



# St. Columba's, Culloden

Tower Road, Culloden, Inverness, IV2 7PW  
 Tel: (01463) 794619 (Sacristy) / (01463) 794993 (House)  
 E-mail: stcolumbasculloden@outlook.com  
 Website: www.stcolumbasculloden.org  
 Facebook: www.facebook.com/stcolumbasculloden  
 Parish Priest: Fr. Domenico Zanrè  
 Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: Dr. Helen Macdonald



## ~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

**30 JULY 2023:**  
**17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 1)**

## Mass Readings

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 1 Kings 3: 5, 7-12  
 Resp. Psalm: 118 (119): 57, 72, 76-7, 127-130  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 8: 28-30  
 Gospel: Matthew 13: 44-52

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
<b>Sunday 30 July</b>	<b>17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 748 ff.)</b>	<b>Live-Streamed Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
Tuesday 1 August	St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop, Doctor Mass Intention: D.A. McKeegan, RIP (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 3 August	Thursday of Week 17 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Private Intention	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 5 August	Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major Mass Intention: Linda Robson, RIP (Anniversary Recently)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
<b>Sunday 6 August</b>	<b>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (pp. 1165 ff.)</b>	<b>Live-Streamed Holy Mass</b>	<b>9.30am</b>

### Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Of Wheat and Weeds

What is your new life in Christ worth to you? Do you love His words more than gold and silver, as we sing in today's Psalm? Would you, like the characters in the Gospel today, sell all that you have in order to possess the kingdom He promises to us? If God were to grant any wish, would you follow Solomon's example in today's First Reading—asking not for a long life or riches but for wisdom to know God's ways and to desire His will?

The background for today's Gospel, as it has been for the past several weeks, is the rejection of Jesus' preaching by Israel. The kingdom of heaven has come into their midst; yet, many cannot see that Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promises, a gift of divine compassion given so that they—and we—might live. We, too, must ever discover the kingdom anew. We are called to find it as a treasure, a pearl of great price. By comparison with the kingdom, we must count all else as rubbish (see Philippians 3:8). And we must be willing to give up all that we have—all our priorities and plans—in order to gain it. Jesus' Gospel discloses what Paul in today's Epistle calls the purpose of God's plan (see Ephesians 1:4): for Jesus be the firstborn of many brothers. His words give understanding to the simple, the childlike. As Solomon does today, we must humble ourselves before God, giving ourselves to His service. Let our prayer be for an understanding heart, one that desires only to do His will.

We are called to love God, to delight in His law, and to forsake every false way. And we are to conform ourselves daily ever more closely to the image of His Son. If we do this, we can approach His altar as a pleasing sacrifice, confident that all things work for the good—that we whom He has justified will also be glorified. (Scott Hahn)

### Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

Today we are called to contemplate the joy of the farmer and the merchant in the parables. It is the joy of each of us when we discover the closeness and the comforting presence of Jesus in our lives. A presence which transforms the heart and opens us to the needs and the welcoming of our brothers, especially the weakest. (Angelus Address, St. Peter's Square, 30 July 2017)

## PARISH NEWS

**Today's Liturgy: 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (pp. 748 ff.)**

p. 521: Introductory Rites  
p. 748: Readings & Proper Prayers  
p. 540: The Creed

p. 569: Preface IV of Sundays in Ordinary Time  
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II  
p. 631: Communion Rite

**THIS WEDNESDAY, 2 AUGUST, at 7.30pm: "Oggie! Oggie! Oggie!"** – A new modern solo play, based on the *Confessions* of Saint Augustine. Tickets available to buy in advance, otherwise can be bought 'on the night'; **price: £5.00**. Running time: one hour, followed by a post-performance Q&A, with tea and biscuits. NB: contains themes unsuitable for persons under 12 years of age. Please spread the word!

**Boost your giving - Direct Debits Tripled to Mary's Meals!** – Setting up a regular gift (either through a Direct Debit, standing order or recurring card payment) is a very special way to support Mary's Meals. The certainty of your donation will give us the confidence to plan for the future – safe in the knowledge that, together, we are keeping our promise to the 2.4 million children receiving our school meals while striving to reach the next child waiting. Until Friday 29 September 2023, any new regular gift will be tripled for the first three payments – thanks to a group of generous donors who have made funds available up to £150,000! And, if you already have a regular gift and would like to increase your donation, the additional amount will be tripled for the next three payments. This means your donations will feed even more hungry children. Even a small regular gift can make a huge difference. Visit <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/campaigns/direct-debits-tripled> for more details, or call 0800 6981212.

**Highland Foodbank, July/August** – can you help, by donating an item or two from the following list? The Foodbank store is short of: tins of corned beef, cartons of long life juice, jars of pasta sauce, oatcakes/crackers, tins of: chopped tomatoes, ham, and mince/meatballs, tins of fruit, washing-up liquid, deodorant, toilet rolls, new or used bags for life. Thank you.

**26 August: Updated Safeguarding training** – this will be available in the meeting room on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2023. There will be two sessions, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. but only one needs to be attended. Sessions will be about 1 ½ hours long. As this is all new materials, **all existing PVG checked volunteers should attend** and hopefully any new volunteers. It is only for those working for the Church with children or vulnerable adults. Any such volunteer must have the training and a current PVG check for the Parish. Ewen would especially be grateful if any of the adults coming to Children's Liturgy with their children on a Sunday morning could attend training and get a PVG check so that he does not have to cancel any sessions because there are insufficient numbers of PVG checked persons in attendance (minimum of 2). If you would like to attend, or have any queries, please send an e-mail to Ewen at [ewen1.macdonald@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ewen1.macdonald@hotmail.co.uk).

**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](mailto: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.

**Piety Stall** – 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.

**90 Club: DRAW TODAY, Sunday 30 July!** Would you like to take part? You too could be a winner! Three good prizes each month. For details, please speak to Don.

## PARISH FINANCES: 23 JULY 2023

Current Account: £ 636.15 (including St. Andrew Community WYD Appeal: £ 335.60)  
Fabric Account: £ 14.20

## 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, Mary Pene MacNeil

**RIP:** Donald MacCormack, Evelyn Devlin, D. A. McKeegan

**Anniversaries:** Linda Robson, Charlie Keeler. Jean Storey, Jeanette Catto