



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

23 FEBRUARY 2020:
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year A (II); Psalter: Week 3)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18
 Psalm: Ps 102 (103): 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 3: 16-23
 Gospel: Matthew 5: 38-48

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 23 February	SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 712) Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 25 February	Tuesday of Week 7 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 26 February	ASH WEDNESDAY (p. 143) ~ A DAY OF FASTING & ABSTAINING FROM MEAT ~ SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION AVAILABLE 1 HOUR BEFORE MORNING AND EVENING MASSES	Sacrament of Reconciliation MASS Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Sacrament of Reconciliation MASS	10.00 am 11.00 am 11.30 am 6.30 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 27 February	Thursday after Ash Wednesday Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation * Stations of the Cross * Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 28 February	Friday after Ash Wednesday Mass Intention: Mary MacKinnon RIP (Anniversary) LENT STATION MASS: ST. MARY'S, NAIRN	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Benediction Station Mass	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am 12 noon 7.00 pm
Saturday 29 February	Saturday after Ash Wednesday Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation ** Rosary ** Mass	10.15 am 10.40 am 11.00 am
Sunday 1 March	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (p. 151) Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time: Holy as God

We are called to the holiness of God. That is the extraordinary claim made in both the First Reading and Gospel this Sunday. Yet how is it possible that we can be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect? Jesus explains that we must be imitators of God as His beloved children (Ephesians 5:1-2).

As God does, we must love without limit—with a love that does not distinguish between friend and foe, overcoming evil with good (see Romans 12:21). Jesus Himself, in His Passion and death, gave us the perfect example of the love that we are called to. He offered no resistance to the evil—even though He could have commanded twelve legions of angels to fight alongside Him. He offered His face to be struck and spit upon. He allowed His garments to be stripped from Him. He marched as His enemies compelled Him to the Place of the Skull. On the cross He prayed for those who persecuted Him (see Matthew 26:53-54, 67; 27:28, 32; Luke 23:34).

In all this He showed Himself to be the perfect Son of God. By His grace, and through our imitation of Him, He promises that we too can become children of our heavenly Father.

God does not deal with us as we deserve, as we sing in this week's Psalm. He loves us with a Father's love. He saves us from ruin. He forgives our transgressions.

He loved us even when we had made ourselves His enemies through our sinfulness. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us (see Romans 5:8).

We have been bought with the price of the blood of God's only Son (see 1 Corinthians 6:20). We belong to Christ now, as St. Paul says in this week's Second Reading. By our baptism, we have been made temples of His Holy Spirit.

And we have been saved to share in His holiness and perfection. So let us glorify Him by our lives lived in His service, loving as He loves. (Scott Hahn).

GENERAL NEWS

Requiem Mass of Rt. Rev. Mgr. Thomas Canon Wynne: at St. Mary's RC Church, Fort William, on Friday 28 February at 11.00am, followed by interment in Cille Choirill cemetery. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Lent Station Masses 2020 – Fridays at 7.00pm:

28 February: St Mary's, Nairn
6 March: St Aidan's, Aviemore *
13 March: Immaculate Conception, Stratherrick
20 March: St. Columba's, Culloden
27 March: Our Lady and St. Bean, Cannich *
3 April: Christ the King, Brora
* Principal Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB.

29 February 2020: 'Jesus, the Power of Forgiveness' –

A half-day workshop at St. Mary's, Beaulay, led by Fr. Keith Herrera (Administrator, St. Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen). The programme for the day is as follows:
10.30 am: Tea/Coffee; Introductions
11.00 am: Holy Mass
11.50 am: Presentation/Talk
12.45 pm: Discussion
1.10 pm: Convene and Conclusion
1.30 pm: Lunch and Dismissal

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS Sunday Missal): Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (p. 712) –

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 712: Readings and Proper Prayers
p. 541: Creed
p. 567: Preface II of The Sundays in Ordinary Time
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

START OF LENT – Ash Wednesday, 26 February:

Please note that there will be **TWO Masses** on Ash Wednesday at St Columba's: at 11.00am, and 7.30pm. Remember that **Ash Wednesday is a day of Fasting and Abstinence:** we fast by consuming only one main meal, and we abstain from eating meat.

Stations of the Cross: each Thursday evening during Lent – **beginning Thursday 27 February** – we will pray the Stations of the Cross, from 7.00pm, before the Evening Mass.

SCIAF WEE BOX APPEAL – Every Lent, thousands of Catholics in Scotland save money in their SCIAF WEE BOX to help give a hand up to people living in poverty overseas. Together we are helping them to be independent, support themselves and their families, and have real hope for the future. By collecting your loose change, or giving up a treat like chocolate or wine and putting what you save into a WEE BOX, you can make a lasting difference to families in some of the world's poorest countries. **WEE BOX PACKS are available in the entrance foyer – please take one home.**

LENTEN RESOURCES: Fr. Domenico has ordered a number of different booklets to help with prayer and spiritual reflection during this season of Lent. They are available on the table in the entrance foyer. Why not pick one up, and use it for your own Lenten journey?

Safeguarding Training – There will be **Part 2 Induction** training in the meeting room at St Columba's **this Saturday, 29th February at 11am**, for those of you who missed last Monday's course. This Part 2 Induction training is for all those who are PVG checked and working as volunteers in our church, and have not yet undergone this training.

Defibrillator and Emergency Life Support Training – the Training Day at St. Columba's will be **Saturday 21 March, from 10.00am-12 noon**. We have over 30 people signed up for the free course; if you cannot make this training event, please inform Fr. Domenico.

'The Mysteries of the Passion' – a series of Lenten Reflections at St. Columba's, complete with readings from Holy Scripture and images from the Holy Land, offering a fresh perspective on the five Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. The Reflections take place on **Wednesdays at 7.00pm** throughout the Lenten season. The programme is as follows:

4 March: The Agony in the Garden
11 March: The Scourging at the Pillar
18 March: The Crowning with Thorns
25 March: The Carrying of the Cross
1 April: The Crucifixion

All welcome. Please spread the word!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: the next class is on **Thursday 27 February, at 6.20pm** (note the change in time), and lasts for 30 minutes. If you have any difficulty getting to class, just let Ewen or Helen know.

Baby and Toddlers' Group: the group will meet tomorrow, **Monday 24 February, from 9.30am to 11.30am**. We are looking for new children to join the group, and to take part in the fun! Why not come along?

Cleaning Team – Tomorrow, Monday 24 February at 4.00pm: Jijy, Shona, and Don. Would you like to help out too? Many hands make light work! See Don for details.

90 Club – DRAW TODAY! Three prizes to be won: good luck to our ticket holders! Would you like to take part? There are a few numbers left; please see Don for details. Only £2 monthly.

PRIZE BINGO: THIS FRIDAY, 28 February at 7.00pm! ALL WELCOME. Thanks 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 +

R.I.P.: + John Smith + Mgr. Thomas Canon Wynne +

Anniversaries: + Mary MacKinnon + Johnnie Gallagher + Anne-Marie Grout + John Armstrong + Mary and Joe Sharkey + Jim Murray + Jack Hasterick + Moira McGoogan + Margaret and William Donnelly + Donald John MacMillan + Nancy Gallagher +