



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW

Tel: (01463) 794619 / (01463) 233519

E-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com

Website: www.stcolumbasculloden.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden

Parish Priest: Fr Domenico Zanrè



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**4 FEBRUARY 2018:
FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 146 (147): 1-6

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 4 February	FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 6 February	St Paul Miki and Companions Mass Intention: Kenneth MacIntyre, RIP	Sacrament of Reconciliation Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 7 February	Wednesday of Week 5 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Morag MacIntyre (Health)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 8 February	Thursday of Week 5 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Angus Sinclair (Health)	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 11 February	SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Reconciliation Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am

Fifth Sunday of the Year: Raised to Serve

In today's First Reading, Job describes the futility of life before Christ.

His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin (see Genesis 3:17-19). Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes.

But, as we sing in today's Psalm, He who created the stars promised to heal the broken-hearted and gather those lost in exile from Him (see Isaiah 11:12; 61:1). We see this promise fulfilled in today's Gospel.

Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself.

But as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand (see Isaiah 42:6), Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. The word used to translate "help" is actually a Greek word for raising up. The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise (see Mark 5:41-

42). It's used again to describe His own resurrection (see Mark 14:28; 16:7).

What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity—raised all of us who lay dead through our sins (see Ephesians 2:5).

Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel. The whole town gathers; all the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the whole of Galilee. Everyone is looking for Christ.

We too have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence (see Hosea 6:1-2).

Like Simon's mother-in-law, there is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us. We must rise to serve Him and His gospel.

Our lives must be our thanksgiving, as Paul describes in today's Second Reading. We must tell everyone the good news, the purpose for which Jesus has come—that others, too, may have a share in this salvation. (Scott Hahn)

GENERAL NEWS

“Let it be Done unto Me According to your Word: How Mary Helps us to be Filled with God” – a Marian course for Lent, taking place in the Marian Room, at 32 Huntly Street, **on Tuesday evenings at 7.00pm. First meeting: Tuesday 20 February.** 40 places available; £1 per person to cover the cost of the course-book. Please register your interest beforehand, or come on the night. For enquiries and further information, please contact PJ in the St Mary’s Office, on 01463 233519.

Fundraiser Indian Buffet Night, with Raffle and Silent Auction – at George’s Restaurant, Queensgate, Inverness, on Wednesday 28 February, at 7.00pm. In aid of the forthcoming youth pilgrimage to Lourdes. Tickets: £20/Adult; £10/child. For further information, or to reserve a ticket, please contact Iona on 07851 420948.

Lent Station Masses 2018 – Fridays at 7.00pm:

16 February: St Mary’s, Inverness
23 February: St Mary’s, Nairn
2 March: St Aidan’s, Aviemore *
9 March: St Lawrence’s, Dingwall
16 March: Christ the King, Brora *
23 March: St Duthac’s, Dornie (coach available)

* Principal Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert, OSB.

Chrism Mass 2018: Thursday 22 March, at St Peter’s, Buckie. Mass begins at 6.00pm. All welcome.

PARISH NEWS

‘From the Dark Wood to the Beatific Vision: Journeying Through Lent with Dante’. This Lent, at St Columba’s, we’ll journey down through the ever-narrowing circles of Hell, up the seven-terraced Mount Purgatory, and finally ascend to Paradise! Our guide will be the fourteenth-century Florentine poet, Dante Alighieri, and we’ll look together at his literary masterpiece, *The Divine Comedy*, using it as a means to examine the nature of sin, the healing love and mercy of God, and the redemption of humanity. **The weekly meetings will run throughout Lent, and begin on Wednesday 21 February at 7.00pm.** Please spread the word – all welcome!

Last Year’s Palms: as you know, the penitential season of Lent is fast approaching; Ash Wednesday is early this year, on 14 February. If you have any palms from last year, please do

hand them in to St Columba’s ASAP, and we will burn them to make this year’s ash. Thank you.

First Holy Communion: our class is growing, and our Introductory Meeting for the children and their families will take place in the Meeting Room **on Thursday 8 February at 5.30pm.**

Inverness Food Bank: Thank you to everyone who has provided tins, boxes and packets of food. We have received a terrific response! Thank you for your support.

St Columba’s Mothers and Toddlers Group: Mondays at 9.30am-11.30am, in the Meeting Room. We are always looking to attract new babies and toddlers, plus parents and grandparents. Why not come along and join in the fun?! See the poster on the notice-board for details.

Cleaning Team: Tuesday 6th February, 4.30pm: Shona and GiGi. Can you help? We are always looking for volunteers – only one hour a month! See Don for details.

“90 Club”: January Winners! – First Prize: No.30 – Jean Hay; Second Prize: No.75 – Mary MacNeill; Third Prize: No.57 – Anne Johnstone. Congratulations to our winners! You could be a winner too; there are still a few remaining numbers – only £2 monthly. If you want to find out more, please ask Don. **Next draw: 25 February.**

Next Prize Bingo: Friday 23 February – ‘eyes down’ at 7.00pm. All welcome! – Last week, our Bingo raised £350. Thank you to everyone who assists in any way to make this Fundraiser such an enjoyable and successful evening. We are looking for extra volunteers to assist us with this successful event – can you help us? Items to give as prizes are always needed (we are particularly short of chocolates, and of wines and spirits; we’d also appreciate scented candles, toiletries, gift vouchers, tins of sweets/biscuits..). Thank you for your support of this important fund-raiser.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O’Connell + Rose Corbett + Amelia & John Drew + Murray Mackay + Peter Simpson + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean +

Anniversaries: Jean Esselmont + Christopher Smith + Hugh McGoogan + Eunice MacLennan