



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**25 DECEMBER 2016 – 8 JANUARY 2017:
 SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY &
 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

Christmas Day / Mary, Mother of God

1st Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10 / Numbers 6: 22-27
 Psalm: Ps 97 (98): 1-6 / Psalm 66 (67): 2-3, 5, 6, 8
 2nd Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6 / Galatians 4: 4-7
 Gospel: John 1: 1-18 / Luke 2: 16-21

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 25 December	CHRISTMAS DAY	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass – <u>NOTE TIME</u>	10.00 am 10.30 am
Tuesday 27 December	Feast of St John the Apostle	*** NO MASS ***	---
Wednesday 28 December	Feast of the Holy Innocents	*** NO MASS ***	---
Thursday 29 December	Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas	*** NO MASS ***	---
Sunday 1 January 2017	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass – <u>NOTE TIME</u>	10.00 am 10.30 am
Tuesday 3 January	Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus	Sacrament of Reconciliation ** Evening Prayer ** Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 4 January	Weekday in the Christmas Season	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 5 January	Weekday in the Christmas Season	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 8 January	SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am



**Wishing you and your families
 much peace and joy in this
 holy season!**

**With prayers and blessings,
*Fr Domenico.***

Giotto, *Nativity* (c. 1320), fresco painting in the
 Lower Basilica of St Francis, Assisi.

PARISH NEWS

Our Christmas Crib: 'Save the Children' Syria Crisis Appeal – This year, all donations made at the foot of our crib will be sent to 'Save The Children', and, in particular, to their Syria Crisis Appeal. The horrific scenes that we've been seeing from Aleppo show the extent of the violence that Syrian children are living through – they are being killed, maimed, and are living in near-constant fear. Hundreds of thousands of families are struggling to survive without food, medicine and clean water. Through the generosity of their donors, 'Save the Children' is able to provide food, support hospitals, help schools to keep running, and repair water systems. The charity also provides specialist emotional support for children. Local partners are able to reach more than 500,000 vulnerable children in besieged areas in Syria. In countries such as Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt, to which many children and families have fled, 'Save the Children' is providing food, safe water, medicine, protection, shelter, and education. This is their largest ever emergency response, and they have succeeded in helping more than 3.3 million children across the region since the conflict started in 2011. Please consider supporting the work of 'Save the Children', during this holy season, when we think of another poor and endangered child, who was born in the most difficult and abject of circumstances in a manger in Bethlehem over two thousand years ago. Thank you for your support.

THANK YOU! - Thank you most sincerely for your cards, gifts, and kind regards; your generosity is very gratefully appreciated. I would also like to express my thanks to all of you for the many ways in which you support St Columba's throughout the year – in our liturgies (our Sacristans, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers, Catechists, Treasurer and Financial Assistants, Musicians, Altar Servers, Passkeepers), in making the church such a beautiful and welcoming place of worship (our Gardeners, Flower Arrangers, Cleaning Team, Catering Assistants, Hospitality Ministers, and Piety Stall Assistants), and in the many events that take place here, particularly our Monthly Bingo Team, and our many donors of prizes. EVERYONE plays their part in this Parish, in various different ways, and I am grateful to you all for your practical support, spiritual help, and encouragement. God bless you! I take this opportunity to wish you a joyous and peaceful Christmas, with good health and prosperity in the coming year. With prayers and blessings for you and your families – in gratitude, Fr Domenico.

"CATHOLICISM" is coming to St Columba's!! From Wednesday 1 February, and throughout Lent, we will be journeying around the world, deep into our

Catholic Faith, with the acclaimed DVD study series "Catholicism". With creator and host Bishop Robert Barron, you will learn *what* Catholics believe and *why*, while being immersed in the art, architecture, literature, beliefs and practices of the Catholic tradition. The Catholicism Faith Formation Programme brings the beauty, goodness and truth of the Church to life so that you can better understand and share your faith. This study programme is open to everyone, regardless of age and parish! Book your place on Wednesdays in Lent now!

Sick, or in Hospital? Please contact Fr Domenico if you require a visit or know of anyone who is sick and housebound or in hospital and wishes a visit during this festive season.

The new edition of "LIGHT OF THE NORTH" magazine has just arrived; be sure to collect your copy. Lots of photos and features on Inverness and the Highland Deanery. Please consider making a donation towards the cost of each copy.

FANCY A CHRISTMAS HAMPER?!! You'd be a turkey not to! Only £1 for a strip of tickets, available in the foyer, for our fab festive hamper – **draw after Mass on Christmas Day! Don't miss out!**

ST COLUMBA'S HOGMANAY DANCE, from 9.00pm until 12.30am. Come along to St Columba's on Hogmanay and bring in the New Year with us in style! Tickets are priced **just £5.00, in aid of the Church Building Fund**. Music is provided by John Gordon, and there will be stovies & oatcakes and other delights all night long! Please feel free to bring your own refreshments! Tickets are now on sale – why not treat yourself and your family this Hogmanay?!!

"90 Club" winners for December – no. 90: Annmarie; no. 19: Malcolm; and no. 73: LSU (Sister Barbara's religious congregation). Congratulations to all our winners! Our next draw takes place on Sunday 29th January; there are a few numbers still available. Have you got yours?!

PRIZE BINGO – 27 January is the date of our next 'eyes down' – thereafter every last Friday until June. Your help in donating items to give as prizes is always greatly appreciated. Thank you very much.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Amelia Drew + John Drew + Leslie Murray + Jane Green + Frances Boyle

Anniversaries: Michelle Campbell + Tommy Cameron + Patricia O'Riordan + Allan Jamieson + Anne Lafferty + Father Gerald Fitzgibbon + Father Ronnie Walls