



# St. Columba's, Culloden

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## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**2 APRIL 2023:**  
**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION**  
**(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 2)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7  
 Resp. Psalm: Ps 21 (22):8-9, 17-20, 23-24  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 2:6-11  
 Gospel: Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 2 April	<b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION (pp. 232 ff)</b> <b>Special Collection: Holy Places</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
Tuesday 4 April	Tuesday of Holy Week	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Holy Mass	6.00 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Wednesday 5 April	'Thirsting for Our Saviour' Journeying with Jesus' ~ Second Parish Reflection for Holy Week ~	Presentation, Adoration Confession, Benediction	From 7.00pm
Thursday 6 April	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY:</b> <b>MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (pp. 268 ff.)</b>	<b>Sacrament of Confession</b> <b>Mass</b> <b>Watching at the Altar of Repose</b> <b>&amp; Night Prayer</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b> <b>7.30 pm</b>
Friday 7 April	<b>GOOD FRIDAY:</b> <b>LITURGY OF THE PASSION (pp. 286 ff.)</b>	<b>Liturgy</b> <b>Sacrament of Confession</b> <b>Stations of the Cross &amp;</b> <b>Veneration</b>	<b>3.00pm</b> <b>6.00pm</b> <b>7.00pm</b>
Saturday 8 April	* <b>EASTER BLESSING OF FOOD (IN ENGLISH) *</b>  <b>HOLY SATURDAY: EASTER VIGIL</b> <b>OF THE RESURRECTION (pp. 317 ff.)</b>	<b>Sacrament of Confession</b> <b>Liturgy of Blessing</b>  <b>Holy Mass</b>	<b>10.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>  <b>8.30pm</b>
Sunday 9 April	<b>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION</b> <b>(pp. 362 ff.)</b>	<b>Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30am</b>

### Palm Sunday of the Passion: All is Fulfilled

"All this has come to pass that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled," Jesus says in today's Gospel (see Matthew 26:56). Indeed, we have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled.

By the close of today's long Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished: the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the Cross at the place called the Skull.

In His Passion, Jesus is "counted among the wicked," as Isaiah had foretold (see Isaiah 53:12). He is revealed definitively as the Suffering Servant the prophet announced, the long-awaited Messiah whose words of obedience and faith ring out in today's First Reading and Psalm.

The taunts and torments we hear in these two readings punctuate the Gospel as Jesus is beaten and mocked (see Matthew 27:31), as His hands and feet are pierced, as enemies gamble for His clothes (see Matthew 27:35), and as His enemies dare Him to prove His divinity by saving Himself from suffering (see Matthew 27:39-44).

He remains faithful to God's will to the end. He does not turn back in His trial. He gives Himself freely to His torturers, confident that, as He speaks in today's First Reading, "The Lord God is My help . . . I shall not be put to shame."

Destined to sin and death as children of Adam's disobedience, we have been set free for holiness and life by Christ's perfect obedience to the Father's will (see Romans 5:12-14, 17-19; Ephesians 2:2; 5:6).

This is why God greatly exalted Him. This is why we have salvation in His name. Following His example of humble obedience in the trials and crosses of our lives, we know we will never be forsaken. We know, as the centurion realizes today, that truly this is the Son of God (see Matthew 27:54). (Scott Hahn)

## PARISH NEWS

### Today's Liturgy: Palm Sunday of the Passion, Year A (pp. 232 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites

p. 232: Readings & Proper Prayers

p. 540: The Creed

p. 266: Preface: The Passion of the Lord

p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II

p. 631: Communion Rite

**THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed in any way to making our Station Mass at St. Columba's such a huge success! We had a packed church, with 121 souls participating in our Lenten liturgy. So many of our parishioners were involved – it was a real joy to see, and shows what we can achieve together! God bless you all!

**Today's Special Collection: The Holy Places** – Every day, young Christian families in the Holy Land try to live upright lives, centred on the teachings of Jesus, just as we do. These Christians, living where Christ walked and taught, lived and died, still live in a land of war, death and destruction. The work of the Franciscan Friars for these native Christians, for the poor, and for the pilgrims who come to visit, depends greatly on your support. Please be as generous as you can to the people of the Holy Land, and to the Friars who preserve the Shrines and Holy Places.

**ALTAR SERVERS** – could all Altar Servers please inform Fr. Domenico of their availability during Holy Week? Thanks.

**TRADITIONAL EASTER BLESSING OF FOOD ON HOLY SATURDAY** – this custom takes place on the morning of Holy Saturday, at 11.00am. The custom of blessing food for Easter arose from the discipline of fasting throughout Lent and the special Easter fast during the Easter Triduum. Easter Sunday was the first day when meat, eggs, and other foods could again be eaten. This is an opportunity for you to have food blessed, which will be consumed over the Easter period: eggs, bread, hams, sausages, and other meats (sweets for the children), etc. The food is usually presented in a wicker basket. Why not get your children involved in decorating this, and in painting their own eggs?! The short blessing will be conducted in English, and is for the whole parish community. Why not come along as a family?

**PIETY STALL** – looking for Easter Cards, First Holy Communion gifts, or ideas for presents? Why not check out our extensive range of items at our Piety Stall. Your one-stop shop for all things Catholic!

**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 – DRAW NEXT SUNDAY!** - £1 per strip. 5 prizes to be won. Tickets available at the front door.

**PRIZE BINGO: our next evening together will be FRIDAY, 28 APRIL**. Doors open at 6.30pm; 'eyes down' at 7.00pm. Thank you for the many lovely items handed in to give as prizes; there are often very appreciative comments from the players. Your kindness and support is greatly appreciated!

**90 CLUB: MARCH WINNERS!** – First Prize: Tony Cairns; Second Prize: Shoenagh & Louie Volante; Third Prize: Linda Gallagher. **NEXT DRAW ON SUNDAY, 30 APRIL!** – Would you like to be a winner too? Why not speak to Don for details?

## 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

**Anniversaries:** Eleanor Bonger, Steven Gallagher, Velma Batty, Margaret Miller, June Olga Hall