



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

31 OCTOBER 2021:
THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year B (I); Psalter: Week 3)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6: 2-6
 Resp. Psalm: Ps. 17 (18): 2-4, 47, 51
 2nd Reading: Hebrews 7: 23-28
 Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 31 October	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 941 – Year B)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass Holy Mass	9.30 am 11.00 am
Monday 1 November	SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS ~ HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION ~ 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF ST. COLUMBA'S	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Tuesday 2 November	Commemoration of the Faith Departed (All Souls Day) Mass Intention: John Drew, RIP (Anniversary Recently)	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 3 November	St. Martin de Porres, Religious	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Thursday 4 November	Funeral Service of Nigel Robson, RIP Memorial of St. Charles Borromeo	Live-Streamed Funeral Service Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	1.00 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 5 November	Friday of Week 31 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Lily O'Kane (health and intentions)	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Saturday 6 November	Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 7 November	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 945 – Year B)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass Holy Mass	9.30 am 11.00 am

Thirty-First Sunday of the Year: The Greatest Commandment

This Sunday's Gospel (Mk 12:28-34) offers us Jesus' teaching on the greatest commandment, the commandment of love, which is two-fold: love of God and love of neighbour. The Saints, who we have recently celebrated together in a single solemn Feast are precisely those who, trusting in God's grace, tried to live according to this fundamental law. In fact, those who live a profound relationship with God, just as a child becomes capable of loving, starting from a good relationship with his mother and father, may put the commandment of love fully into practice. St John of Avila.. writes at the beginning of his Treatise on the Love of God: "the cause", he says, "that mostly pushes our hearts to love of God is considering deeply the love that He had for us.... This, beyond any benefit, pushes the heart to love; because he who gives something of benefit to another, gives him something he possesses; but he who loves, gives himself with everything he has, until he has nothing left to give".

Before being a command — love is not a command — it is a gift, a reality that God allows us to know and experience, so that, like a seed, it can also germinate within us and develop throughout our life. If the love of God has planted deep roots in a person, then he is able to love even those who do not deserve it, as God does us. Fathers and mothers do not love their children only when they deserve love; they always love them, though of course, they make them understand when they are wrong. We learn from God to seek only what is good and never what is evil. We learn to look at each other not only with our eyes, but with the eyes of God, which is the gaze of Jesus Christ.

A gaze that begins in the heart and does not stop at the surface, that goes beyond appearances and manages to capture the deepest aspirations of the other: waiting to be heard, for caring attention, in a word: love. But the opposite is also true: that by opening myself to another, just as he or she is, by reaching out, by making myself available, I am also opening myself to know God, to feel that he is there and is good. Love of God and love of neighbour are inseparable and are mutually related. Jesus did not invent one or the other but revealed that they are essentially a single commandment and did so not only through the Word, but especially with his testimony: the person of Jesus and his whole Mystery embody the unity of love of God and neighbour, like the two arms of the Cross, vertical and horizontal. (Benedict XVI, Angelus, 4 November 2012)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time (p. 941)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 941: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 541: The Creed

p. 569: Preface IV: The History of Salvation
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

November – Month of the Holy Souls: November is the month when we remember our dearly departed. If you would like to have any deceased relatives or friends remembered at Mass during November, please place their names in the brown envelopes in the foyer, and hand these in to the Sacristy. All names will be placed in front of the altar, and a selection will be read out at every Mass.

Remembrance Sunday, 14 November 2021: there will be a short live-streamed Remembrance Service outside the front of the church, at our War Memorial, **at 10.45 am on Sunday 14 November**. This is to allow those who have attended the 9.30am to attend, as well as those arriving for the 11.00am Mass. You are all very welcome to attend.

Advent Study Course: Fr. Domenico is planning a scripture course on 'The Christmas Story', which will probably be streamed via Zoom, on Wednesday evenings during December. If you are interested in this, would you be so kind as to let me know, in order that I can assess whether this is something that people would like.

Christmas Carol Service: Fr. Domenico is not planning a repeat of the Zoom Carol Service, as we had last year. At present, we are still required to wear face-coverings, and it is not much fun to sing with a mask on! We may well forego the Carol Service this year. What do you think?

The Future of our Sunday Liturgies: it is extremely likely that the Sunday Obligation to attend Mass will be resumed at the beginning of the new liturgical year, on the First Sunday of Advent (28 November). This is to be confirmed. At present, we offer two Sunday Masses: at 9.30am and at 11.00am. The first Mass is by far and away the more popular of the two, with double the amount of attendees. Is it time to revert back to only one Mass on Sunday, or would people like the second Mass to continue? Please let me know! Similarly, how popular are our live-streamed Masses? We have a small attendance during the week, and again on Sunday: most people seem to indulge in a 'catch-up', later on in the day. Remember that a live-streamed Mass, for all its usefulness, will never take the place of actual, physical attendance. We are a community of faith, and we best express this when we come together as brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ, to pray with and for one another, and to receive Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist, which should be the Source and Summit of not just our week, but of our entire spiritual life as Catholics. Again, please let me know what you think.

Welcome In is a new group, set up by members from the local the Justice and Peace group and other community members, motivated to respond to the global refugee crisis. The aim of the group is to help resettle a refugee family here in the Inverness area. We are fundraising, planning, and looking for a suitable home to resettle a family through the Home Office's Community Sponsorship scheme. Contact welcomereinhighland@gmail.com for more information.

St. Columba's Culloden: Pilgrimages in 2022! – Fr. Domenico will be leading two pilgrimages next year: one to the **Holy Land**, on behalf of All Saints Travel, **16-23 May 2022**; the other to Germany and Austria, to see the great Passion Play in the small alpine village of **Oberammergau**. This trip is courtesy of McCabe Pilgrimages, and is **18-25 July 2022**. For further details, see the respective pages on our parish website, or contact Fr. Domenico for more information.

Altar Servers: any child who has received First Holy Communion is encouraged to consider helping the Parish Liturgy by serving at Mass. It doesn't matter if you are a new Server, or if you are one of our 'old hands'; if you would like to assist during our Sunday Masses, just let us know. Full training will be given! Please speak to Fr. Domenico to register your interest.

90 Club: DRAW TODAY: good luck to all of you who have a number! The next draw will be on Sunday 28th November. You can join in any time; please ask Father Domenico for details.

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

RIP: Nigel Robson, Luisa Bruno

Anniversaries: Archie Lumsden, Renzo Serafini, Tom O'Connor, John Horne, Willie & Annie Hay