rites
- p. 169: Readings and Proper Prayers
- p. 541: Creed
- p. 174: Preface: The Man Born Blind
- p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
- p. 631: Communion Rite

**Liturgical leaflet "When Mass cannot be celebrated publicly"** – The Scottish National Liturgy Commission has produced this leaflet to help all parishioners enter ever more deeply in to a spiritual communion with one another. Copies will be available in the entrance foyer. If you would like an electronic version, please e-mail Fr. Domenico.

**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** – during the coming weeks and months, you may be self-isolating at home, your parish is still here, and needs to be maintained, kept open and administered at a time of much diminished regular giving. As you know, in addition to the church, we now have a parish house, with all of the associated costs (electricity, gas, water rates, council tax, phone, internet, stationery and office supplies, household items, provisions, and so on). On top of this we have considerable financial obligations to the Diocese, in the form of monthly levies. With this in mind, could you possibly consider the following:

- **A regular Standing Order** or Direct Debit.
- **Donations to the basket** in the entrance foyer of the church; this will be emptied regularly. 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.** We are currently £1,000 in debit every month. 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** is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Building Fund

Account. All of our benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

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

**Weekly Offertory Envelopes:** the envelopes for the new financial year (April onwards) are now available in the entrance foyer.

**Mass intentions** – if you would like a private Mass celebrated for any sick family and friends, or any deceased loved ones, simply e-mail Fr. Domenico.

**Parish Mailing List** – If you wish to be added to our parish e-mailing list, and receive regular updates, please do get in contact with Fr. Domenico at: [www.stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com](mailto:www.stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com)

**FREE Online Study Programme from Scott Hahn** – The St. Paul Center is offering, for a limited time, completely free access to its online study programme entitled 'The Eucharist in Scripture'. It is only one of a number of resources on its new page, 'The Quarantined Catholic Hub' (<https://stpaulcenter.com/hub/>).

**Reflect with Bishop Robert Barron on the Stations of the Cross** – a beautiful series of video reflections is now available completely FREE to view here: <https://stations.wordonfire.org/stations-of-the-cross> - together with pdf text and mp3 audio versions.

**Cleaning** – Don has very kindly agreed to take care of this, during the period of our parish's 'Domestic Retreat'.

**90 Club: Next Draw on Sunday 29th March.**

**PRIZE BINGO CANCELLED:** Due to the present circumstances, the Bingo evening due to take place on Friday 27 March has been cancelled. Our apologies to our patrons, but we are sure that you will understand the need for precautionary measures at the current time. Many thanks for your support and patience. Thanks also for your help with the lovely items handed in, to give as prizes; they are greatly appreciated!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Anna Black + Angus Johnson + Michael Good + Laura Johnstone + Norman Wood + Katie Mary Fraser + Margaret and Stuart MacLennan + Jeanette Catto + John Macdonald + Evelyn MacGregor + Mary Ritchie + Denise Maclean + David Munro + Rena Herbison +

**R.I.P:** + Jean Bewley + Mgr. Thomas Wynne + John Smith + Morag MacInnes + Maria MacLeod +

**Anniversaries:** + Mary MacCormick + Kathleen Tierney + Deacon Jacques Cooke + Mary Bell + Edward Lafferty +