

# St. Columba's, Culloden

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# ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

# 3 JANUARY 2021: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Year B (I); Psalter: as indicated)

### **Mass Readings**

1st Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

Psalm: Ps 71 (72): 1-2, 7-8, 10-13 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 3 January	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	LIVE-STREAMED MASS	9.30 am
	(p. 123 – Year B)	MASS	11.00 am
	Retiring Collection: Justice and Peace		
Monday 4 January	Weekday of Christmas Time	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am
	Mass Intention: Private Intention	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 5 January	Weekday of Christmas Time	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am
	Mass Intention: Katie MacKinnon (Anniversary Today)	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Wednesday 6 January	Weekday of Christmas Time	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am
	Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Thursday 7 January	Optional Memorial of St. Raymond of Peñafort	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am
	Mass Intention: Canon Duncan Stone, RIP (First Mass at Culloden since 1746)	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Friday 8 January	Optional Memorial of St. Nathalan	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am
	Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Saturday 9 January	Weekday of Christmas Time	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	9.00 am
	Mass Intention: Ewen Macdonald	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
	(Anniversary Today)		
Sunday 10 January	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	LIVE-STREAMED MASS	9.30 am
	(p. 133 – Year B)	MASS	11.00 am
	Retiring Collection: Building Fund		

#### The Epiphany of the Lord: Newborn King

Today the child born on Christmas is revealed to be the long-awaited king of the Jews.

As the priests and scribes interpret the prophecies in today's Gospel, He is the ruler expected from the line of King David, whose greatness is to reach to the ends of the earth (see Micah 5:1–3; 2 Samuel 5:2).

Jesus is found with His mother, as David's son, Solomon, was enthroned alongside his Queen Mother (see 1 Kings 2:19). And the magi come to pay Him tribute, as once kings and queens came to Solomon (see 1 Kings 10:2,25). His coming evokes promises that extend back to Israel's beginnings.

Centuries before, an evil king seeking to destroy Moses and the Israelites had summoned Balaam, who came from the East with two servants. But Balaam refused to curse Israel, and instead prophesied that a star and royal staff would arise out of Israel and be exalted above all the nations (see Numbers 22:21; 23:7; 24:7, 17).

This is the star the three magi follow. And like Balaam, they too refuse to be tangled in an evil king's scheme. Their pilgrimage is a sign—that the prophesies in today's First Reading and Psalm are being fulfilled. They come from afar, guided by God's light, bearing the wealth of nations, to praise Israel's God.

We celebrate today our own entrance into the family of God, and the fulfilment of God's plan that all nations be united with Israel as co-heirs to His Fatherly blessings, as Paul reveals in today's Epistle.

We too must be guided by the root of David, the bright morning star (see Revelation 22:16), and the light of the world (see Isaiah 42:6; John 8:12).

As the magi adored Him in the manger, let us renew our vow to serve Him, placing our gifts—our intentions and talents—on the altar in this Eucharist. We must offer to Him our very lives in thanksgiving. No lesser gift will suffice for this newborn King. (Scott Hahn)

#### **PARISH NEWS**

# Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): The Epiphany of the Lord, Yr. B (p. 123)

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 123: Readings & Proper Prayers

p. 541: The Creed

p. 555: Preface of the Epiphany

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 livestreamed) and at 11.00am.

Sunday Mass Seating: 20 maximum – anyone wishing to attend Sunday Masses from now should contact 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.

Thank you! – Fr. Domenico would like to thank parishioners for their kind Christmas cards and gifts; they are greatly appreciated! He would also like to express his sincere gratitude for the various ways in which you have faithfully supported him during the last challenging year, and have assisted the parish. God bless you for your generosity of spirit to St. Columba's!

**Happy Anniversary!** – On 7 January 1978, thethen Father Duncan Stone celebrated the Mass at Culloden since 1746. The Mass was celebrated in Duncan Forbes Primary School, and was attended by 9 members of our community.

**Today's Second Collection** is for Justice and Peace Scotland. The National Commission for Justice and Peace advises the Scottish Bishops' Conference of the Catholic Church in matters relating to social justice, international peace and human rights, and promotes action in these areas. For further information, see the J&P website: www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

Children's Liturgy: The Epiphany – once again, Ewen has taken a lot of time and effort to produce a terrific resource for our younger parishioners! Please do help yourselves to a liturgy pack in the entrance foyer for your children or grandchildren: it contains information on the magi themselves, on the symbolism of the gifts that they bring to the infant Jesus, and has suggestions for spiritual gifts and resolutions. There is also a word puzzle, and various images to colour in, including a beautiful framed image that the children can hang on their bedroom wall. Very many thanks, Ewen!!

Why not make a New Year's Resolution with your husband or wife?! – Marta and Michal Wachucik, two dedicated parishioners in the Diocese of Aberdeen, are running their very successful Marriage Course again, this time online! This course is for ALL couples, not just for intending newly-weds! You can participate from the comfort and privacy of your own home. There is NO group discussion, and it is convened via Zoom. This unique and practical course begins on Monday 4 January, at 7.30pm, and runs for 7 weeks. For further information, please see the following link: <a href="https://youtu.be/xjshKTKqkTo">https://youtu.be/xjshKTKqkTo</a>

RESETTLEMENT **SYRIAN** REFUGEE **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 get involved with this project, please contact Jill Kent at: welcomeinhighland@gmail.com

90 Club: December Winners! – First Prize: Ian MacDonald; Second Prize: Mary Munro; Third Prize: Catriona Robertson. Next Draw: Sunday 31 January 2021. You too could be a winner! It's only £2 a month! Please speak to Fr. Domenico for further information.

#### 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, June Lee, Marian Ellis, Morag Lloyd

RIP: + Ishbel McGillivray MacGregor +

Anniversaries: + Allan Jamieson + Father Ronnie Walls + Christopher Kelman + Donald Barry + Mary McGlade + Katie MacKinnon + Ewen Macdonald +