



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**22 OCTOBER 2017:**

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

## Sunday Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95 (96): 1, 3-5, 7-10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5

Gospel: Matthew 22: 15-21

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 22 October	<b>TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> Second Collection: Missio Annual Appeal	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 24 October	Tuesday of Week 29 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 25 October	Wednesday of Week 29 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 26 October	Thursday of Week 29 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 29 October	<b>THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> Second Collection: Building Fund	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>

## Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time: God and Caesar

“We have just heard one of the most famous phrases in the entire Gospel: “Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s” (*Mt 22:21*).

Goaded by the Pharisees who wanted, as it were, to give him an exam in religion and catch him in error, Jesus gives this ironic and brilliant reply. It is a striking phrase which the Lord has bequeathed to all those who experience qualms of conscience, particularly when their comfort, their wealth, their prestige, their power and their reputation are in question. This happens all the time; it always has. Certainly Jesus puts the stress on the second part of the phrase: “and [render] to God the things that are God’s”. This calls for acknowledging and professing – in the face of any sort of power – that God alone is the Lord of mankind, that there is no other. This is the perennial newness to be discovered each day, and it requires mastering the fear which we often feel at God’s surprises.

God is not afraid of new things! That is why he is continually surprising us, opening our hearts and guiding us in unexpected ways. He renews us: he constantly makes us “new”. A Christian who lives

the Gospel is “God’s newness” in the Church and in the world. How much God loves this “newness”!

“Rendering to God the things that are God’s” means being docile to his will, devoting our lives to him and working for his kingdom of mercy, love and peace.

Here is where our true strength is found; here is the leaven that makes it grow, and the salt which gives flavour to all our efforts to combat the prevalent pessimism which the world proposes to us. Here too is where our hope is found, for when we put our hope in God we are neither fleeing from reality nor seeking an alibi: instead, we are striving to render to God what is God’s. That is why we Christians look to the future, God’s future. It is so that we can live this life to the fullest – with our feet firmly planted on the ground – and respond courageously to whatever new challenges come our way.” [Pope Francis, Extract of the homily delivered in St Peter’s Square, 19 October 2014]

## GENERAL NEWS

**Friday 27 October: 'Serata Italiana' (Italian Social Evening) at St Ninian's.** Tickets will be on sale after both Masses this weekend: £5 for adults and £3 for children. In addition to a lovely, authentic Italian meal, there will be live music, with adult singers and the young music group. Purchase your tickets now, and prepare to 'mangiare, cantare, e ballare'! For further details, please e-mail: [ninian@stninians.org.uk](mailto:ninian@stninians.org.uk), or tel. 01463 232136.

**Saturday 28 October: Open Day at the Renovated Play Park,** opposite Smithton School, 12 noon-4.00pm. A day of fun for the family: pipe band, face-painting, 'hook the duck', raffles, refreshments. Come along and join us!

**Saturday 28 October: 'Strong Foundations'** – Deanery Day of Renewal for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at the Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Stratherrick (IV2 6UL). The day begins at 10.30am, and concludes at 4.00pm. Lunch provided. See the poster on the notice-board. All welcome!

**Friday 27-Sunday 29 October: Retreat for Mothers of Children and Teens** – hosted by the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia, at Kilcoy Castle. To register, or for further details, please contact Sr Anna Christi OP at: [op@rcda.scot](mailto:op@rcda.scot). See the poster on the notice board.

## PARISH NEWS

**Inverness Foodstuff: Request for Volunteers** – Our project was established in 2015 and provides hot meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Drop-in Centre at Ness Bank Church for those who are homeless and vulnerable. The Drop-in Centre also has the services of the Highland Council Benefits Team, the NHS Dental Team, the NHS Harm and Reduction Team together with Community Nursing Staff. We are hoping to extend the project and open on Saturday afternoons for soup, sandwiches, IT and board games, and are looking for volunteers to staff this. If you are interested and can spare a few hours each week, fortnightly, or monthly we would be delighted to have your help. For further information contact Agnes Fraser on 07521 145539 or email: [invernessfoodstuff@gmail.com](mailto:invernessfoodstuff@gmail.com).

**St Columba's Mothers and Toddlers Group: starting TOMORROW!** – this group will be starting after the half-term holidays, on **Monday 23 October onwards, from 9.30am-11.30am.** The group is looking for the following items: a slide, small trikes, baby buggies / prams, baby seats and mats, musical instruments, and any toys that people feel will be useful. If you would like to donate items, or help in any way with this group, please speak to Fr Domenico or to Clare Greig after Sunday Mass, or email: [clareoke@yahoo.com](mailto:clareoke@yahoo.com).

**THIS WEEK – "CATHOLICISM: THE PIVOTAL PLAYERS" begins at St Columba's!!** – Join us, on **Wednesday 25 October at 7.00pm**, as we look at the figure of **ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI ('The Reformer')**: Rebuild my Church! That's the mission Christ gave to St. Francis and it's the perennial task of the Church in every age of its life. But how is the reform and renewal of the Church to be accomplished? The life of St. Francis demonstrates that Christ intends the foundations of true and lasting reform to be built on the solid rock that is the radical witness of the saints.

**Cleaning Team:** Tuesday – Margaret and Don. Anyone offering to help to clean the church only needs to give one hour a month!

**"90 Club" – Draw takes place NEXT SUNDAY, on 29 October!** You could be our next winner if you have a number; only £2 monthly. All profits go to our Building Fund. Please ask Don for details.

**PRIZE BINGO: Next 'eyes down' on Friday 3 November at 7.00pm.** Come and take part in a fun-filled family evening. Refreshments provided during the interval! Items to give as prizes are always required items to give as prizes always needed (we are particularly short of chocolates, and of wines and spirits; we'd also appreciate smelly candles, toiletries, gift vouchers, tins of sweets/biscuits..). Your support is much appreciated!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Ewen Macdonald Senior + Amelia & John Drew + Rose Corbett + Murray Mackay + Peter Simpson + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson +

**Anniversaries:** + Joan MacIntyre +