

# MORNING PRAYER

ST. COLUMBA'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRISTINE MERRITT, PRESIDING

May 31, 2026



TRINITY SUNDAY

## MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED

### OPENING PRAYER FOR PURITY AND COLLECT

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**PRESIDER:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**ASSISTANT:** Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

## CONFESSION

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**PRESIDER:** Let us pray. Bound in love to the triune God, let us call upon the Lord of our salvation and recollect in silence those times when we have failed to live as beings created for love, either because of that which we have done or for that which we have failed to do.

*Examination of conscience:*

*What obstacles prevent me from loving fully and intimately?*

**PRESIDER:** Let us pray together then, to the God of Mercies.

**PRESIDER & ALL:** *Please join Presider on mute*

Most merciful God,  
We confess that we have sinned against you,  
    against one another, and against our Mother  
    Earth.

Although you have made us incarnations of your  
Love,  
    we have not reflected your Divine Image in  
    the world.

Although you have called us to intimacy in Christ,  
we have shunned you in ourselves, in others,  
and in your Creation.

Although you have poured upon us the Spirit of  
freedom,

we have preferred our slavery to our  
passions, greed, and complacency.

Turn to us Lord, even when our hearts turn away  
from you.

Forgive us for the harm we cause to the innocent,  
the vulnerable, the voiceless.

Forgive us for the harm we inflict  
on the very planet that sustains us.

Instill in us a spirit of repentance.

Shake us from our complacency.

Move us to act in accordance with your Will  
for the love of the planet and one another.

Awaken in us the hope of the Resurrection,  
that recalling your boundless love for us  
we may love boundlessly in return.

We ask this in the name of Christ Jesus.

***Amen.***

**PRESIDER:** ✠ Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

*Amen.*

## **THE LESSONS**

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**ASSISTANT:** A reading from the Book of Genesis [1:1–2:4a]

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night;

and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So God created humankind in his image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

***Thanks be to God.***

**CANTICLE 13** *Please join Presider on mute in a responsive reading.*

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \*  
*you are worthy of praise; glory to you.*

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy  
Name; \*  
*we will praise you and highly exalt you for  
ever.*

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \*  
*on the throne of your majesty, glory to  
you.*

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \*  
*we will praise you and highly exalt you for  
ever.*

Glory to you, beholding the depths; \*  
*in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.*

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
*we will praise you and highly exalt you for  
ever.*

## THE EPISTLE

**ASSISTANT:** A reading from The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians [13:11–13]

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.



The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

*Thanks be to God.*

## THE GOSPEL

**PRESIDER:** ✠ A reading from the Holy Gospel  
According to Matthew [28:16–20]

*Glory to you Lord Christ.*

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

May the words of the Gospel be made flesh in us.

*Praise to you Lord Christ.*

# SERMON

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***KINDLY KEEP ALL MICS MUTED DURING SERMON***

*The Rev. Dr. Vincent Pizzuto*



## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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*All are invited to sit in silent communion with one another. Presider will signal the end of our meditation after four minutes.*

## LECTIO DIVINA

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*All are invited to share a short few words, phrases, or themes from the sermon that speak to our hearts. We raise our 'yellow hands' when ready to speak and lower when finished. The Presider will call on us. We listen prayerfully to each one, but do not comment.*

*When the Presider sees that everyone who wishes to speak has done so, the Presider says **Amen**. [We are invited to save further reflections to our Coffee with Jesus.]*

**MUSICA SIGNALS THE END OF THE LECTIO DIVINA.**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

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**ASSISTANT:** Let us together proclaim our profession of faith, which has been handed down to us from ancient of days.

**TÍRECHÁN'S CREED** (from the Patrician Texts from the Book of Armagh, AD670) *Please join Assistant on mute*

Our God is the God of all,  
The God of heaven and Earth,  
The God of the sea and rivers,  
The God of the sun and moon,  
The God of all the heavenly bodies,  
The God of the lofty mountains,  
The God of the lowly valleys.

God is above the heavens;  
And beneath the heavens.  
Heaven and Earth and sea,  
And everything that is in them,  
Such is the abode of the Holy One.

God inspires all things,  
gives life to all things,  
stands above all things,  
And stands beneath all things.

God enlightens the light of the sun,  
strengthens the light of the night and the stars,  
makes wells in the arid land and dry islands in the sea,

And places the stars in the service of the greater lights.

God has a Son who is co-eternal;  
And similar in all respects;  
And neither is the Son younger than the Father,  
Nor is the Father older than the Son;  
And the Holy Spirit breathes in them.

✠ And the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit are inseparable. Amen.

## **THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE**

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**PRESIDER:** ✠ Blessed be God, most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

**ASSISTANT:** And blessed be God's Kingdom now and forever.

*Amen.*

**PRESIDER:** Lord, you taught us always to be reconciled with our sisters and brothers. Let us strive to be faithful to your law of compassion: that we may forgive seven-times-seven, that we may love even our enemies, and bless those who curse us. And where we struggle Lord, let our earnest striving be enough for you, who sent your Son Jesus to be a healing balm of love. In His Name, O God, have mercy.

***Amen.***

**PRESIDER:** My sisters and brothers, the peace of Christ is with you!

**ASSISTANT:** And with your spirit.

**PRESIDER:** Let us embody Christ's peace for one another.

***Presider will invite us into small groups for five minutes to get to know one another. If you are new to St. Columba's we welcome you. If you are a member already, please extend a warm welcome to those in your group. Should you prefer to stay where you are and spend the next five minutes meditating alone, that's fine too!***

## BIDDING PRAYERS

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PRESIDER: The Lord be with you.

*And also with you.*

Let us pray.

*Please pray responsively on mute, led by Presider.*

PRESIDER: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;

*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek  
the Truth.*

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Austin our Bishop in  
the Diocese of California, Sarah Archbishop of  
Canterbury, and for all bishops and other ministers,  
both lay and ordained;  
*For all who serve God and their neighbors.*

For the special concerns of this congregation.

*Silence*

**PRESIDER:** For whom or for what else shall we pray?

*All are invited to voice prayers before the community or  
offer them in the silence of your heart. [Unmute before  
speaking, then kindly mute again.] Prayer Response:*

**PRESIDER:** God hear us,

**ASSISTANT:** *God graciously hear us...*

**PRESIDER:** Lord God, hear the prayers of your people:  
those we have voiced in the presence of your  
Assembly, those we hold in the silence of our hearts,  
and those for which we have yet to find words.

In gratitude and love, we entrust ourselves to you who knows better than we the deepest needs of our hearts. In the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Amen.*

**PRESIDER:** Let us pray as Jesus taught:

Our Father, who art in Heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
And the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.

**PRESIDER:** Savior, Redeemer, Beloved of God, clothe us in your love, strengthen us to live gently on this earth, give us humility to see all we encounter as precious to you, and teach us to walk with kindness and patience this hour and always.

*Amen.*

**PRESIDER:** ☩ May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us and scatter the darkness from our paths; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Three-In-One and One-In-Three be upon us and remain with us always.

*Amen.*

**ASSISTANT:** My siblings in Christ, let us go forth into the world to love and serve the Divine and each other.

*Thanks be to God!*

**CLOSING MUSIC WILL BE PLAYED**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE REACHED OUT  
TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY!**

ONLINE DONATIONS MAY BE MADE VIA THE **"GIVE"** BUTTON ON OUR  
WEBSITE, OR CHECKS MAILED TO:

**ST. COLUMBA'S INVERNESS**  
PO BOX 430  
INVERNESS, CA  
94937

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## **VIRTUAL CHAPEL ONLINE OFFERINGS**

**IF YOU ARE NEWLY JOINING US**

Please go to our website's VIRTUAL CHAPEL to access all of our  
online offerings or to register your name and email to be  
informed of our future offerings:

[www.stcolumbasinverness.org](http://www.stcolumbasinverness.org)

## **NEED PASTORAL ASSISTANCE?**

*Please Email Meredith Burrell  
who can help direct your needs to the right person:*

[mburrell01@hotmail.com](mailto:mburrell01@hotmail.com)

# ONLINE EVENTS

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## NOON PRAYER

*Weekly, Wednesdays, 12pm*

Prayer, scripture study, meditation, and discussion, led by Mother Teri Waldron



## EVENSONG

June 4, 7pm

Led by Ann McChesney-Young.



## ST. COLUMBA'S SERMON RECORDINGS



# ORDINATION

The Rev. Nicole Walters will be ordained to the priesthood in Atlanta on June 20.

Fr. Vincent will be there to present her to the bishop and to represent St. Columba's. For those who would like to make a donation for her ordination gift, please use the QR code here and all donations will go to her gift. We will merge any funds collected into a single check on behalf of the congregation to be used for her to purchase clerical items necessary for all new priests. Please make donations no later than June 10.



You may join the ordination service online:  
June 20, 11:00am–12:30pm PDT  
<https://episcopalatlanta.org/event/ordination-priesthood/>



# IN-PERSON EVENTS

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## PEREGRINATIO SUNDAY

TODAY! Pack a picnic lunch, meet up at 1pm at the Bear Valley Visitor's Center, and walk the 0.6-mile loop on the Earthquake Trail



## CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE CIRCLE

Tuesdays, 3:30–4:30pm

**June 2:** Praying the Jesus Prayer, led by Anna Haight

**June 9:** Pebble Prayer on the Meditation Path, led by Anna Haight

**June 16:** Sacred Songs, Chant, and Walking Meditation



# **ST. COLUMBA'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION**

Sunday, June 7, after church

## **ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE FLEET**

June 14

Procession to the Inverness Yacht Club, 12:30pm

## **WAKE THE DEAD CONCERT**

Sunday, July 5, at 5pm in the Amphitheater,  
Volunteers needed for refreshments, tickets, and  
chair-back rentals. Great fun, bring friends and  
family. Contact Penny Washbourn at  
[pwashbou@gmail.com](mailto:pwashbou@gmail.com)



## **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**

Chapel, Wednesdays, 7pm

## **JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

Celebrate the 20th anniversary of Fr. Vincent's  
ordination

July 12 at St. Columba's



## **ST. COLUMBA'S VIRTUAL DONATIONS PLATE**



## **LAST GIFT BOX**

July 23, see next page for details

## **SAVE THE DATE**

Diocesan convention, October 24, at Grace  
Cathedral, where St. Columba's will be voted in as  
a parish with seat, voice, and vote!



A workshop for all ages  
**Last Gift Box**  
*with Tina Cole Kreitz*  
**Thursday July 23 | 10:30 am-2:30 pm**  
**St. Columba's Inverness**  
Registration \$50



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## **What would it mean to leave clarity instead of confusion? Peace instead of uncertainty?**

Author of “The Last Gift Box, A Present to those who follow me”, since 2013 Tina has presented numerous workshops to faith and community groups on the tremendous gift this book represents and used it in her own personal life. A former educator with a degree in Sociology and a Master’s degree in Clinical Psychology, Tina approaches her subject with a mix of compassion and humor.

The Last Gift Box is your guide to decide how you wish to live and die, how to organize your papers, make medical decisions and how you would like to be remembered. Tina is your guide and support in this process. This workshop provides tricks to getting the work done, meet others committed to completing their gift and share how best to communicate your wishes to your family and friends.

12835 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
Inverness, CA 94937

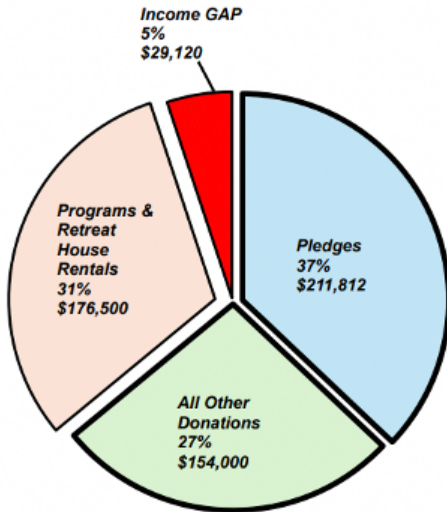
Register at [Stcolumbasinverness.org](http://Stcolumbasinverness.org)



**ST. COLUMBA'S**   
INVERNESS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH | RETREAT HOUSE | CONTEMPLATIVE CENTER

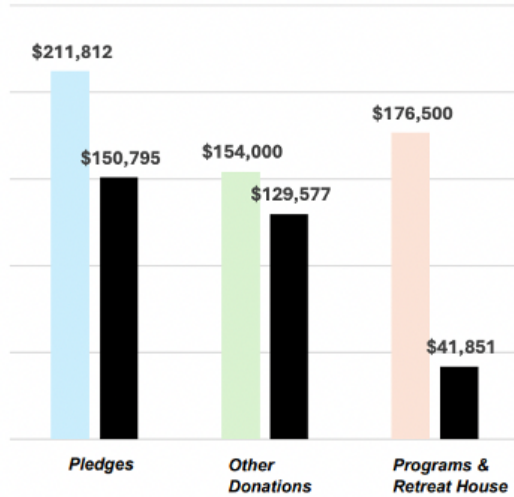
## MAY 2026 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

### BUDGET



2026 Budgeted Income SOURCES

**\$ 571,432**



Year to Date Budget vs. Actual Income

■ = Actual

## SUMMARY OF FUNDS HELD IN ADDITION TO BUDGETED INCOME

(limitations on use & can be held over multiple years)

- **Dedicated Funds** - BC designated for projects or events. These funds are "earmarked" for BC approved projects or events. **\$ 16,989**
  
- **Donor-Restricted Funds** - Donor designated funds for specific projects or event underwriting. Initiated by a donor & approved by the BC. These funds cannot be used to meet any expenses (budgeted or otherwise) outside of the donor's intent for the fund. **\$ 113,790**
  
- **St Columba's Contemplative Center Endowment** - established to provide a reliable source of revenue over time to initiate, support and expand upon the contemplative Christian vision and mission of the Retreat House to establish and maintain the conditions for a financially sustainable Contemplative Center. **\$ 705,542**

## MAY 2026 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

### My notes for announcement:

May is 42% of the year, so that's the "ideal" percentage for our income

Current Actual income=

**Pledges** are 71% of annual budget

**Other donations** (plate, UG, Subsidy from the Diocese) are 84% of annual budget

**RH** (retreat house rentals, programming, community events, gift shop) are 24% of annual budget

- We have \$ 571,432 in budgeted expenses, so to meet our expenses we need \$571,432 in income.
- Notice that income is budgeted almost exactly 1/3 each area -- and we're running a deficit budget with an income GAP of a little under **\$30K**.
- We have had a few large unrestricted gifts which has boosted the Donations area. A small number of donors "front load" their entire pledge at the beginning of the year, which is why pledges are currently at 71%. The goal is for the pledge budget to be met-- i.e., all pledgers will fulfill their 2026 pledge. A little reminder! (You can check with me any time re: your pledge status)
- You can pledge any time during the year! Even today! Every pledge helps lower the GAP!
- RH income is the area that's under budget-- primarily because individual and group retreat house rentals are down, but also because our large income community events (Shakespeare, outdoor concerts, upcoming retreats) have not yet happened.
- Additionally, we ended 2025 with net assets of \$52,700, so that is a cushion that helps in the near future but is not a long term solution.

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The RH income shortage is partially offset by the Dedicated Funds, which are largely RH focused.

### Examples of funds that fall under each category for the RFs:

**BC Dedicated** - 5%, Altar Guild/Flower

**Donor-Restricted-** Personnel supplement fund, B&G, Fire Mitigation, Frick Hall Kitchen Renovation, Music Concert underwriting

The **Endowment's** purpose is to support Contemplative Center vision, which falls under the Retreat House.

# OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS?

# COFFEE WITH JESUS

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*Take few minutes to get your favorite morning beverage and return to us for coffee hour small group conversation.*

