



St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW
Tel: (01463) 794619 (Sacristy) / (01463) 794993 (House)
E-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com
Website: www.stcolumbasculloden.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden
Parish Priest: Fr. Domenico Zanrè
Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Dr. Helen Macdonald



~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

19 MARCH 2023:
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
~ LAETARE SUNDAY ~
(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 4)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13
Resp. Psalm: Ps 22 (23)
2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14
Gospel: John 9: 1-41

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 19 March	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (p. 169) 'LAETARE SUNDAY' SECOND COLLECTION: SCIAF	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 21 March	Tuesday of Week 4 in Lent Mass Intention: Shonaidh Ban Macdonald (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.00 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 23 March	Thursday of Week 4 in Lent	Sacrament of Confession * Stations of the Cross * Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.00 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 25 March	The Annunciation of the Lord (Solemnity)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 26 March	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (p. 176)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am

Fourth Sunday of Lent: Eyesight to the Blind

God's ways of seeing are not our ways, we hear in today's First Reading. Jesus illustrates this in the Gospel as the blind man comes to see and the Pharisees are made blind.

The blind man stands for all humanity. "Born totally in sin," he is made a new creation by the saving power of Christ.

As God fashioned the first man from the clay of the earth (see Genesis 2:7), Jesus gives the blind man new life by anointing his eyes with clay (see John 9:11). As God breathed the spirit of life into the first man, the blind man is not healed until he washes in the waters of Siloam, a name that means "Sent."

Jesus is the One "sent" by the Father to do the Father's will (see John 9:4; 12:44). He is the new source of life-giving water: the Holy Spirit who rushes upon us in Baptism (see John 4:10; 7:38-39).

This is the Spirit that rushes upon God's chosen king David in today's First Reading. A shepherd like Moses before him (see Exodus 3:1; Psalm 78:70-71), David is also a sign pointing to the good shepherd and king to come—Jesus (see John 10:11).

The Lord is our shepherd, as we sing in today's Psalm. By His death and Resurrection, He has made a path for us through the dark valley of sin and death, leading us to the verdant pastures of the kingdom of life, the Church.

In the restful waters of Baptism, He has refreshed our souls. He has anointed our heads with the oil of Confirmation and spread the Eucharistic table before us, filling our cups to overflowing. With the once-blind man we enter His house to give God the praise, to renew our vow: "I do believe, Lord." "The Lord looks into the heart," we hear today. Let Him find us, as Paul advises in today's Epistle, living as "children of light," trying always to learn what is pleasing to our Father. (Scott Hahn)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A (p. 169)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 169: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 543: The Apostles' Creed

p. 174: Preface: The Man Born Blind
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

TODAY – Mother's Day! – Congratulations and prayers to all our Mothers, for their daily commitment, sacrifices, and love. We have a great selection of Mother's Day cards and gifts at our Piety Stall to celebrate Mother's Day. Why not have a look at our selection, and purchase a gift for the wonderful Mother in your life?!

TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION: SCIAF SUNDAY – our Second Collection today is for the work of the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF). On this SCIAF Sunday, we pray for all Mothers around the world – that they may realise how special they are to us, their children. We thank you Lord for giving us this precious gift and we thank Mothers for the love, care and understanding they have given to us. We especially give thanks for Mothers in Malawi who, despite living in poverty, are providing their children with the love and support they need to survive. By getting involved with the SCIAF WEE BOX appeal, you're providing a lifeline to families living on the front line of the Climate Emergency who are facing extreme hunger and life on the edge of survival. Please give what you can in today's collection.

LENTEN STATION MASSES – the two remaining Masses take place at 7.00pm, at the following locations:

24 March	St. Ninian's, Inverness (* with Bishop Hugh *)
31 March	St. Columba's, Culloden

31 March at 7.00pm: St. Columba's Station Mass – please do come along and support the parish at our Station Mass! Any assistance that you could give us would be greatly appreciated. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the entrance foyer: we are looking for volunteers to help with our welcoming ministry, with stewarding, setting up the church space, providing suitable refreshments, and serving them, and helping to clear up afterwards. Thank you for your support!!

LENTEN TALKS: "Thirsting for Our Saviour: Journeying with Jesus through Holy Week" – Fr. Domenico will deliver two talks, to assist with our Holy Week and Triduum preparations: on **Wednesday 29 March, and Wednesday 5 April**, both beginning at 7.00pm. The talk will conclude around 7.30pm, and will be followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, with opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The evening will conclude at 8.30pm with Benediction.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN 2024! – Bishop Hugh has kindly agreed to come to the parish and bestow the Sacrament of Confirmation upon our candidates on **Sunday 21 April 2024**. If your child is of the appropriate age (P7/S1), please do get in contact with Fr. Domenico as soon as possible, please.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE! - now on sale: £1 per strip. 5 lovely prizes to be won, drawn on Easter Sunday. Tickets available on the table at the front door.

Prize Bingo: our next evening together will be THIS FRIDAY, 24 MARCH. Doors open at 6.30pm; 'eyes down' at 7.00pm. Thank you for the many lovely items handed in to give as prizes, these are always needed, and they make the fundraiser such a success. We are quite low for March's Bingo, so any donations will be gratefully accepted. Thank you for your support!

90 Club: DRAW NEXT SUNDAY, 26 MARCH! – Would you like to be a winner too? Why not speak to Don for details? Only £24/year, with three cash prizes each month!

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, Eileen Anne Millar, Tony Lightfoot, Mary & Esther Smith, Linda Macdonald

RIP: Michael MacIntyre, Mo Horne, Theo Crampsey

Anniversaries: Deacon Jacques Cooke, Kathleen Tierney, Mary Bell, Edward Lafferty