



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**6 DECEMBER 2020:**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**(Year B (I); Psalter: Week 2)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 84 (85): 9-14  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Peter 3: 8-14  
Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

Date	Details	Service	Time
<b>Sunday 6 December</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> (p. 48 – Year B) <b>Retiring Collection: Building Fund</b>	<b>LIVE-STREAMED PUBLIC MASS</b> <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>	<b>9.30 am</b> <b>11.00 am</b>
Monday 7 December	St. Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor Mass Intention: Private Intention	<b>Live-Streamed Public Mass</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
<b>Tuesday 8 December</b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF</b> <b>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</b> <b>Mass Intention: Donor's Intention</b>	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Wednesday 9 December	Wednesday of Week 2 of Advent Mass Intention: Lily Finlay, RIP (Recently Departed; Funeral Service Today)	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Thursday 10 December	Our Lady of Loreto Mass Intention: Donald John Kennedy, RIP (Anniversary Today)	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Friday 11 December	St. Damasus I, Pope Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
Saturday 12 December	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass Intention: Donor's Intention	Live-Streamed Public Mass	9.30 am
<b>Sunday 13 December</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> <b>'GAUDETE SUNDAY'</b> (p. 53 – Year B) <b>Retiring Collection: Mary's Meals</b>	<b>LIVE-STREAMED PUBLIC MASS</b> <b>PUBLIC MASS</b>	<b>9.30 am</b> <b>11.00 am</b>

## Second Sunday of Advent: Straighten the Path

Our God is coming. The time of exile—the long separation of humankind from God due to sin—is about to end. This is the good news proclaimed in today's liturgy. Isaiah in today's First Reading promises Israel's future release and return from captivity and exile. But as today's Gospel shows, Israel's historic deliverance was meant to herald an even greater saving act by God—the coming of Jesus to set Israel and all nations free from bondage to sin, to gather them up and carry them back to God.

God sent an angel before Israel to lead them in their exodus towards the promised land (see Exodus 23:20). And He promised to send a messenger of the covenant, Elijah, to purify the people and turn their hearts to the Father before the day of the Lord (see Malachi 3:1, 23–24). John the Baptist quotes these, as well as Isaiah's prophecy, to show that all of Israel's history looks forward to the revelation of Jesus. In Jesus, God has filled in the valley that divided

sinful humanity from Himself. He has reached down from heaven and made His glory to dwell on earth, as we sing in today's Psalm. He has done all this not for humanity in the abstract but for each of us. The long history of salvation has led us to this Eucharist, in which our God again comes and our salvation is near. And each of us must hear in today's readings a personal call. Here is your God, Isaiah says. He has been patient with you, Peter says in today's Second Reading.

Like Jerusalem's inhabitants in the Gospel, we have to go out to Him, repenting our sins, all the laziness and self-indulgence that make our lives a spiritual wasteland. We have to straighten out our lives so that everything we do leads us to Him. Today, let us hear the beginning of the Gospel and again commit ourselves to lives of holiness and devotion. (Scott Hahn)

## PARISH NEWS

### Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Second Sunday of Advent, Yr. B (p. 48)

p. 521: Introductory Rites  
p. 48: Readings & Proper Prayers  
p. 543: Apostles' Creed  
p. 549: Preface I of Advent: The Two Comings of Christ  
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 live-streamed) and at 11.00am. To book a seat(s) for Mass next Sunday, here are the links:

#### 13 December 9.30am:

<https://mass-at-st-columbas-culloden-13-12-2020-0930am.eventbrite.co.uk>

#### 13 December 11.00am:

<https://mass-at-st-columbas-culloden-13-12-2020-1100am.eventbrite.co.uk>

**Please note that seats for both Masses will be available to book online from Sunday 06 December at 12 noon.** If you have a problem or query, please contact Fr. Domenico; he will happily book a seat for you!

### CHRISTMAS MASSES 2020:

VIGIL MASS: Thursday 24 December at 7.30pm:  
\* THIS MASS IS NOW **FULLY BOOKED** \*

CHRISTMAS DAY Masses (Friday 25 December):  
**10.30am and 12 noon: Some seats still available \*\***

You **MUST** book in advance.

Please e-mail or phone Fr. Domenico to reserve a seat.

**LILY FINLAY, RIP:** The reception of Lily Finlay will take place at St. Columba's on Tuesday 8 December at 4.00pm; her Funeral Service – which will be attended by family members and invited friends only – is on Wednesday 9 December at 12.15pm. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lily, and for the consolation of her family. Thank you.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY RESOURCES:** Ewen has provided more wonderful resources for our children during this Advent Season: there is information of St. Nicholas, including a fun word-search, and a beautiful wheel of the 12 Days of Christmas, which the children can colour in, and use. Many thanks, Ewen! Please feel free to take one of these packs for your children or grandchildren.

**REFLECTION ON BETHLEHEM: SUNDAY 13 DECEMBER, 4.30pm-6.00pm** – As we journey through Advent each year, our thoughts turn to the place where Jesus was born. But how much do we actually know about Bethlehem today? A world apart from carols and Christmas cards is a living, breathing city in the West Bank whose people face unique challenges in a place like no other. This event, hosted

by Justice and Peace Scotland, gives us the opportunity to hear voices from the Christian community in Bethlehem sharing their experiences and hopes for their city. The event will take the form of a Zoom webinar. To obtain a ticket, please go to the following website:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/reflection-on-bethlehem-tickets-129274542637>

### MARY'S MEALS: 'BIG FAMILY CHRISTMAS!' –

This year, the cost of a typical Christmas dinner could be up to £20 per person. But by setting a place at Mary's Meals virtual table, **for just £15.90 you can help feed a child** at a place of education in some of the world's poorest communities **for an entire school year**. And it gets even better! **Give until 31 January 2021 and your donation will be doubled by the UK government**, up to £2 million – meaning that Mary's Meals can reach even more hungry children in Liberia with life-changing school meals. Thanks to 'Double The Love', your donation will now feed two children for a whole school year with Mary's Meals for the sum of just £15.90! **Next week's Retiring Collection will be for Mary's Meals.**

### VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT!

Given the current restrictions and the need to ensure proper control of potential virus transmission, there will be no Christmas Carol Concert at St. Columba's.. HOWEVER, we will have a VIRTUAL CONCERT, via Zoom!! This will take place on **Monday 21 December at 7.00pm**. Everyone is invited to join us for a virtual concert of Christmas Scripture Readings, Carols, Guest Appearances (!), and more! Feel free to enjoy mince pies and mulled wine, from the comfort of your own homes! **For details of the Zoom link, please get in touch with Fr. Domenico.**

**90 Club: NOVEMBER WINNERS!** First Prize: Rosie Good; Second Prize: Sandy Grant; Third Prize: Pat McFarlane. Congratulations to our winners! **Our last draw of 2020 will take place on Sunday 27 December.** We are still looking for some catch-up payments; please speak to Fr. Domenico. Similarly, contributions for 2021 can now be handed in (only £2 a month). Would you like to take part too? Please speak to Fr. Domenico!

## 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, Ricci Hudson-Storey, June Lee, Marian Ellis, James Mochan

**RIP:** Lily Finlay + Max Bankcroft + Calum Grant +

**Anniversaries:** + Donald John Kennedy + Cathy Douglas + Archie Thomson + Margaret Donnelly + Michael Giubarelli + Desmond Harrington +