



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**25 DECEMBER 2022:**  
**SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
**(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 1)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah: 52: 7-10  
Resp. Psalm: Ps 97 (98): 1-6  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6  
Gospel: John 1: 1-18

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
<b>Sunday 25 December</b>	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b> ~ MASS DURING THE DAY (p. 93) ~	<b>Sacrament of Confession</b> <b>Live-Streamed Holy Mass</b>	<b>8.30 am – 9.15am</b> <b>9.30 am</b>
<b>Monday 26 December</b>	St. Stephen, the First Martyr (Feast) Mass Intention: Michelle Campbell, RIP (Anniversary Today)	<b>Sacrament of Confession</b> Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	<b>8.15 am</b> 8.45 am 9.30 am
Tuesday 27 December	St. John, Apostle, Evangelist (Feast)	<b>No Liturgies Today</b>	---
Wednesday 28 December	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs (Feast)	<b>No Liturgies Today</b>	---
Thursday 29 December	St. Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr	<b>No Liturgies Today</b>	---
Friday 30 December	The Holy Family (Feast) Mass Intention: Brian Mitchell, RIP (Anniversary Today)	<b>Sacrament of Confession</b> Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	<b>8.15 am</b> 8.45 am 9.30 am
Saturday 31 December	St. Silvester I, Pope Mass Intention: Fr. Calum McNeill (Anniversary Today)	<b>Sacrament of Confession</b> Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	<b>8.15 am</b> 8.45 am 9.30 am
<b>Sunday 1 January</b>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD</b> (p. 100)	<b>Live-Streamed Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>

## The Nativity of the Lord: A New Song

The Church's Liturgy rings in Christmas with a joyful noise. We hear today of uplifted voices, trumpets and horns, and melodies of praise. In the First Reading, Isaiah foretells Israel's liberation from captivity and exile in Babylon. He envisions a triumphant homecoming to Zion marked by joyful singing. The new song in today's Psalm is a victory hymn to the marvellous deeds done by our God and King.

Both the prophet and psalmist sing of God's power and salvation. God has shown the might of His holy arm, they say. This language recalls the Exodus, where the people first sang of God's powerful arm that shattered Israel's enemy, Egypt (see Exodus 15:1, 6, 16). The coming of the Christ child into the world fulfils all that the Exodus and the return from exile prefigured. In Jesus, all nations to the ends of the earth will see the victory of God over the forces of sin and death.

Jesus is the new king. He is the royal firstborn son and Son of God promised to David, as we hear in today's Epistle (see Psalms 2:7; 2 Samuel 7:14). And as our Gospel reveals, He is the Word of God, the one through whom the universe was created, the one through whom the universe is sustained.

In speaking to us through His Son, God has unveiled a new age, the last days. The new age is a new creation. In the beginning, God spoke His Word and light shone in the darkness. Now, in this new age, He sends us the true light to scatter the darkness of a world that has exiled itself from God.

He is the one Isaiah foretold—who brings good tidings of peace and salvation, who announces to the world that God has come to dwell and to reign (see Revelation 21:3–4).

So we sing a new song on Christmas. It is the song of those who have believed in the Christ child and have been born again—who have by grace been given the power to become children of God. (Scott Hahn)

## PARISH NEWS

### **Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Solemnity of the Nativity, Year A (p. 93)**

p. 521: Introductory Rites  
p. 93: Readings & Proper Prayers  
p. 541: The Creed

p. 551: Preface I of The Nativity of the Lord  
p. 591: Eucharistic Prayer I  
p. 631: Communion Rite

**Thank you!** – Fr. Domenico would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the kind wishes, Christmas cards, and gifts that he has received. They are much appreciated. He would also like to thank those of you who assist in any way in our parish: without you, our liturgies and events would not be possible! Finally, to all the parishioners of St. Columba's, in great gratitude for your support, patience, and prayers throughout the past year. As a parish family, we rely on one another, and each of you has your part to play. Thank you!

**Seating** – we have been waiting for the arrival of our new seats with armrests, for the use of our less mobile parishioners. The seats were due to arrive at the beginning of December, but due to the inevitable delays .. they will not arrive until January.

**First Holy Communion June 2023** – Children of P3 age or above are invited to prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, which will take place on Sunday 11 June 2023 (Corpus Christi). Weekly classes will begin in January. E-mail the parish to request an application form, or speak to Fr. Domenico. **Forms to be returned by 31 December.**

**Prize Bingo: continues after the Christmas Season** – eyes down again on **Friday 27 January 2023**, and thereafter on the last Friday of each month. Thank you for all of the wonderful items that you have handed in. Items that can be given as prizes are always needed; non-perishables can be handed in at any time.

**90 Club: December Winners!** First Prize: Shoenagh and Louie Volante; Second Prize: Anne & Theo Antoine; Third Prize: Chris Hamilton. Congratulations to all our winners! The first draw for 2023 will take place on Sunday 29 January. Envelopes for your dues are on the table at the front door; please take one, fill it out, and hand it back with your remittance to Don. Numbers are still available if you would like to join in this parish fundraiser.

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

**Sick:** Anna Black, Angus Johnson, Laura Johnstone, Ian Macdonald, Kathleen Macpherson, Marian Ellis, Chris Hamilton, Rina Herbison, David Munro, Ellen Williams, Rose Corbett, Winnie Ferrari, Mo Horne, Eileen Anne Millar, Tony Lightfoot

**RIP:** Alison MacDonald

**Anniversaries:** Michelle Campbell, Brian Mitchell, Fr. Calum McNeill, Roseanne Stewart MacLennan, Mary Melling, Patricia O'Riordan, Ishbel MacGillivray-McGregor