



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 ~

4 DECEMBER 2022:
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 2)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah: 11: 1-10
Resp. Psalm: Ps 71 (72): 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
2nd Reading: Romans 15: 4-9
Gospel: Matthew 3: 1-12

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 4 December	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A (p. 31)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am
Tuesday 6 November	St. Nicholas, Bishop	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 8 December	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Mass Intention: Campbell Macpherson (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 10 December	Our Lady of Loreto Mass Intention: Lily Finlay (2 nd Anniversary Recently)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 11 December	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR A (p. 36) (‘Gaudete’ Sunday)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30 am

Second Sunday of Advent: Kingdom Come

“The kingdom of heaven is at hand,” John proclaims. And the Liturgy today paints us a vivid portrait of our new king and the shape of the kingdom He has come to bring.

The Lord whom John prepares the way for in today’s Gospel is the righteous king prophesied in today’s First Reading and Psalm. He is the king’s son, the son of David—a shoot from the root of Jesse, David’s father (see Ruth 4:17).

He will be the Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit (see 2 Samuel 23:1; 1 Kings 1:39; Psalm 2:2), endowed with the seven gifts of the Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. He will rule with justice, saving the poor from the ruthless and wicked. His rule will be not only over Israel—but will extend from sea to sea, to the ends of the earth. He will be a light, a signal to all nations. And they will seek Him and pay Him homage.

In Him, all the tribes of the earth will find blessing. The covenant promise to Abraham (see Genesis 12:3), renewed in God’s oath to David (see Psalm 89:4,28), will be fulfilled in His dynasty. And His name will be blessed forever.

In Christ, God confirms His oath to Israel’s patriarchs, Paul tells us in today’s Second Reading. But no longer are God’s promises reserved solely for the children of Abraham. The Gentiles, too, will glorify God for His mercy. Once strangers, in Christ they will be included in “the covenants of promise” (see Ephesians 2:12).

John delivers this same message in the Gospel. Once God’s chosen people were hewn from the rock of Abraham (see Isaiah 51:1–2). Now, God will raise up living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5)—children of Abraham born not of flesh and blood but of the Spirit. This is the meaning of the fiery baptism He brings—making us royal heirs of the kingdom of heaven, the Church.

(Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

“We prepare the way of the Lord and make his paths straight when we examine our conscience, when we scrutinize our attitudes, in order to eliminate these sinful manners ... which are not from God: success at all costs; power to the detriment of the weak; the desire for wealth; pleasure at any price.”

Today's Liturgy (CTS New Sunday Missal): Second Sunday of Advent, Year A (p. 31)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 31: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 541: The Creed

p. 549: Preface I of Advent
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

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 07 December (St. Ambrose/Eve of the Immaculate Conception) – St. Mary's Beaulieu – Fr. Laurence Gambella

Wednesday 14 December (St. John of the Cross) – St. Mary's Inverness – Fr. Domenico Zanrè

Wednesday 21 December (St. Peter Canisius) – St. Columba's Culloden – Fr. James Bell

Each evening will consist of the following programme:

6.15pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, & opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession
7.00pm Reflection, followed by Night Prayer, Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Christmas Flowers – we are blessed with the generosity and talents of parishioners, who always provide us with such beautiful flowers for Christmas. Would you consider helping us with a donation, which will go towards making our church even more beautiful, and fitting for celebrating the birth of Our Saviour?

Saturday 10 December: Children's Christmas Party, 2.00pm– 4.00pm. Santa has been notified, and has promised us that he will come to visit St. Columba's! Please note, Mums: Selection Boxes wrapped up – also something for our guest gent. Wrapped prizes for games (small items): 6-8 of them. There will be music, games, surprises, and much more! All children very welcome! Chairs cleared and hall set up: 12.30pm. Parents: please let us know if your child/children are coming (provide name and contact details). Please note, Mums: Selection Boxes wrapped up – also something for our guest gent. Wrapped prizes for games (small items): 6-8 of them. After Santa has returned to Lapland, the tables return to the cupboard chairs laid out for Sunday Mass, please.

Bambinelli Sunday: Next Sunday, 11 December! – Each year on *Gaudete* Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, children in Rome bring their Baby Jesus figures from the cribs in their homes to St. Peter's Square where the Pope blesses both them and the figurines during the Angelus. Fr Domenico will bless all 'Bambinelli' at the Sunday Mass. *'This beautiful tradition helps to focus children's minds on the real reason for Christmas: the birth of our Lord Jesus.'*

Monday 19 December: St. Columba's Christmas Carol Concert, 7.00pm – 8.00pm. Back by popular demand – a date for your diaries! After a three-year hiatus, 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 special guest appearances! 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!

Looking Ahead.. Christmas Mass Times at St. Columba's:

Christmas Vigil (Sat 24 Dec):	Carol Service: 9.00 pm; Vigil Mass: 9.30 pm
Christmas Day (Sunday 25 Dec):	Mass of Christmas Day: 9.30 am

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; thank you for your continued support.

90 Club: Next Draw on Christmas Day! – this is our final draw of 2022. Good luck to all with a number. Envelopes for 2023 dues will be placed on the table in the entrance foyer in due course.

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, Eileen Anne Millar, Tony Lightfoot

RIP: Marilyn Barker, Isobel Macdonald, Campbell Macpherson

Anniversaries: Archie Thomson, Margaret Donnelly, Michael Giubarelli, Desmond Harrington, Donald John Kennedy, Cathy Douglas