



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

4 NOVEMBER 2018:

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 6: 2-6

Psalm: Ps 17 (18): 2-4, 47, 51

2nd Reading: Hebrews 7: 23-28

Gospel: Mark 12: 28-34

Date	Details	Service	Time
Sunday 4 November	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Building Fund	Sacrament of Confession Mass	9.00 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 6 November	Tuesday of Week 31 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Confession Evening Prayer Mass	6.30 pm 7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 7 November	Wednesday of Week 31 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Confession Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	10.30 am 11.00 am 11.30 am
Thursday 8 November	Memorial of Blessed John Duns Scotus	Sacrament of Confession Mass	7.00 pm 7.30 pm
Sunday 11 November	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Second Collection: Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	Sacrament of Confession Mass	9.00 am 9.30 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. In the Eucharist he gives us this two-fold love, giving himself, because, nourished by this Bread, we love one another as he has loved us.

Dear friends, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, we pray that every Christian may know how to show his/her faith in the one true God with a clear witness to love of neighbour. (Benedict XVI, Angelus, 4 November 2012)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

To love God and neighbour is not something abstract, but profoundly concrete: it means seeing in every person and face of the Lord to be served, to serve him concretely. And you are, dear brothers and sisters, in the face of Christ.

GENERAL NEWS

Ogilvie Centre Formation Events

Two retreats take place in November:

Retreat for Busy Women 9 – 11 November

(6pm Friday to 2pm Sunday).

Men's Retreat – 23 – 25 November

Both retreats hosted at Kilcoy Castle, Muir of Ord.

For further information or reservations, please contact Sr. Anna Christi at Ogilvie@rcda.scot.

Gabriel Society: Tuesday 27 November at 7.00pm in the Marian Room, 32 Huntly Street – Kit Fraser, a local writer and businessman, will be speaking on the subject of 'Secret Spirit: Depression and Prayer'. All welcome.

PARISH NEWS

John Drew, R.I.P. – the arrangements are as follows: **Thursday 8 November at 6.00pm: Reception into St. Columba's; Friday 9 November at 10.30am: Funeral Mass**, followed by a short committal service at Kilvean Crematorium.

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. All offerings received will be donated to our Building Fund.

FAITH IN FILM EVENING: 'PARKLAND' – Wednesday 21 November at 7.00pm. On the eve of the 55th anniversary of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, we will screen 'Parkland', a film that weaves together the perspectives of a handful of ordinary individuals, suddenly thrust into extraordinary circumstances. The young doctors and nurses at Parkland Hospital, the Dallas Chief of the Secret Service; the unwitting cameraman who captured what became the most watched and examined film in history; the FBI agents who nearly had the gunman within their grasp; the brother of Lee Harvey Oswald, left to deal with his shattered family; and JFK's security team, witnesses to both the President's death and Vice-President Lyndon Johnson's rise to power over a nation whose innocence was forever altered. Certificate: 15; duration 95 minutes.

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT – a date for your diaries! The St. Columba's Christmas Carol Concert will take place on **Wednesday 5 December, from 7.00pm-8.00pm**. This year, we are hosting the children and staff of St. Joseph's RC Primary School, who will be entertaining us with seasonal and sacred music. They will be joined by community Christmas carol singing (that means you!), together with seasonal Scripture readings. We will have special guests joining us, and there is a rumour that the "Three (Highland) Priests" may also be making an appearance! All this, with festive food and drink provided (non-alcoholic mulled wine, mince pies, and other goodies). Donations at the door, please: £5 for adults; kids go free! All proceeds go towards our Building Fund. Why not invite some friends and come along? Spread a little festive cheer!

BABY AND TODDLERS' GROUP – The group meets at St. Columba's every Monday, from 9.30am to 11.30am. Why not come along and join in the fun?!

Cleaning Team: Monday 5th November at 12 noon: Margaret and Don. Can you help us? Helping just one hour a month would lighten the load of others who do assist to keep the church nice and clean. See Don or Fr. Domenico for details.

"90 Club": OCTOBER WINNERS – No. 67: Marie Anderson; No. 57: Anne Johnstone; No. 25: John Drew. Congratulations to our winners! Would you like to have the chance to be a winner too? Only £2 a month! Please speak to Don.

PRIZE BINGO: FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER – 'EYES DOWN' AT 7.00PM! – We are short of non-perishable items for prizes (toiletries, gift sets, store vouchers, wine, spirits, chocolates, boxes of biscuits, etc.). Can you help us? A sincere 'thank you' for all of the items that have been handed in; these are very important to us, and are much appreciated. Your support is instrumental in making the Bingo such a success for the parish!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Sick: + Anna Black + Audrey O'Connell + Morag MacIntyre + Angus Johnson + Johnny Gallagher + Denise Maclean + Ellen Williams + Eva Zandre + Vinnie Walton +

R.I.P: + John Drew +

Anniversaries: + Renzo Serafini + Tom O'Connor + John Horne +