



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

29 DECEMBER 2019:
SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY
(Year A (II); Psalter: Week 1/as indicated)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6, 12-14
 Psalm: Ps 127 (128): 1-5
 2nd Reading: Colossians 3: 12-21
 Gospel: Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 29 December	THE HOLY FAMILY (p. 97) Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 31 December	Commemoration of Pope St. Sylvester I Mass Intention: Fr. Calum MacNeill, RIP (Anniversary today)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 1 January 2020	MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (p. 109) Mass Intention: Private Intention	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	10.00 am 10.30 am
Thursday 2 January	St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory of Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church Mass Intention: Angus Kennedy, RIP (Anniversary: 28 December)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 3 January	The Most Holy Name of Jesus Mass Intention: Brian Mitchell, RIP (Anniversary: 30 December)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am 12 noon
Saturday 4 January	Of the Day Mass Intention: Katie MacKinnon, RIP (Anniversary: 5 January)	Sacrament of Reconciliation ** Rosary ** Mass	10.15 am 10.40 am 11.00 am
Sunday 5 January	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (p. 123) Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Solemnity of the Holy Family: “Saving Family”

Underlying the wisdom offered in today's Liturgy is the mystery of the family in God's divine plan.

The Lord has set father in honour over his children and mother in authority over her sons, we hear in today's First Reading. As we sing in today's Psalm, the blessings of the family flow from Zion, the heavenly mother of the royal people of God (see Isaiah 66:7, 10–13; Galatians 4:26).

And in the drama of today's Gospel, we see the nucleus of the new people of God—the Holy Family—facing persecution from those who would seek to destroy the child and His Kingdom. Moses, called to save God's first born son, the people of Israel (see Exodus 4:22; Sirach 36:11), was also threatened at birth by a mad and jealous tyrant (see Exodus 1:15–16). And as Moses was saved by his mother and sister (see Exodus 2:1–10; 4:19), in God's plan Jesus too is rescued by His family.

As once God took the family of Jacob down to Egypt to make them the great nation Israel (see Genesis 46:2–4), God leads the Holy Family to Egypt to prepare the coming of the new Israel of God—the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

At the beginning of the world, God established the family in the “marriage” of Adam and Eve, the two becoming one body (see Genesis 2:22–24). Now in the new creation, Christ is made “one body” with His bride, the Church, as today’s Second Reading indicates (see Ephesians 5:21–32).

By this union we are made God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved. And our families are to radiate the perfect love that binds us to Christ in the Church.

As we approach the altar on this feast, let us renew our commitment to our God-given duties as spouses, children and parents. Mindful of the promises of today’s First Reading, let us offer our quiet performance of these duties for the atonement of our sins. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today’s Liturgy (CTS Sunday Missal) – Solemnity of the Holy Family, Year A (p. 97):

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 97: Readings and Proper Prayers

p. 541: Creed

p. 551: Preface I of the Nativity of the Lord

p. 611: Eucharistic Prayer I

p. 631: Communion Rite

Mass Times During the New Year Period

Tues 31 Dec at 7.30pm: Pope St. Silvester

Wed 1 Jan at 10.30am: Mary, Mother of God (p. 109)

Admirabile Signum: Pope Francis’ new Apostolic Letter on the meaning and importance of the Nativity Scene, **can be purchased in the entrance foyer for £3.50.** In this letter, Pope Francis transforms what is often an overlooked part of the season into the very focal point of our devotion at Christmas.

CONFIRMATIONS 2020: We have now completed the first block of classes for Confirmation 2020. The dates for the next block are as follows: **9, 16 and 23 January.** As before, these are on Thursdays, and we will meet at 6.30pm for 30 minutes. If you have any difficulty with the dates just let Ewen or Helen know.

Highland Foodbank: November to January – Your donations help to provide

emergency food and support to local people in crisis.

As part of their Winter Appeal, the Highland Foodbank would be grateful for donations of the following items: * **Cartons of Long Life Fruit Juice** * **Small Washing Powder/Gel** * **Tins of Corned Beef** * **Tins of Ham** * **Jam.** Please leave these items in the box at the front door of the church. Thank you!

CLEANING TEAM – To be arranged, by asking for help nearer the time! Would you like to help out too?!

90 CLUB: DRAW TODAY, after Mass! Good luck to all our ticket holders!

FUNDRAISER BINGO – The Bingo returns on **Friday 31 January 2020, at 7.00pm.** Your generosity with the items we give as prizes has made this fundraiser so successful and popular! Thank you for your continuing support!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Angus Johnson + Michael Good + Laura Johnstone + Father George Hutcheon + Norman Wood + John Macdonald + Alec Mackintosh + Katie Mary Fraser + Father Richard Reese + John Smith + Stuart MacLennan +

Anniversaries: + Patricia O’Riordan + Anne Laverty + Father Gerald Fitzgibbon + Father Calum MacNeill + Angus Kennedy + Brian Mitchell + Katie MacKinnon +