



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

22ND NOVEMBER 2015
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
UNIVERSAL KING

Sunday Mass Readings

1st Reading: Daniel 7:13-14
Psalm: 92: 1-2. 5
2nd Reading: Apocalypse 1:5-8
Gospel: John 18:33-37

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 22 November	Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King (2nd Collection: Building Fund)	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30
Tuesday 24 November	St Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions – Memorial	Mass	19.30
Wednesday 25 November	Wednesday of the 34 th Week in Ord Time	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Thursday 26 November	Thursday of the 34 th Week in Ord Time	Mass	19.30
Friday 27 November	Friday of the 34 th Week in Ord Time	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	11.00 11.30
Sunday 29 November	First Sunday of Advent	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel) Mass	09.00 09.30

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be available 30 minutes before each Mass.

A Royal Truth: Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal King

What's the truth Jesus comes to bear witness to in this last Gospel of the Church's year?

It's the truth that in Jesus, God keeps the promise He made to David - of an everlasting kingdom, of an heir who would be His Son, "the first born, highest of the kings of the earth" (see 2 Samuel 7:12-16; Psalm 89:27-38).

Today's Second Reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, quotes these promises and celebrates Jesus as "the faithful witness." The reading hearkens back to Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah would "witness to the peoples" that God is renewing His "everlasting covenant" with David (see Isaiah 55:3-5).

But as Jesus tells Pilate, there's far more going on here than the restoration of a temporal monarchy. In the Revelation reading, Jesus calls Himself "the Alpha and the Omega," the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. He's applying to Himself a description that God uses to describe Himself in the Old Testament - the first and the last, the One Who calls forth all generations (see Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 48:12).

"He has made the world," today's Psalm cries, and His dominion is over all creation (see also John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17). In the vision of Daniel we hear in today's First Reading, He comes on "the clouds of heaven" - another sign of His divinity - to be given "glory and kingship" forever over all nations and peoples.

Christ is King and His Kingdom, while not of this world, exists in this world in the Church. We are a royal people. We know we have been loved by Him and freed by His blood and transformed into "a Kingdom, priests for His God and Father" (see also Exodus 19:6; 1 Peter 2:9).

As a priestly people, we share in His sacrifice and in His witness to God's everlasting covenant. We belong to His truth and listen to His voice, waiting for Him to come again amid the clouds.

(Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

Parents, can you "waste time" with your children? It is one of the most important things that you can do each day.

GENERAL NEWS

Catenian Christmas Dinner: Friday 4 December:

7.00pm for 7.30pm, until midnight, at the Inverness Golf Club, on Culcabock Road. Licensed Bar and Raffle. £25.00 per head. For tickets, please contact Tony Lightfoot (tel: 236495) or Joe Campbell (tel: 790888).

Jubilee Year of Mercy: Inaugural Opening of the Holy Doors at St Mary's, Inverness, on Monday 14 December at 7.00pm. Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB will be presiding at this Mass, together with Priests from throughout the Deanery. All welcome.

PARISH NEWS

Month of the Holy Souls: November is the month when we remember our dearly departed. If you would like to have any deceased relatives or friends remembered at Mass during November, please place their names in the brown envelopes in the foyer and hand them in to the sacristy. All names will be placed in front of the altar, and a selection will be read out at every Mass. All offerings will be donated to our Building Fund.

Thank you for your support with Second Collections!

A heartfelt "thank you" to you all for your continuing support to St Columba's. We have been blessed with generous donations recently. We all know that the Christmas season can be both a busy and a costly one; accordingly, there will be **no Second Collections until February**, apart from a mandatory Special Collection at the beginning of January for the work of Justice and Peace. There will be a basket for anyone who may wish to contribute towards the Building Fund during the Advent and Christmas Seasons, but this is entirely at your own discretion. Once again, thank you for your loyal support, and may Christ our Heavenly King bless you all for your great generosity.

'Faith in Film' Evening: this month's film is entitled **"Fireproof"** (2008), and will be screened on **Wednesday 25 November, from 7.00 pm onwards**. An ideal follow-up to the Church's recent Synod on the Family, "Fireproof" tells the story of fireman Caleb Holt. At work, he lives by the old fire-fighter's adage: "never leave your partner behind". At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. His job is to rescue others. Now Caleb is ready to tackle his toughest job ever... rescuing his wife's heart. Voted "Inspirational Movie of the Year", and described as a "challenging reminder of what it takes to win in marriage". Certificate PG (120 minutes).

Day of Reflection at Stratherrick: led by Fr Domenico on **8 December (Immaculate Conception)**, to mark the beginning of the Year of Mercy. The Day will begin at 10.00am, and conclude at approx. 4.00pm. Details to follow. Lunch will be provided. If you would like to attend, please contact Therese Finlay on 01456 486678, for catering purposes. All welcome!

Christmas Carol Service, Wednesday 9 December, from 7.00pm onwards: we will be hosting a service of your favourite Christmas carols, together with seasonal Scripture readings, here at St Columba's, with festive food and drink

provided (mulled wine, mince pies, and other goodies). More details soon.

Children's Christmas Party: Saturday 12 December, 2.00pm – 4.00pm. Please do come along, if you can!

Christmas Hamper Raffle tickets are now on sale: £1 for a strip of five tickets. Please write your name and phone number on the back of EACH ticket! The draw will be held after Christmas Morning Mass. Good Luck!

Church cleaning: Rhona and Margaret. Tuesday 4.30pm.

'90 Club – the draw takes place next week, on **Sunday 29th November**. Good luck to all who have a number. You can still join in this fund-raiser: only £2 monthly! Please ask Don for details.

Prize Bingo: eyes down **Friday 4th December at 7.00pm**. Items to give out as prizes are always required. Thank you, as always, for your support. **Why not join us at our next Bingo? A warm welcome awaits you. Great fun for all!**

FINANCES

No. 1 Account	£ 534.48
(of which, Donation to Mary's Meals	£ 251.47)
Building Fund	£ 582.76
– Thank you for your generosity and support –	

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Audrey O'Connell + Anna Black + Leslie Murray + Michelle Campbell + Laura Johnstone + Amelia Drew

Anniversaries: Christina Johnstone + Patrick McGlade + Anastasia MacLeod + Wally Pocock

GROUPS AND DEVOTIONS

The Secular Franciscan Order meets at 2.00 pm on the second Saturday of each month at St Columba's, Culloden. Contact Helen MacGilp (01463 792149). Visit www.ofsgb.org.uk.

Prayer and Praise Group every Thursday at St Columba's after 7.30pm Mass in the Lady Chapel. Call Brian (01463 790255) for details.

Inverness Catenian Circle meet on the Second Monday of the month at 7.30 pm. Meeting followed by dinner in the Craigmonie Hotel, Annfield Road, Inverness. Contact Donald (07780 603045.) Visit www.thecatenians.co.uk.

The Knights of St Columba meets on the first Monday of every month in the Marian Room at St. Mary's, at 7.30 pm: contact Neil Munro (01463 232095). Dedicated to the principles of charity, unity & fraternity in the local parishes. Visit www.ksc.org.uk.

The Parents & Toddlers Group meets on Wednesdays from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm in the Marian Room beside St Mary's.