



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**19 NOVEMBER 2023:**  
**33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 1)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31  
Resp. Psalm: 127 (128): 1-5  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6  
Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
<b>Sunday 19 November</b>	<b>33<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 806 ff.)</b>	<b>Live-Streamed Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
Tuesday 21 November	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	<b>NO LITURGIES</b>	---
Thursday 23 November	St. Clement I, Pope, Martyr	<b>NO LITURGIES</b>	---
Saturday 25 November	St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, Martyr	<b>NO LITURGIES</b>	---
<b>Sunday 26 November</b>	<b>CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING (pp. 811 ff.)</b>	<b>Live-Streamed Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30am</b>

### 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: Settling Accounts

The day of the Lord is coming, Paul warns in today's Epistle. What matters isn't the time or the season but what the Lord finds us doing with the new life, the graces He has given to us. This is at the heart of Jesus' parable in today's Gospel. Jesus is the Master. Having died, risen, and ascended into heaven, He appears to have gone away for a long time. By our Baptism, He has entrusted to each of us a portion of His "possessions," a share in His divine life (see 2 Peter 1:4). He has given us talents and responsibilities according to the measure of our faith (see Romans 12:3-8).

We are to be like the worthy wife in today's First Reading and the faithful man we sing of in today's Psalm. Like them, we should walk in the "fear of the Lord"—in reverence, awe, and thanksgiving for His marvellous gifts. This is the beginning of wisdom (see Acts 9:31; Proverbs 1:7). This is not the "fear" of the useless servant in today's parable. His is the fear of a slave cowering before a cruel master, the fear of one who refuses the relationship that God calls us to.

God has called us to be trusted servants, fellow workers (see 1 Corinthians 3:9), using our talents to serve one another and His kingdom as good stewards of His grace (see 1 Peter 4:10). In this, we each have a different part to play. Though the good servants in today's parable were given different numbers of talents, each "doubled" what he was given. And each earned the same reward for his faithfulness—greater responsibilities and a share of the Master's joy.

So let us resolve again in this Eucharist to make much of what we've been given, to do all for the glory of God (see 1 Corinthians 10:31). That we, too, may approach our Master with confidence and love when He comes to settle accounts. (Scott Hahn)

### Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters, may each one say in his or her heart what Jesus tells us today; repeat in your heart: "Hold out your hand to the poor". And Jesus tells us something else: "You know, I am the poor. I am the poor".

(Angelus Address, St. Peter's Square, 15 November 2020)

## PARISH NEWS

### Today's Liturgy: 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (pp. 806 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites  
p. 806: Readings & Proper Prayers  
p. 540: The Creed

p. 573: Preface VII of Sundays in Ordinary Time  
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II  
p. 631: Communion Rite

**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.

**Sunday Meals during Advent** – at a recent meeting of the Highland Deanery priests, it was proposed that we organise a hot meal for those who are struggling and on the bread-line. This will be done **on each Sunday of Advent (3, 10, 17, 24 Dec), from 1.30pm-3.30pm**. The venue for this will be the church hall at **St. Mary's, in Huntly Street, Inverness**. It is hoped that there will be volunteers from all of the parishes in the local area. If you feel you may be able to help in any way, please contact the St. Mary's office at: 01224 233519. **A planning meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 November at 7.00pm** in the Marian Room.

**Highland Foodbank Reverse Advent Calendar** – can you help those in need this Christmas? The Highland Foodbank is organising parcels for Christmas. If you would like to help them, please consider donating the items listed each day on the posters and handouts in the entrance foyer of the church. Thank you.

**Appeal for unwanted dictionaries** – do you have any English dictionaries that you no longer need? They must be in reasonably good condition and not too big. Also welcome are a few thesauri and 'crossword puzzle solver' books. If you have any to donate, please leave them at the church for collection. Many thanks for the magazines that have been donated – they are greatly appreciated.

**Advent Reflections:** each Wednesday evening during Advent, the Priests of the Highland Deanery have arranged reflections in different parishes. Here are the dates, locations, and speakers:

**Wednesday 06 December** (St. Nicholas) – St. Ninian's Inverness – Fr. Justin Edathil

**Wednesday 13 December** (St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr) – St. Mary's Beaulieu – Fr. Dominic Nwaigwe

**Wednesday 20 December** – St. Columba's Culloden – Fr. Andrzej Niski

Each evening will consist of the following programme, from 6.00pm-7.30pm:

6.00pm-6.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, & opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession

6.45pm-7.05pm Advent Reflection, followed by Night Prayer, Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday 2 December, 2.00pm-4.00pm: Children's Christmas Party!** A date for your diaries! Santa has been notified, and has promised us that he will come to visit St. Columba's! Please note, Mums: Selection Boxes wrapped up! There will be music, games, surprises, and more! Please spread the word, to ensure that as many children as possible come along and join in the fun!!

**Thursday 21 December, 7.00pm-8.00pm: St. Columba's Christmas Carol Concert!** – a date for your diaries! We will be hosting a service of your favourite Christmas carols, with community singing, together with seasonal Scripture readings, with festive food and drink provided (including non-alcoholic mulled wine, *panettone*, and mince pies). We will have the children of St. Joseph's RC School joining us, together with the St. Andrew Community and members of their youth group. Donations at the door – suggested offerings are: £5 for adults; kids go free! Why not invite some friends and come along?! Spread a little festive cheer!

**Christmas Hamper** – buy a ticket (or two..!) and our lovely Christmas hamper could be yours! Tickets are on sale at the front door; only £1 a strip. Please include your name and contact details on the stub, so we can call you when you win (!)

**90 Club: Draw Next Week, Sunday 26 November!** – Would you like to be a winner? See Don for details. Envelopes for your contributions towards next year's draws are available on the table at the front door; please take one home, fill in the details, and return when you are ready.

**Christmas Prize Bingo!** – on **Friday 1 December**. 'Eyes down' at **7.00pm**. All welcome! Items for prizes are always needed, such as: toiletries, chocolates, jigsaws, store vouchers, wine/spirits, and anything that you would like to win yourselves!

## 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, Mary & Esther Smith, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Katie MacCormick, Brian Hamilton, Dorothy Macdonald, Cathy Grant

**RIP:** Liz Heinowski

**Anniversaries:** Pat Grout, Jack Johnstone, Effie Kennedy, Annie Jasinski, Richard Green, Christina Johnstone, Patrick McGlade