



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

29 MARCH 2020:
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
(Year A (II); Psalter: Week 1)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14
 Psalm: Ps 129 (130)
 2nd Reading: Romans 8:8-11
 Gospel: John 11:1-45

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 29 March	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (p. 176)	Private Sunday Mass – offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am
Monday 30 March	Monday of Week 5 of Lent Mass Intention: George MacLennan, RIP (Anniversary)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Tuesday 31 March	Tuesday of Week 5 in Lent Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Wednesday 1 April	Wednesday of Week 5 of Lent Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Thursday 2 April	Thursday of Week 5 in Lent Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Friday 3 April	Friday of Week 5 in Lent Mass Intention: Peter Chisholm (90 th Birthday today)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Saturday 4 April	Saturday of Week 5 in Lent Mass Intention: Mary McEwen, RIP (Anniversary tomorrow)	Private Mass; followed by Holy Hour	10.30 am
Sunday 5 April	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION (p. 232 – Year A)	Private Sunday Mass – offered for the parishioners of St. Columba's	9.30 am

Fifth Sunday of Lent: At Lazarus' Tomb

As we draw near to the end of Lent, today's Gospel clearly has Jesus' passion and death in view.

That's why John gives us the detail about Lazarus' sister, Mary—that she is the one who anointed the Lord for burial (see John 12:3, 7). His disciples warn against returning to Judea; Thomas even predicts they will “die with Him” if they go back. When Lazarus is raised, John notices the tombstone being taken away, as well as Lazarus' burial cloths and head covering—all details he later notices with Jesus' empty tomb (see John 20:1, 6, 7).

Like the blind man in last week's readings, Lazarus represents all humanity. He stands for “dead man”—for all those Jesus loves and wants to liberate from the bands of sin and death. John even recalls the blind man in his account today (see John 11:37). Like the man's birth in blindness, Lazarus' death is used by Jesus to reveal “the glory of God” (see John 9:3).

And again like last week, Jesus' words and deeds give sight to those who believe (see John 11:40).

If we believe, we will see—that Jesus loves each of us as He loved Lazarus, that He calls us out of death and into new life. By His Resurrection Jesus has fulfilled Ezekiel's promise in today's First Reading. He has opened the graves that we may rise, put His Spirit in us that we may live. This is the Spirit that Paul writes of in today's Second Reading. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will give life to we who were once dead in sin. Faith is the key. If we believe as Martha does in today's Gospel—that Jesus is the resurrection and the life—even if we die, we will live.

“I have promised and I will do it,” the Father assures us in the First Reading. We must trust in His word, as we sing in today's Psalm—that with Him is forgiveness and salvation. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Lenten Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A (p. 176) –

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 176: Readings and Proper Prayers
p. 541: Creed
p. 180: Preface: Lazarus
p. 611: Eucharistic Prayer III
p. 631: Communion Rite

Remember one another – Please try to support one another in these challenging times: a phone call to check up on elderly and vulnerable parishioners and friends; a friendly call to see if anyone needs shopping; supporting your local shops and businesses, which will be hit hard from a financial perspective. We are all in this together.

Remember your parish – thank you for the magnificent way in which you are supporting St. Columba's during this time of closure! As you will see, we received a wonderful donation of £500 from an extremely kind anonymous donor: God bless you! During the coming weeks and months, we will all be self-isolating at home, but as you know, your parish is still here, and needs to be maintained, kept open and administered at a time of much diminished regular giving. In addition to the church, we have the parish house, with all of the associated costs (electricity, gas, water rates, council tax, phone, internet, stationery and office supplies, household items, provisions, and so on). On top of this we have considerable financial obligations to the Diocese, in the form of monthly levies. Here are some different ways that the parish can be assisted during these 'strange days':

- **A regular Standing Order:** please contact Fr. Domenico for the bank account details.
- **Donations in an envelope, put through the church letterbox.** During this period, and for the foreseeable future, any offerings, donations or benefactions to the parish will be paid in to our No. 1 (Running) Account.
- **A re-evaluation of your level of giving.** We are currently £1,000 in debit every month. If every parishioner at Mass gave **an extra £5** (two coffees at Costa or Starbucks..), it would make an enormous difference to the future of the parish!!
- **A Bequest** is an increasingly popular way of remembering your parish. All bequests should be made to St. Columba's Culloden Building Fund Account. All benefactors are remembered at our Masses.

Thank you for your consideration and continuing generosity and support – it is greatly appreciated.

"Happy 90th Birthday!" to Peter Chisholm, who celebrates this wonderful landmark on Friday 3 April. Holy Mass will be offered for him 'on the day'. Peter: we raise a dram to your good health!

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

I realise that this year, our Holy Week liturgies will be celebrated behind closed doors. However, just to give you an idea of what I will be doing – and so that you can join me in spiritual solidarity! – here is the intended programme:

5 April: Palm Sunday:
9.30am: Holy Mass

10.00am: Holy Hour, with Adoration, Rosary, and Angelus

6 April: Monday of Holy Week

10.30am: Holy Mass
11.00am: Holy Hour, with Adoration, Rosary, and Angelus

7 April: Tuesday of Holy Week

10.30am: Holy Mass
11.00am: Holy Hour, with Adoration, Rosary, and Angelus

8 April: Wednesday of Holy Week

10.30am: Holy Mass
11.00am: Holy Hour, with Adoration, Rosary, and Angelus
7.00pm: Film: 'The Passion of the Christ' (DVD at home!)

9 April: Holy Thursday

11.00am: Holy Hour, with Adoration, Rosary, and Angelus
7.30pm: Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Watching at the Altar, & Night Prayer

10 April: Good Friday

3.00pm: Liturgy of the Passion
7.00pm: Stations of the Cross

11 April: Holy Saturday

8.30pm: Easter Vigil

12 April: Easter Sunday

9.30am: Holy Mass

Holy Week with Pope Francis: you can follow the Holy Father's liturgies, courtesy of Vatican TV. Here is his programme for Holy Week and beyond – click here: <http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/month.dir.html/2020/4.html>

Mass intentions – if you would like a private Mass celebrated for any sick family and friends, or any deceased loved ones, simply e-mail Fr. Domenico.

FREE Online Study Programme from Scott Hahn – The St. Paul Center is offering, for a limited time, completely free access to its online study programme entitled 'The Eucharist in Scripture'. It is only one of a number of resources on its new page, 'The Quarantined Catholic Hub' (<https://stpaulcenter.com/hub/>).

Reflect with Bishop Robert Barron on the Stations of the Cross – a beautiful video reflection is now available FREE here: <https://stations.wordonfire.org/stations-of-the-cross> - together with pdf text and mp3 audio versions.

90 Club – March Winners: First Prize: Helen Macdonald; Second Prize: Katy Mary Fraser; Third Prize: Amanda MacNeil. Congratulations to all our winners! Next Draw on Sunday 26th April.

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 + Rena Herbison +

Anniversaries: + George MacLennan + Derek Reid + Eleanor Bongor + Steven Gallagher + Margaret Miller +