



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**26 NOVEMBER 2023:**  
**CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING**  
**(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 2)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17  
Resp. Psalm: 22 (23): 1-3a, 5-6  
2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28  
Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 26 November	CHRIST THE UNIVERSAL KING (pp. 811 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am
Tuesday 28 November	Tuesday of Week 34 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Richard Green, RIP (6 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 21 November)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 30 November	SOLEMNITY OF ST. ANDREW (pp. 1203 ff.)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 2 December	Saturday Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 3 December	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B (pp. 44 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am

### Christ the Universal King: The Shepherd King

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus *identifies himself* not only with the king-shepherd, but also *with the lost sheep*, we can speak of a "double identity": the king-shepherd, Jesus identifies also with the sheep: that is, with the least and most needy of his brothers and sisters. And he thus indicates the criterion of the judgement: it will be made on the basis of concrete love given or denied to these persons, because he himself, the judge, is present in each one of them. He is the judge. He is God-Man, but he is also the poor one. He is hidden and present in the person of the poor people that he mentions right there. Jesus says: "Truly, I say to you, as you did it (or did it not) to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it (you did it not) to me" (cf. vv. 40, 45). We will be judged on love. The judgement will be on love, not on feelings, no: we will be judged on works, on compassion that becomes nearness and kind help. Do I draw near to Jesus present in the persons of the sick, the poor, the suffering, the imprisoned, of those who hunger and thirst for justice? Do I draw near to Jesus present there? This is the question for today.

Therefore, at the end of the world, the Lord will inspect the flock, and he will do so not only *from the perspective of the shepherd*, but also *from the perspective of the sheep*, with whom he has identified. And he will ask us: "Were you a little bit like a shepherd as myself?" "Were you a shepherd to me who was present in those people who were in need, or were you indifferent?". Brothers and sisters, let us look at the logic of indifference, of those who come to mind immediately. Looking away when we see a problem. Let us remember the parable of the Good Samaritan. That poor man, wounded by the brigands, thrown to the ground, between life and death, was there alone. A priest passed by, saw, and went on his way. He looked the other way. A Levite passed by, saw and looked the other way. Before my brothers and sisters in need, am I indifferent like this priest, like this Levite and look the other way? I will be judged on this: on how I drew near, how I looked on Jesus present in those in need. This is the logic, and it is not I who is saying this: Jesus says it. "What you did to that person and that person and that person, you did it to me. And what you did not do to that person and that person and that person, you did not do it to me, because I was there". May Jesus teach us this logic, this logic of being close, of drawing near to him, with love, in the person who is suffering most.

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. (Pope Francis, Angelus Address, 22 November 2020)

## PARISH NEWS

### Today's Liturgy: Christ the Universal King, Year A (pp. 811 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites  
p. 811: Readings & Proper Prayers  
p. 540: The Creed

p. 814: Preface: Christ, King of the Universe  
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II  
p. 631: Communion Rite

**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.

**Highland Foodbank Reverse Advent Calendar** – if you have been collecting for the Highland Foodbank throughout the month of November, would you be so kind as to hand in your items as soon as the month of November is ended, so that the parcels can be made up and distributed in December, please? Many thanks.

**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 Beaully – 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 Today, 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. Last Draw of the year on Sunday 31 December.

**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, John MacPhee

**RIP:** Liz Heinowski

**Anniversaries:** Anastasia MacLeod, Wally Pocock, Thressiana Thomas, Andrew MacDonald, Martin Regan