



St. Columba's, Culloden

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~ PARISH NEWSLETTER ~

4 FEBRUARY 2024:
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year B (II); Psalter: Week 1)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7
Resp. Psalm: 146 (147): 1-6
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23
Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 4 February	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 845)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am
Tuesday 6 February	St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs Mass Intention: John MacPhee, RIP (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Thursday 8 February	Thursday of Week 5 in Ordinary Time Mass Intention: Bill Bewley, RIP (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 10 February	St. Scholastica, Virgin Mass Intention: Agnes MacIntyre, RIP (Recently Departed)	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 11 February	SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (p. 849) Second Collection: Catholic Education	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Raised to Serve

In today's First Reading, Job describes the futility of life before Christ. His lament reminds us of the curse of toil and death placed upon Adam following his original sin (see Genesis 3:17-19). Men and women are like slaves seeking shade, unable to find rest. Their lives are like the wind that comes and goes. But, as we sing in today's Psalm, He who created the stars promised to heal the broken-hearted and gather those lost in exile from Him (see Isaiah 11:12; 61:1). We see this promise fulfilled in today's Gospel. Simon's mother-in-law is like Job's toiling, hopeless humanity. She is laid low by affliction but too weak to save herself. But as God promised to take His chosen people by the hand (see Isaiah 42:6), Jesus grasps her by the hand and helps her up. The word translated "help" is actually Greek for "raising up." The same verb is used when Jesus commands a dead girl to arise (see Mark 5:41-42). It's used again to describe His own resurrection (see Mark 14:28; 16:7). What Jesus has done for Simon's mother-in-law, He has done for all humanity—raised all of us who lay dead through our sins (see Ephesians 2:5).

Notice all the words of totality and completeness in the Gospel. The whole town gathers; all the sick are brought to Him. He drives out demons in the whole of Galilee. Everyone is looking for Christ. We too have found Him. By our baptism, He healed and raised us to live in His presence (see Hosea 6:1-2). Like Simon's mother-in-law, there is only one way we can thank Him for the new life He has given us. We must rise to serve Him and His gospel. Our lives must be our thanksgiving, as Paul describes in today's Epistle. We must tell everyone the good news, the purpose for which Jesus has come—that others, too, may have a share in this salvation. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

"Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also" (v. 38). This was the journey of the Son of God and this will be the journey of his disciples. And it must be the journey of each Christian. The street, as the place for the Good News of the Gospel, places the mission of the Church under the sign of "going forth", of journeying, under the sign of "movement", and never of idleness. (Angelus, 4 February 2018)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B (p. 845)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 845: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 540: The Creed

p. 567: Preface II of Sundays in Ordinary Time
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

Return of Last Year's Palms – the penitential season of Lent is fast approaching; Ash Wednesday is early this year, on 14 February. If you have any palms from last year, please do hand them in, and we will burn them to make this year's ash. Thank you.

Parish Lenten Course: "No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through the Passion" – Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage, led by Professor Edward Sri, who will guide you through the last hours of Christ's life. You'll walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. This course will take place on alternate Wednesday evenings during Lent, beginning at 7.00pm, in order to give sufficient time for prayer and reflection. The evenings are: 21 February (week 1 of Lent); 6 March (week 3 of Lent); 20 March (week 5). More details to follow!

Lenten Station Masses 2024 – Masses will take place each Friday in Lent at 7.00pm, at the following locations:

16 February	St. Mary's, Inverness	8 March	St. Aidan's, Aviemore
23 February	Our Lady & St. Bean, Cannich	15 March	St. Joseph's, Invergordon **
1 March	St. Mary's, Nairn **	22 March	St. Ninian's, Inverness

** Principal Celebrant: Bishop Hugh Gilbert OSB

90 Club: our January Winners! – First Draw: Kirsteen MacCorquodale; Second Prize: Marie Mackintosh; Third Prize: DJ Macmillan. Congratulations to all our winners! There are still some people with numbers who have yet to pay their dues; please see Amanda MacNeil. If anyone else would like to try their luck: only £2 monthly, and you could win one of 3 prizes.

Next Prize Bingo Evening on Friday, 23 February! – Doors open: 6.30pm; eyes down: 7.00pm. Items to give as prizes are always needed, and gratefully received; thank you for your support. There is a box in the entrance foyer, under the Piety Stall, in which you can place your donations. NB. We are still looking for someone to take over the Bingo – can you help us? If so, speak to Don, or to Fr. Domenico.

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, Esther Smith, Linda Macdonald, Pat Peteranna, Lauren Marsh, Katie MacCormick, Brian Hamilton, Dorothy Macdonald, Cathy Grant

R.I.P: John MacPhee, Jean MacCormick, Agnes MacIntyre, Bill Bewley, Betty Thompson, Ellen Campbell, Maureen Ellis, Fr. Joachim Zok SVD

Anniversaries: JoJo Giubarelli, Jean Esselmont, Christopher Smith, Hugh McGoogan, Eunice MacLennan, Cath & Howard Nicholls