



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 ~

5 NOVEMBER 2023:
31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(Year A (I); Psalter: Week 3)

Mass Readings

1st Reading: Malachi 1:14 - 2:2, 8-10
Resp. Psalm: 130 (131)
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2: 7-9, 13
Gospel: Matthew 23: 1-12

Date	Details	Liturgies	Time
Sunday 5 November	31 ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 799 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am
Tuesday 7 November	Tuesday of Week 31 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
Thursday 9 November	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica (Feast) Mass Intention: Special Intention	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	6.15 pm 6.45 pm 7.30 pm
Saturday 11 November	St. Martin of Tours, Bishop Mass Intention: Special Intention	Sacrament of Confession Eucharistic Adoration Live-Streamed Holy Mass	8.15 am 8.45 am 9.30 am
Sunday 12 November	32 ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (pp. 802 ff.)	Live-Streamed Holy Mass	9.30am

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time: Love Commanded

Though they were Moses' successors, the Pharisees and scribes exalted themselves, making their mastery of the law a badge of social privilege. Worse, they had lorded the law over the people (see Matthew 20:25). Like the priests Malachi condemns in today's First Reading, they caused many to falter and be closed off from God. In a word, Israel's leaders failed to be good spiritual fathers of God's people. Moses was a humble father figure, preaching the law but also practicing it—interceding and begging God's mercy and forgiveness of the people's sins (see Exodus 32:9-14; Psalm 90). And Jesus reminds us today that all fatherhood—in the family or in the people of God—comes from the Father in heaven (see Ephesians 3:15). He doesn't mean we're to literally call no man "father." He Himself referred to Israel's founding fathers (see John 7:22); the Apostles taught about natural fatherhood (see Hebrews 12:7-11), and described themselves as spiritual fathers (see 1 Corinthians 4:14-16). The fatherhood of the Apostles and their successors, the Church's priests and bishops, is a spiritual paternity given to raise us as God's children. Our fathers give us new life in Baptism and feed us the spiritual milk of the Gospel and the Eucharist (see 1 Peter 2:2-3). That's why Paul, in today's Epistle, can also compare himself to a nursing mother. God's fatherhood likewise transcends all human notions of fatherhood and motherhood. Perhaps that's why the Psalm chosen for today includes one of the rare biblical images of God's maternal care (see Isaiah 66:13). His only Son has shown us the Father (see John 14:9) coming to gather His children as a hen gathers her young (see Matthew 23:37). We're all brothers and sisters, our Lord tells us today. And all of us—even our spiritual fathers—are to trust in Him, humbly, like children on our mothers' laps. (Scott Hahn)

Thought for the Day with Pope Francis

We disciples of Jesus must not seek titles of honour, of authority or supremacy. I tell you, it pains me personally to see people who, psychologically, live in pursuit of vain accolades. We disciples of Jesus must not do this, because among ourselves there must be a simple and fraternal attitude. We are all brothers and sisters and in no way must we abuse others or look down on them. (*Angelus* Address, St. Peter's Square, 5 November 2017)

PARISH NEWS

Today's Liturgy: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A (pp. 799 ff.)

p. 521: Introductory Rites
p. 799: Readings & Proper Prayers
p. 540: The Creed

p. 573: Preface VII of Sundays in Ordinary Time
p. 603: Eucharistic Prayer II
p. 631: Communion Rite

November: Month of the Holy Souls – November is the month when we remember our dearly departed. If you would like to have any deceased relatives or friends remembered at Mass during November, please place their names in the brown envelopes in the foyer, and hand these in to the Sacristy. All names will be placed in front of the altar, and a selection will be read out at every Mass.

'Encounter Christ' Retreats – these retreats organised by the Dominican Sisters, and held at Greyfriars Convent in Elgin, are being advertised for single women from the ages of 18 to 35. There are two retreats: **17-19 November 2023**, and **15-17 March 2024**. Suggested donation: £30. For more information, please contact Sr. Bernadette Marie at: op@rcda.scot

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. **A planning meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 November at 7.00pm** in the Marian Room.

Highland Foodbank Reverse Advent Calendar – can you help those in need this Christmas? The Highland Foodbank is organising parcels for Christmas. If you would like to help them, please consider donating the items listed each day on the posters and handouts in the entrance foyer of the church. Thank you.

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! With music, games, surprises, and more! Please spread the word, to ensure that as many kids as possible come along and join in the fun!!

Christmas at the Piety Stall! – we have many new items in stock! Are you looking for Christmas cards? Look no further! Are you in need of a Rosary in this Marian month of October? We have all sizes and styles! **Advent calendars, nativity scenes and baby Jesus statuettes, as well as Catholic diaries for 2024, are all in stock!** Plus, we have many other tempting gifts, holy items, and spiritual books. Why not browse the stall, and attend to your Christmas shopping at the same time?

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: October Winners! – First Prize: Dorothy Macdonald; Second Prize: Dennis McGillivray; Third Prize: Jessica McGlade. Congratulations to our winners. 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.

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, 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

RIP: Liz Heinowski

Anniversaries: Tom O'Connor, John Horne, William and Annie Hay, Anna Campbell