



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

22 OCTOBER 2023:
29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 1)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6
Resp. Psalm: 95 (96): 1, 3-5, 7-10
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5
Gospel: Matthew 22: 5-21

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 22 October	29 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 792 ff.) Second Collection: Missio Scotland	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am
Tuesday 24 October	Tuesday of Week 29 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 26 October	Thursday of Week 29 in Ordinary Time	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Friday 27 October	Holy Hour for Peace at St. Columba's	Eucharistic Adoration Confession, Rosary, Divine Praises, Benediction	5.00pm- 6.30pm
Saturday 28 October	Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles (Feast) Mass Intention: John Drew, RIP (Fifth Anniversary Tomorrow)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 29 October	30 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 796 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Caesar and the King

The Lord is king over all the earth, as we sing in today's Psalm. Governments rise and fall by His permission, with no authority but that given from above (see John 19:11; Romans 13:1). In effect, God says to every ruler what He tells King Cyrus in today's First Reading: "I have called you . . . though you knew me not." The Lord raised up Cyrus to restore the Israelites from exile, and to rebuild Jerusalem (see Ezra 1:1-4). Throughout salvation history, God has used foreign rulers for the sake of His chosen people. Pharaoh's heart was hardened to reveal God's power (see Romans 9:17). Invading armies were used to punish Israel's sins (see 2 Maccabees 6:7-16).

The Roman occupation during Jesus' time was, in a similar way, a judgment on Israel's unfaithfulness. Jesus' famous words in today's Gospel, "repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar," are a pointed reminder of this. And they call us, too, to keep our allegiances straight. The Lord alone is our king. His kingdom is not of this world (see John 18:36) but it begins here in His Church, which tells of His glory among all peoples. Citizens of heaven (see Philippians 3:20), we are called to be a light to the world (see Matthew 5:14)—working in faith, labouring in love, and enduring in hope, as today's Epistle counsels.

We owe the government a concern for the common good and obedience to laws—unless they conflict with God's commandments as interpreted by the Church (see Acts 5:29). But we owe God everything. The coin bears Caesar's image. But we bear God's own image (see Genesis 1:27). We owe Him our very lives—all our heart, mind, soul, and strength, offered as a living sacrifice of love (see Romans 12:1-2). We should pray for our leaders, that like Cyrus they do God's will (see 1 Timothy 2:1-2)—until from the rising of the sun to its setting all humanity knows that Jesus is Lord. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

Every one of us, by Baptism, is called to be a living presence in society, inspiring it with the Gospel and with the lifeblood of the Holy Spirit. It is a question of committing oneself with humility, and at the same time with courage, making one's own contribution to building the civilization of love, where justice and fraternity reign. (Angelus Address, 18 October 2020)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (pp. 792 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 792: 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

Today's Second Collection: World Mission Sunday –World Mission Sunday offers you the chance to support missionaries and the Church in proclaiming the Gospel throughout the world, particularly where the Church is young or poor. Your donations and prayers make a vital difference to the apostolic work conducted in mission countries and territories, and are a concrete way in which you can support the universal Church.

'Thank You!!' for your support of Mary's Meals last Sunday! The stall with jams, chutneys, and Christmas cards raised a **total of £292.97**. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Friday 27 October, 5pm-6.30pm – Holy Hour for Peace at St. Columba's: following Pope Francis' request for Prayer, Fasting, and Penance. With Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; Sacramental Confession; Holy Rosary; Divine Praises; and Benediction.

'Power of Grace' Retreat with the Dominican Sisters, at St. Michael's Centre in Tomintoul for S2-S3 Students – this retreat take place on **3-5 November**. With outdoor activities, fun games, the opportunities to make new friends from around the diocese, music and prayer, and much more! For more information, or to register, please contact Sr. Bernadette Marie at: op@rcda.scot

'Encounter Christ' Retreats – these retreats organised by the Dominican Sisters, and held at Greyfriars Convent in Elgin, are being advertised for single women from the ages of 18 to 35. There are two retreats: **17-19 November 2023**, and **15-17 March 2024**. Suggested donation: £30. For more information, or to register, please contact Sr. Bernadette Marie at: op@rcda.scot

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 much more! Please spread the word, and let's ensure that as many children as possible come along and join in the fun!!

Christmas at the Piety Stall! – we have many new items in stock! Are you looking for Christmas cards? Look no further! Are you in need of a Rosary in this Marian month of October? We have all sizes and styles! Advent calendars, nativity scenes and baby Jesus statuettes, as well as Catholic diaries for 2024 are all on their way! Plus, we have many other tempting gifts, holy items, and spiritual books. Why not browse the stall, and attend to your Christmas shopping at the same time?

St. Andrew Community Youth Group – every **Friday** in the church hall at St. Mary's, in Huntly Street, Inverness. Ages 6-11: 5.00pm-6.00pm; Ages 12-18: 6.30pm-9.00pm. For details: youth@standrewx.org, or call 07754 891808.

'Angel Stories for Children': A Colouring Book – this book, complete with stories and drawings to colour in, was compiled by Ishbel McGillivray-McGregor, a former parishioner of St. Columba's. It only costs £2, and is available at our Piety Stall.

Culloden Indoor Carpet Bowls – every Monday at 10.15am until noon, at the Smithton/Culloden Youth Centre next to the Library (Keppoch Road).

90 Club: Next Draw on 29 October! 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. Are you interested in taking part in the 90 Club? There are 25 numbers available. Please speak to Don.

St. Columba's Culloden: Prize Bingo returns! – on **Friday 3 November & 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! If anyone would like to take over the running of the Bingo, or help to organise the Christmas Prize Hamper, please speak to Don.

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

RIP: Murdoch Nicholson, Donald Archie MacLellan, Elizabeth Aitken, Peter Simpson, Anne Sinforiani, Louise Agatha de Rozario
Anniversaries: Peggy Horne, Mary Brown, Mary Gribbens, Drew Cameron