



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

28 NOVEMBER 2021:
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(Year C (II); Psalter: Week 1)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16
 Resp. Psalm: Ps. 24 (25):4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2
 Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 28 November	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (p. 61 – Year C)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass Holy Mass	9.30 am 11.00 am
Monday 29 November	Monday of Week 1 in Advent Mass Intention: Lily Finlay, RIP (First Anniversary)	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 30 November	SOLEMNITY OF ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE Mass Intention: Deacon John McEwen (Health and Intentions)	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 1 December	Wednesday of Week 1 in Advent	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Thursday 2 December	Thursday of Week 1 in Advent	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 3 December	Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, Priest	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Saturday 4 December	Saturday of Week 1 in Advent	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 5 December	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (p. 65 – Year C)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass Holy Mass	9.30 am 11.00 am

First Sunday of Advent: Heads Up

Every Advent, the Liturgy of the Word gives our sense of time a reorientation. There's a deliberate tension in the next four weeks' readings—between promise and fulfilment, expectation and deliverance, between looking forward and looking back. In today's First Reading, the prophet Jeremiah focuses our gaze on the promise God made to David, some 1,000 years before Christ. God says through the prophet that He will fulfil this promise by raising up a "just shoot," a righteous offspring of David, who will rule Israel in justice (see 2 Samuel 7:16; Jeremiah 33:17; Psalm 89:4-5; 27-38).

Today's Psalm, too, sounds the theme of Israel's ancient expectation: "Guide me in your truth and teach me. For you are God my saviour and for you I will wait all day."

We look back on Israel's desire and anticipation knowing that God has already made good on those promises by sending His only Son into the world. Jesus is the "just shoot," the God and Saviour for Whom Israel was waiting.

Knowing that He is a God who keeps His promises lends grave urgency to the words of Jesus in today's Gospel.

Urging us to keep watch for His return in glory, He draws on Old Testament images of chaos and instability—turmoil in the heavens (see Isaiah 13:11, 13; Ezekiel 32:7-8; Joel 2:10); roaring seas (see Isaiah 5:30; 17:12); distress among the nations (see Isaiah 8:22; 14:25) and terrified people (see Isaiah 13:6-11).

He evokes the prophet Daniel's image of the Son of Man coming on a cloud of glory to describe His return as a "theophany," a manifestation of God (see Daniel 7:13-14).

Many will cower and be literally scared to death. But Jesus says we should greet the end-times with heads raised high, confident that God keeps His promises, that our "redemption is at hand," that "the kingdom of God is near" (see Luke 21:31). (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): First Sunday of Advent (p. 61)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 61: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 541: The Creed

p. 549: Preface I of Advent
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

Mary's Meals: Peter Harkins is the area representative for Mary's Meals. Today at Mass, Peter will speak to us all on behalf of the charity. Please note that this year's Christmas Crib Donation will be for Mary's Meals.

Christmas Flowers: if you would like to assist us with purchasing flowers for our Christmas celebrations, please consider placing a contribution in an envelope, marked 'Christmas Flowers', and leaving it in the Sacristy. Thank you.

Candles and Tea-Lights we are now permitted to use candles and tea-lights for personal devotions. Just remember to be careful, especially if you have sanitised your hands, making sure that excess gel has been removed.

Icon of St. Joseph: Many of you will have seen the beautiful new icon of St. Joseph and the Christ Child, which is now mounted on the Sanctuary wall. A sincere 'thank you' to those of you who have already donated to the cost of this work; if you would like to do so, please place any offerings in an envelope, address it as 'icon donation', and hand it in to the Sacristy. Thank you!

Christmas Items at our Piety Stall! we have many new items in stock: Advent calendars; Christmas cards; nativity scenes; children's books; rosaries, and much, much more! Why not browse our stall?

Children's Advent & Christmas Resources: we have copies of a newly published book on the Rosary for Children; meanwhile, Ewen is busy preparing his excellent Sunday liturgy packs: make sure to pick one up in the entrance foyer!

ADVENT STUDY COURSE – 'THE CHRISTMAS STORY': Fr. Domenico's Scripture course on 'The Christmas Story' begins this coming week, on Wednesday 1 December. It will be streamed via Zoom, on **Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm** during December. Please contact Fr. Domenico if you would like the Zoom link.

Wednesday 1 December	Preparation
Wednesday 8 December	Annunciation(s)
Wednesday 15 December	Realisation
Wednesday 22 December	Adoration

Restoration of the 'Sunday Obligation': please see the recent letter from the Bishops' Conference of Scotland (www.bcos.org.uk). The Obligation to attend Mass will be restored on **Sunday 2 January (the Solemnity of the Epiphany)**.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession): Fr. Domenico is available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at **any mutually convenient time; simply get in touch with him**. The Sacrament is also available in the Meeting Room on the following days.

Tuesday 14 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm
Tuesday 21 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Thursday 16 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm
Thursday 23 December: 5.30pm-6.30pm

Christmas Masses:

Vigil (24 December)	7.00pm: carols and readings	7.30pm: Holy Mass
Christmas Day	10.30am: Holy Mass	12.00 Noon: Holy Mass

90 Club: Last Draw of 2021 on 26 December! – Please note that there are envelopes on the foyer table, in which to place your 2022 contributions to the 90 Club. Simply fill in the details, and return the envelope to Fr. Domenico. Thank you.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Katie Mary Fraser, Norman Wood, Ian Macdonald, Kathleen Macpherson, Marian Ellis, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Rose Corbett

Anniversaries: Lily Finlay, Alice Keeler, Cath MacLeod, Martin Regan, Rita Harkins, Lorna MacDonald, Angela Deans, Kitty Mathews