

# St. Columba's, Culloden

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### ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

## 14 JANUARY 2024: SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B (II); Psalter: Week 2)

## **Mass Readings**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19 Resp. Psalm: 39 (40): 2, 4, 7-10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20

Gospel: John 1: 35-42

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 14 January	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 835) Special Collection: Mary's Meals	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am
Tuesday 16 January	Tuesday of Week 2 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: John MacPhee, RIP (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 18 January	Thursday of Week 2 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Mary MacIntyre, RIP (Anniversary on 17 January)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 20 January	Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass Intention: Katie MacKinnon, RIP (Anniversary on 5 January)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 21 January	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 838) SPUC White Flower Appeal	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am

### Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: Hearing the Call

In the call of Samuel and of the first Apostles, today's readings shed light on our own calling to be followers of Christ. Notice in the Gospel today that John's disciples are prepared to hear God's call. They are already looking for the Messiah, so they trust in John's word and follow when he points out the Lamb of God walking by.

Samuel is also waiting on the Lord—sleeping near the Ark of the Covenant where God's glory dwells, taking instruction from Eli, the high priest. Samuel listened to God's word and the Lord was with him. And Samuel, through his word, turned all Israel to the Lord (see 1 Samuel 3:21; 7:2–3). The disciples too heard and followed—words we hear repeatedly in today's Gospel. They stayed with the Lord and by their testimony brought others to the Lord.

These scenes from salvation history should give us strength to embrace God's will and to follow His call in our lives.

God is constantly calling to each of us—personally, by name (see Isaiah 43:1; John 10:3). He wants us to seek Him in love, to long for His word (see Wisdom 6:11–12). We must desire always, as the apostles did, to stay where the Lord stays, to constantly seek His face (see Psalm 42:2). For we are not our own, but belong to the Lord, as Paul says in today's Epistle. We must have ears open to obedience, and write His word within our hearts. We must trust in the Lord's promise—that if we come to Him in faith, He will abide with us (see John 15:14; 14:21–23), and raise us by His power. And we must reflect in our lives the love He has shown us, so that others too may find the Messiah.

As we renew our vows of discipleship in this Eucharist, let us approach the altar singing the new song of today's Psalm: "Behold I come . . . to do your will O God." (Scott Hahn)

### **Thought for the Day with Pope Francis**

Brothers and sisters, before the Lord's call, which can reach us in a thousand ways — through others, happy or sad events — our attitude at times might be rejection. No... "I am afraid"... Rejection because it seems to be in contrast to our aspirations; and even fear because we believe it is too demanding and uncomfortable: "Oh no, I will never be able to do it, better not to, a calmer life is better... God over there, me here". But God's call is always love: we have to try to discover the love behind each call, and it should be responded to only with love. (Angelus, 17 January 2021)

#### **PARISH NEWS**

## Today's Liturgy: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B (p. 835)

p. 521: Introductory Rites p. 567: Preface I of Sundays in Ordinary Time

p. 835: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 540: The Creed
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

**Today's Second Collection for Mary's Meals: 'Double the Love' Appeal** – from now until 22 January, any donations made to Mary's Meals will be doubled by a group of generous donors, up to £1 million. A donation of just £19.15 can feed a child every day for an entire school year. Because your gift will be matched by our benefactors, the same donation will feed a second child, too! Please note that there will be a Second Collection today (14 January) for Mary's Meals.

Catholic Marriage Counselling Service – The RC Diocese of Aberdeen now offers a Marriage Counselling Service for Catholic couples in need of Couples Counselling. The Service offers a supportive unbiased and non-judgemental space that enables couples to identify and resolve their interpersonal issues and disagreements, while building on the strengths of their relationship. The contact person for this service is Ms Rosaline Nain Chia, (MBACP, Accred). You can contact Rosaline by using the referral form on the Diocesan website (<a href="https://www.rcda.scot/?page\_id=34139">https://www.rcda.scot/?page\_id=34139</a>) or by emailing her directly at counsellor1@rcda.scot.

Genesis to Jesus – The Ogilvie Centre would like to invite you to discover the riches of sacred scripture through an online zoom course called Genesis to Jesus. Presented by other members from our Diocese and over the course of 7 weeks, in which by the end you will be able to locate your place in salvation history. This is part of a wider programme, starting in January 2024 that will see us bring more of the St Paul Center archive of material, which they kindly have given us to use for free, to our Diocese. We have sessions starting on Monday 15 January (Evening or Afternoon) and Tuesday 16 January (Evening only). Go to the Ogilvie Centre website (<a href="https://rcda.scot/ogilvie/?page\_id=18">https://rcda.scot/ogilvie/?page\_id=18</a>) for more details and to sign up.

Wednesday 24 January, 7pm, St. Mary's Inverness: Sunday Meal Service – a meeting will be held in the Marian Room at St. Mary's, Inverness to discuss plans for this deanery-led service to be provided long-term. If you wish to volunteer, it is very important to attend this meeting, as forms will be filled in on this occasion. If you are unable to attend but would like to be involved, please contact the parish office at St. Mary's, Inverness on 01463 233519 or stmarysinverness@btinternet.com

St. Mary's Inverness Burns Supper – a Burn's Night Celebration will take place at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25 January 2024, at St Mary's Church Hall, Inverness, including the traditional haggis, neeps and tatties and a ceilidh. This is also the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, so the evening will begin with a service of prayer beforehand at 6.30pm, welcoming our non-Catholic Christian brothers and sisters. Booking is essential due to the limit on numbers. A suggested donation of £10 is requested, but not required, as we want everyone to be involved, regardless of personal financial circumstances. To book a ticket, please contact the parish office at St. Mary's, Inverness on 01463 233519 or stmarysinverness@btinternet.com

**90** Club – Our First Draw of 2024 takes place on Sunday 28 January. There are still some people with numbers who have yet to pay their dues; Amanda/Don will be at the front door to assist you with this! If anyone else would like to try their luck: only £2 monthly, and you could win one of 3 prizes. Please speak to Amanda MacNeil.

**Prize Bingo in 2024!** – **This important Fundraiser Bingo returns on Friday 26 January.** Doors open: 6.30pm; eyes down: 7.00pm. Items to give as prizes are always needed, and gratefully received; thank you for your support. There is a box in the entrance foyer, under the Piety Stall, in which you can place your donations. NB. We are still looking for someone to take over the Bingo - can you help us? If so, speak to Don, or to Fr. Domenico.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Kathleen Macpherson, Marian Ellis, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Rose Corbett, Winnie Ferrari, Esther Smith, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Katie MacCormick, Brian Hamilton, Dorothy Macdonald, Cathy Grant

R.I.P: Gerry Allen, Ali McDonald, Eileen Anne Millar, John MacPhee, Jean MacCormick, Agnes MacIntyre, Bill Bewley

**Anniversaries:** Moira Cook, Mary Eleanor McKeever, Cyril Ainsley, William Loftus, Margaret Coryn, Katie Mary Fraser, Mary MacIntyre, Ralph MacWilliam, Maria D'Almeida