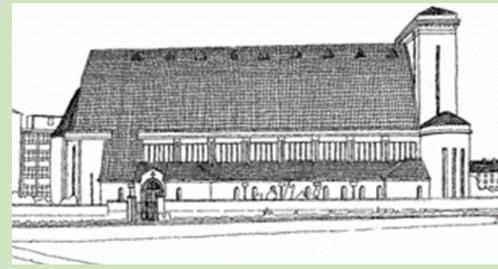




Almighty Father, we wish to commit our parish of St Columba of Iona into Your merciful hands. We want to be a vibrant and flourishing parish formed after your heart, a family of missionary disciples of Jesus where love and service spread out from us to everybody. Touch the hearts of all of us and everybody within our parish to experience once again the power of the risen Christ so that our hearts can be filled with your love, joy, courage, strength and unity. We commit to you, in a special way, the sick, the house-bound, the struggling, even the weary. May Mary our mother be always close to us her children in all our hour of need. We make all these prayers through the merits of Jesus Christ your son. Amen.



ST COLUMBA'S PARISH

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30th Sunday of YEAR A, 25/10/20

First Reading—Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this:

“You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him; you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”

Second Reading—1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

GOSPEL—Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. THANKS BE TO GOD

Many years ago, a woman once complained to me that her husband was too prayerful for her liking. I asked her to explain and she said that he always wanted the family to say the Rosary every evening before bed-time. That was making her angry and jealous because Marriage was supposed to be between 2 instead of 3 people—the 3rd person being God, of course. I told her “My good woman, would you rather have him getting drunk and assaulting the whole family? You have no clue what that prayer is doing to him.” Loving God necessarily comes before the love of the neighbour because it is from there we even derive the strength to do that in the first place. Where does my ability to forgive my wife, my husband, my children, friends or enemies come from? My ability not to pursue vengeance, where does it come from? If I don’t have that constant union with God, it may certainly happen that my goodness becomes mere self-seeking. In order to do the work of the Lord well, I need time for the Lord of the work. As Jesus said “Cut off from me, you can do nothing.”

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY EVENINGS	4:30PM
SUNDAYS	10AM, 12 NOON, 5PM
MONDAYS—FRIDAYS	10AM
SATURDAY MORNINGS	10AM

NOTICE



**In November 2020
WE PRAY
for all who have died.
May they rest in peace.**

- * **FUNERAL:** We have the Funeral of Angela Boyle on Thursday 29th October at **10 am**. Reception of the body on Wednesday 6pm. Angela was a long-standing parishioner and Altar server. We will all miss you Angela. Rest in perfect peace. Amen
- * **CONFIRMATIONS:** Takes place on Thursday the 29th of October at **5pm** at St Columba’s.
- * **NOVEMBER - MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE**
November is the month when, by tradition, we pray for the eternal rest of our deceased relatives and friends. This year, in all our churches, we remember especially those who have died during the pandemic. We also pray for those who have lost someone they loved, for those who were unable to say goodbye, and for those who are suffering the pain of grief. We pray for confidence in the loving mercy of God, for faith in the Resurrection to new life, and for the hope of being reunited in God’s kingdom.
- * **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY:** As Usual, on Remembrance Sunday, we have our annual Mass for all our departed at all the Masses.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION TO ST COLUMBA’S OR TO SUPPORT THE ADORATION CHAPEL, PLEASE USE THE DONATION STAND AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR YOU COULD ASK FR AMBROSE FOR PARISH BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS. THANKS.