



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,**  
**YEAR C**

## Sunday Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 6:1-2. 3-8  
Psalm: Ps 137:1-5. 7-8  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Date	Details	Service	Time
<b>Sunday 7 February</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of the Year (C)</b> <b>(Second Collection: Building Fund)</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel)</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>09.00</b> <b>09.30</b>
Tuesday 9 February	Tuesday in the Fifth Week of the Year	Mass	19.30
<b>Wednesday 10 February</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> <b>– A day of fasting and abstinence –</b>	<b>Mass</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <b>* Evening Mass *</b>	<b>11.00</b> <b>11.30</b> <b>19.30</b>
Thursday 11 February	Thursday After Ash Wednesday	<b>* Stations of the Cross *</b> Mass	<b>19.00</b> 19.30
Friday 12 February	Friday After Ash Wednesday  <b>Station Mass: St Mary's, Inverness</b>	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass	11.00 11.30 <b>19.00</b>
<b>Sunday 14 February</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent (C)</b> <b>(Second Collection: Building Fund)</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Lady Chapel)</b> <b>Mass</b>	<b>09.00</b> <b>09.30</b>

## Pope Francis' Message for Lent, 2016

Pope Francis is asking us to live this Lenten period as a favourable time for conversion during the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.

In his message for Lent entitled *"I desire mercy and not sacrifice. The works of mercy on the road of the Jubilee"*, the Pope reiterates the importance of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and condemns the attitude and actions of the proud, the powerful and the wealthy who refuse to open the doors of their hearts to God and to the poor.

By reflecting upon and putting into practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy – Pope Francis says - Christians will be able to reawaken their consciences which too often have grown dull in the face of poverty.

In his Message for a special Lenten period which takes place this year within the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, the Pope says that it is a season to be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience the transforming miracle of divine Mercy.

Pointing out that poor have a special place at the heart of the Gospel, he warns of the "blindness" and of the "illusion of omnipotence" which often afflicts the rich and powerful who close their hearts to the poor and

end up themselves – he says - being the poorest of the poor.

This illusion of omnipotence, the Pope continues – can "likewise take social and political forms as shown by the totalitarian systems of the twentieth century, and in our day by the ideologies of monopolizing thought and techno-science which would make God irrelevant and reduce man to raw material to be exploited".

The powerful message calls on believers to practice the works of mercy and to listen to God's Word.

"Let us not waste this season of Lent" – Pope Francis says – "so favourable a time for conversion!".



### A THOUGHT FOR LENT WITH POPE FRANCIS

"No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great."

## GENERAL NEWS

**St Mary's, Inverness: The Gabriel Society, 9 February 2016 at 7.30pm.** The topic for discussion is the following: **"What Do Catholics Think About Our Lady, Mary?"**. We will look at the place of Our Lady in Scripture, in the Tradition, in the Devotional Life of Christians, and the Church's definition and teaching about Mary. All are welcome.

### St Mary's Lenten Catechesis (Talk and Discussion)

- Tuesday 23 February: "*Lumen Gentium* for the Year of Mercy" – Mgr Basil Loftus.
- Thursday 3 March: "*Laudato Si'* of Pope Francis and the Year of Mercy" – Alistair Dutton, SCIAF
- Tuesday 8 March: "Oriental Religious Interface: Catholicism, Orthodoxy, and Islam" – Fr Zeljko Pasa
- Tuesday 15 March: "*The Imitation of Christ: The Royal Road for Holy Week*" – Fr James Bell

**All talks take place in the Marian Room, at 7.00pm.**

## PARISH NEWS

**ASH WEDNESDAY: 10 February 2016:** Please note that there will be TWO Masses on Ash Wednesday at St Columba's: **at 11.00am, and at 7.30pm.** Remember that Ash Wednesday is a **day of Fasting and Abstinence.** We fast by consuming only one main meal, and we abstain from eating meat.

**Stations of the Cross: each Thursday evening** during Lent – beginning Thursday 11 February – we will pray the **Stations of the Cross, from 7.00pm,** before the Evening Mass.

**Lenten Station Masses:** all Station Masses take place on **Fridays during Lent, beginning at 7.00pm:**

12 February	St Mary's, Inverness
19 February	St Mary's, Beaulieu
26 February	St Joseph's, Invergordon
4 March	Christ the King, Brora
11 March	St Martin's, Ullapool (with Bishop Hugh)
18 March	St Mary's, Nairn (with Bishop Hugh)

**FIRs (Friends in Retirement): next meeting is on 11 February 2016, at 2.00pm.** The Guest Speaker in Elsie Normington, from the Elsie Normington Foundation. All welcome.

**Saturday 13 February – Iona Group for Teenagers:** The next meeting of the Iona Group will take place at St Columba's on **Saturday afternoon, 13 February, from 5.00pm onwards.** Come along for a relaxing evening, with a good movie, some delicious food, and fine company! The film is entitled **"Heaven is for Real"**, and tells the true story of a small-town father who must find the courage and conviction to share his son Colton's extraordinary life-changing event with the world. Little Colton claims to have visited heaven during a near-death experience; he shares the details of his amazing journey with child-like innocence and speaks matter-of-factly about things that happened before his birth.. things he couldn't possibly know. (Cert. PG, 95 minutes).

**Parish Fundraising and Social Events:** would you like to see, or to be involved in, more social events at St Columba's? Come along to our **informal gathering in the Meeting Room on Tuesday 16 February, after the 7.30pm Mass,** and get involved in the life of your Parish!

**'Faith in Film' Evening:** February's film is entitled ***I Confess* (1953)**, starring Montgomery Clift, Anne Baxter, and Karl Malden. It will be screened on **Wednesday 17 February, from 7.00pm onwards.** Our film, designed to tie in with our forthcoming Day of Discussion and Reflection on the Sacrament of Confession, is directed by the legendary Alfred Hitchcock (himself a Catholic). The story is a classic suspense, focusing on a Priest who learns of a murder whilst hearing a penitent's Confession. Bound by the Sacramental Seal, the priest is unable to do or say anything, not even when suspicion begins to fall on him. Cert. PG (92 minutes).

**Saturday 20 February – St Vincent de Paul Society: Day of Reflection at St Columba's.** Fr Domenico will lead a Day of Reflection for members of the SVDP, which is open to ANYONE. The theme of the Day will be: **"Living the Message of Mercy: Putting our Faith into Practice".** The Day begins at 10.00am, and ends at 5.00pm. Bring a packed lunch to share with others. **ALL WELCOME!! SPREAD THE WORD!!**

**Saturday 27 February – "The Sacrament of Confession: Reconciling Ourselves with Our Merciful Father".** This will be a day of discussion and reflection on the Church's 'neglected sacrament', as part of our wider programme of parish initiatives for the Year of Mercy. We will look at its history and development, and discuss some of the reasons for its lack of popularity nowadays. There will also be a presentation on "Confession 'do's and 'don'ts", and a Q&A session. **The day will begin with Mass at 10.00am in St Columba's.** There will be a pot-luck lunch – please feel free to bring along something to share with others. The day will conclude around 3.00pm. If you would like to attend, could you inform Fr Domenico by e-mail, at [stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com](mailto:stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com).

**Church cleaning:** Wednesday 10 February, 1.00pm – Mary, Margaret, and Marie Cummings.

**"90 Club" Winners, January Draw:** 1<sup>st</sup> - Mary; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Chris; 3<sup>rd</sup> – Jessica. Next draw: Sunday 28 February. You could be a winner if you get one of the few numbers left – only £2.00 monthly; please ask Don.

**Prize Bingo:** our next Bingo will take place on **FRIDAY, 26 FEBRUARY.** Eyes down 7.00pm. A warm welcome awaits you all!

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** + Audrey O'Connell + Anna Black + Leslie Murray + Laura Johnston + Amelia Drew + Cathy Thomson + Ian Angus + Charlotte McPhee + Johnny Gallagher

**Anniversaries:** + JoJo Giubarelli + Jean Esselmont + Christopher Smith + Hugh McGoogan + Eunice MacLennan