



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

27 DECEMBER 2020:
THE HOLY FAMILY
(Year B (I); Psalter: Week 4)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
 Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 88 (89): 2-5, 27, 29
 2nd Reading: Romans 16: 25-27
 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 27 December	THE HOLY FAMILY (p. 101 – Year B) Retiring Collection: Building Fund	LIVE-STREAMED MASS MASS	9.30 am 11.00 am
Monday 28 December	Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs Mass Intention: Peter O'Neill, RIP (Recently Departed)	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 29 December	5 th Day within the Octave of Christmas Mass Intention: Jim Diamond, RIP (Recently Departed)	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Wednesday 30 December	6 th Day within the Octave of Christmas Mass Intention: Brian Mitchell, RIP (Anniversary Today)	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Thursday 31 December	7 th Day within the Octave of Christmas Mass Intention: Fr. Calum MacNeill, RIP (Anniversary Today)	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Friday 1 January 2021	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD Mass Intention: Roseann Stewart MacLennan, RIP (Anniversary Yesterday)	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Live-Streamed Public Mass	* 10.00 am * * 10.30 am *
Saturday 2 January	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Sunday 3 January	2ND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (p. 114 – Year B) Retiring Collection: Building Fund	LIVE-STREAMED MASS MASS	9.30 am 11.00 am

The Holy Family: The Mystery Kept Secret

Why did Jesus choose to become a baby born of a mother and father and to spend all but His last years living in an ordinary human family? In part, to reveal God's plan to make all people live as one "holy family" in His Church (see 2 Corinthians 6:16–18).

In the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, God reveals our true home. We're to live as His children, "chosen ones, holy and beloved," as the First Reading puts it. The family advice we hear in today's readings—for mothers, fathers, and children—is all solid and practical. Happy homes are the fruit of our faithfulness to the Lord, we sing in today's Psalm. But the Liturgy is inviting us to see more, to see how, through our family obligations and relationships, our families become heralds of the family of God that He wants to create on earth. Jesus shows us this in today's Gospel. His obedience to His earthly parents flows directly from His obedience to the will of His heavenly Father. Joseph and Mary aren't identified by

name, but three times are called "his parents" and are referred to separately as his "mother" and "father." The emphasis is all on their familial ties to Jesus. But these ties are emphasised only so that Jesus, in the first words He speaks in Luke's Gospel, can point us beyond that earthly relationship to the Fatherhood of God.

In what Jesus calls "My Father's house," every family finds its true meaning and purpose (see Ephesians 3:15). The Temple we read about in the Gospel today is God's house, His dwelling (see Luke 19:46). But it's also an image of the family of God, the Church (see Ephesians 2:19–22; Hebrews 3:3–6; 10:21).

In our families we're to build up this household, this family, this living temple of God. Until He reveals His new dwelling among us and says of every person: "I shall be his God and he will be My son" (see Revelation 21:3, 7). (Scott Hahn)

“Christmas reveals to us the immense love that God has for humanity. From this too derives our enthusiasm, our hope as Christians, that in our poverty, we may know that we are loved, that we have been visited, that we are accompanied by God. And we look upon the world and on history as a place in which we walk together with Him and among us toward a new heaven and a new earth.” – Pope Francis

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): The Holy Family, Yr. B (p. 101)

p. 521:	Introductory Rites
p. 101:	Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 543:	Apostles' Creed
p. 551:	Preface I of the Nativity
p. 603:	Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631:	Communion Rite

“I rejoiced when I heard them say: Let us go to God's House!” (Psalm 121/122) – St. Columba's is open every day for Mass at 9.30am. Fr. Domenico will continue to offer two Masses each Sunday: at 9.30am (which will also be live-streamed) and at 11.00am.

‘Lockdown 2.0’: Government Protocols for Places of Worship from Sunday 27 December – as you know, we are now officially in ‘Tier 4’ throughout the country, and this has implications for us here at St. Columba's. According to the Scottish Government regulations, the maximum capacity has been reduced from fifty.. to **TWENTY!** In addition, no outdoor gatherings are permitted of more than six people, from two different households. These new measures severely restrict our ability to worship as a community of faith. Given the new situation, and the difficulties that would result with online booking, the easiest solution for anyone wishing to attend Sunday Masses from now on is simply to speak to Fr. Domenico – either in person, by phone, or by e-mail – and he will book a seat, and put together the church seating plan for you. Seat(s) will be available on a ‘first come-first served’ basis, from 12 noon on the previous Sunday. Thank you most sincerely for your continuing support of the parish during these challenging times, and for your patience and understanding.

SYRIAN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

– In his latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis encourages us to show compassion to our brothers and sisters. Specifically, he asks us to welcome, protect, promote and integrate refugees fleeing tragic situations (#129). In response, a group of parishioners from the Highlands are planning to take advantage of the Home Office's Community Resettlement Programme to sponsor one Syrian family to come to the Inverness area. We are currently looking to set up a steering group to take this forward. If you would like to help us and get involved with this project, please contact Jill Kent at: welcometohighland@gmail.com

90 Club: Last Draw of the Year on Sunday 27 December. We are still looking for some catch-up payments; please speak to Fr. Domenico. Similarly, contributions for 2021 can now be handed in (only £2 a month). Would you like to take part too?

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Michael Good, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Stuart MacLennan, John Macdonald, Evelyn MacGregor, Rena Herbison, Alex Fruters, Patrick Macpherson, Kathleen Macpherson, Ricci Hudson-Storey, June Lee, Marian Ellis, James Mochan

RIP: + Peter O'Neill + Jim Diamond +

Anniversaries: + Tommy Cameron + Patricia O'Riordan + Anne Laverty + Father Gerald Fitzgibbon + Father Calum MacNeill + Angus Kennedy + Brian Mitchell + Katie MacKinnon + Roseann Stewart MacLennan +