



April 12, 2026

**Worship and Learn with us each Sunday:**

*Traditional Eucharist in the Church Nave*

8a: You can expect a quieter experience of worship without music as well as a smaller congregation.

9a: This service features our Children's, Gallery, and Celtic Choirs, as well as youth handbell ringers.

11:15a: This service features the St. Columba Singers and service is live-streamed on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.

*Wee Worship in the Great Hall*

9:15a: Wee Worship is geared towards our youngest members. The service is well suited for pre-school age children and their families. Songs are easy to jump into, movement is welcome, and the altar is even at child height!

**Formation Hour 10:15a:**

**Sunday Bible, Coffee & Conversation**

In-person at 10:15a in room 212 and on Zoom. All are welcome. For more information and to obtain the zoom link, contact The Rev. David Griswold

**Sunday School for Children and Youth**

Meets in-person from 10:15-11a. See poster in the Common for groups and classroom numbers.

**This weeks forum:**

**Resurrection People: Living the Promise of New Life with Hillary Raining**

At the heart of our faith is the story of resurrection—a hope that life can rise from loss, that light will break through darkness, and that love has the final word. Resurrection is not just an event we remember, but an ongoing invitation to renewal, courage, and transformation in our daily lives. As a church community, we are called to be Resurrection People. This means carrying hope into places of despair, choosing forgiveness over resentment, and seeking new beginnings where others see only endings. In the rhythm of our worship, our relationships, our discipleship, and our outreach, we witness to the truth that nothing is beyond God's power to redeem. Let us root ourselves in the promise of resurrection—not only as a future hope, but as a living reality. May we nurture new growth in ourselves and in our world, embodying the love that rolls away every stone and welcomes new life with open arms..

**Mark your Calendars!**

Columba Day is June 7

**Adult Forums  
Sundays at 10:15a**

April 19  
Creation and Resurrection:  
Native Plants

April 26  
Stephen Ministry

May 3  
Stirring the Waters and  
Antiracism Task Force

May 10  
The Six Resurrections in the  
Gospel of Mark

May 31  
Reurrection and Creative  
Practice



**Upcoming  
WIN Opportunities**

**Candidate Forum  
Sunday, May 17 at 3p**

WIN will gather 1,000+ residents to hear candidates for city office respond to WIN priorities-- a highlight of the election season. To help shape that agenda, St. Columba's will host five listening sessions in April where you can share your priorities for our city.

**Listening Sessions**

It is a historic election year in the District and St. Columba's WIN Core Team is facilitating a conversation on Sunday to hear about issues parishioners want to see addressed by candidates for office. We are joining citizens from across the city in listening sessions to craft the issue agenda WIN presents at its candidate forum on Sunday, May 17 from 3-5 PM. So bear witness; make your voice heard! Please join us on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. in Room 212. Register below for today's session as well as sessions on April 23rd and 29th.

**Register for a listening session**



## Special Worship and Formation Opportunities

### Instructed Eucharist

**Wednesday, April 22 at 6p**

We will celebrate the Eucharist together, stopping several times to learn more about the service.

### Adult Confirmation Mini-Retreat

**Sunday, April 26**

Adults who are interested in Confirmation and Reception on May 17 should attend this confirmation mini-retreat which will cover everything you need to know to confidently step forward for Confirmation and Reception.

This class is also open to anyone who is curious to learn more about the Episcopal Church; no further commitment is required.

### Rogation Day Celebration

**Wed. May 13, 6p**

Join us for special Rogation Day prayers to give thanks for and ask God's blessing on our land, buildings, and all the space that allows us to do ministry for God's sake. This will also be a moment to pray with special intention for our upcoming construction and renovation projects.

### Ascension Day- Kite Flying, Popsicles, and Prayer

**Thur. May 14, 4p**

On Ascension Day, we remember Jesus going up to heaven. Join us after school for some kite flying, popsicles, and prayers in honor of Jesus' ascension.

### Rebuilding Together

**NOTE THIS EVENT OCCURS ON TWO DAYS:**

**April 18 and 25**

For over 35 years, St. Columbans have been helping their DC neighbors in need with home repairs. This year's Rebuilding Together effort will happen on Saturday, April 18 and Saturday, April 25. We will be helping Ms. Peterbark repair her NE Washington DC home from water damage and work on waterproofing her home to prevent further damage. If you are interested in joining this year's effort, please reach out to Susan Higgins at [rebuildingtogether@columba.org](mailto:rebuildingtogether@columba.org).

### St. George Film Premiere

**Sunday April 19th at 2:30p at St. Columba's!**

St. George's and St. Columba's warmly invite both of our parishes to the screening of a documentary film, a product of St. George's Episcopal Church's oral history project, that shares the story of the lived experiences of St. Georgians across many generations. This film also marks a meaningful partnership between our two churches as St. Columba's Beloved Community Fund has made a grant to St. George's to repair past harm and foster a relationship between our churches. Please join with us in the spirit of reconciliation, believing that faithful remembrance and repair are part of the Church's call. Come be part of this moving and hope-filled afternoon!

## Upcoming Environmental Events

### Think Globally Act Locally Faith Hike

**Saturday April 11 10a**

Please join us for a little over 1 mile hike along a "hidden gem" portion of the Archibold Glover trail. Meet at 10 am at the trail marker just east of 4000 Van Ness (behind the McDonald's on Wisconsin Ave). Please RSVP to Karen Abrams ([khabrams5@gmail.com](mailto:khabrams5@gmail.com))

### Growing Joy/Sacred Grounds Native Plant Signup and Webinar

**Thursday April 16 at 7pm**

Join the Thursday April 16 webinar at 7pm "How to Plant Native Plants" as part of our collaboration with the National Wildlife Federation.

Register: <https://bit.ly/SG16Apr26> Pledge to plant native plants at home and receive a starter native plant kit for pick up at the St. Columba's Plan Sale on May 10

### Stuff the Shed

**Drop off at church April 26th**

Help Seabury stuff the shed this year with cleaning and yard work supplies for Seabury Age-In-Place®, which helps older adults maintain their independence by providing volunteer yard work and house cleaning. "Stuff the Shed" donations help to replenish our supplies of tools, lawn and trash bags, and supplies ahead of our summer work season.

Learn More: <https://www.seaburyresources.org/>



### Caring For Our Neighbors at San Mateo

On Holy Thursday, volunteers packed rice and beans for our neighbors at San Mateo Episcopal Church. We're helping with the effort to provide groceries to 300+ families on a monthly basis. Interested in volunteering? Contact John Nolan ([nolan.johnm@gmail.com](mailto:nolan.johnm@gmail.com)) or Sally Rand ([srand1977@outlook.com](mailto:srand1977@outlook.com)) to sign up for future dates.



## Wednesdays at St. Columba's Wednesday Night Supper Returns on January 7 5:00-6:45p

Please join us for Wednesday Night Supper every Wednesday in the Great Hall. Bring a friend, bring your family, a neighbor or pay it forward so someone can come.

A quick Wednesday Worship Service takes place at 6:00p following supper if you wish to attend.

If you are in a position to help and feel called to do so, you can Pay it Forward by scanning the QR code.

**April 15th** No Wednesday supper

**April 22nd** Instructed Eucharist at 6pm  
We will celebrate the Eucharist together, stopping several times to learn more about the service.

**April 29th** Pizza and Game Night

**May 6th** Supper and Interfaith Evening Prayer at 6p, Conversation following supper

**May 13th** Final supper of the program year-  
The leaders of the Brooks Family Shelter and DC 127, two local nonprofits, will come and speak about the ways that they are supporting families in the District with housing, employment, support, resources and education.



## Wednesday Groups:

### Young Adults Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:00p

Join the St. Columba's Young Adults group for a Bible Study. We will meet in the Church Library for study, discussion, prayer and fellowship.

Contact Sarah Griffin(sjg86@georgetown.edu) for more information or to join the email list.

### The Gospel of Dostoevsky: A Parish Reading Group on The Brothers Karamazov

The Brothers Karamazov is considered one of the greatest books ever written. Undoubtedly, it is a book from beginning to end about faith. And one, hopefully, that will challenge every reader to journey deeper into their faith. At various points while Dostoevsky was developing the book he considered it to be a book about the life of children, the true mission of the church, a journey from atheism to faith in Christ. What he made was a book about all those things and much more. Psychology, existentialism, freedom of the will, \*true\* Russian life, our incomprehensible ability to deceive ourselves and others, and on and on.

**When: Wednesday @ 6:45p - 8p**  
**When: April 8th - June 3rd**  
**Where: 212 (and on zoom)**  
**Contact: jdaniel@columba.org**



## NEW! Spring Book Study: "The Difficult Words of Jesus." Meetings begin on Wednesday April 29 at 10:00a on Zoom

Come and explore some of the most challenging teaching in the New Testament, as our Wednesday Bible group discusses "The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings" by Amy-Jill Levine. All are invited to this six-week study on Zoom.

Jesus taught his disciples how to follow Torah, God's word; he told parables to help them reflect on questions of ethics and of human nature; he offered beatitudes for comfort and encouragement. But sometimes Jesus spoke words that followers then and now have found difficult. Sell what you own... Hate father and mother... Be the slave of all... It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs... These and other statements can puzzle and disturb us.

Widely respected Jewish-Christian scholar Amy-Jill Levine shows how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how they have been understood over time, and how we might interpret them today in our mission to live God's love.

Meetings begin on Wednesday April 29 at 10:00 am on Zoom, and participants will need to obtain the book. To learn more about the book: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/57322340-the-difficult-words-of-jesus>  
For more about the study and to obtain the Zoom link, please contact the Rev. David Griswold at [dgriswold@columba.org](mailto:dgriswold@columba.org)

## Wednesday Morning Yoga at St. Columba's at 9:30a

This Level 1 yoga practice will build strength, balance, and flexibility while deepening the connection between mind, body, and spirit. In a gentle vinyasa flow style, we will explore creative sequences where the breath is synchronized with movement. The instructor, Sara Curtin has been a yoga instructor since 2012 and has enjoyed teaching in diverse settings around Washington, DC. Her classes are dynamic, fun, and tailored to the group in the room. Cost is \$10 per class.



# Meaningful Connections

## Prayer Group

### **Mondays at 7:30a**

During these unsettling times, we invite you to gather for a 20-minute facilitated prayer and check-in to start your week. Let the spirit of St. Columba's hold and support you. The group continues to welcome new attendees. Contact Patty Jensen: jensenpatriciak@gmail.com if you wish to participate and/or have any questions.

## First Thursday Seniors' Group

### **12:00 – 1:30p, Great Hall**

Gatherings for people 65 and older to socialize, learn, and feed the spirit. Bring your own lunch and a friend – no need to register in advance!

## LGBTQ+ Group for Parents

### **Monthly on Mondays- please contact group leader for date/time**

A group for parents of children, of all ages, who identify as LGBTQ+ that meets on the second Monday of the month. Contact LGBTQParentGroup@columba.org for meeting time and location, or fill out the form below. Please reach out to the leaders if you are interested in attending or have questions.

## The Benedictine Cell

### **First and third Wednesdays of the month at 6p**

Contact Marjorie Swett for the zoom link and any questions, mbswett@hotmail.com

The Cell is a group that reflects on portions of The Rule of St. Benedict, to consider how the wisdom of this ancient spiritual guidance applies to our contemporary lives. The group is a supportive context for each of us on this journey. All are welcome to participate, regularly, or when you can.

## Widows and Widowers Group Beginning in January 2026

### **Second and Fourth Thursdays at 12p**

In January, St. Columba's will begin offering a group for those who have lost their spouse or significant other. Whether you have recently lost your partner or it was many years ago, this will be a time where we hope you can find companionship and support as you navigate the unique circumstances of widowhood. This group will meet twice a month at church (the second and fourth Thursday from 12-1p) beginning in January 2026. Please contact Cindy Dopp cdopp@columba.org / (240) 893-2693

## Bible, Coffee and Conversation

### **Sundays at 10:15a in Room 220**

Discuss the scripture readings for the week and reflect on their meaning for our faith journeys and St. C's mission in the community.

## Spring Grief Group

### **Wednesdays beginning April 22 - May 27 at 7p**

Those who have recently lost someone to death are invited to participate in a grief support group that will meet at the church at 7 pm on six Wednesdays beginning April 22nd and continuing through May 27th.

The meetings will be a time of mutual sharing of stories and reflection on the profound, even sacred, passage one goes through when a loved one dies. Contact Courtney Hundley for more information: chundley@columba.org

## Loving Kindness Practice

### **Thursdays from 12:00-12:30p in Room 212 and Zoom**

Take a moment for yourself and join Courtney Hundley for a Loving Kindness practice. This gentle practice offers a chance to slow down, nurture your spirit, and cultivate compassion for yourself and others. Whether you're new to meditation or have practiced before, this session is a peaceful way to pause, breathe, and reconnect during your day.

# Can we pray for you?

## Submit a Prayer Request

If you feel comfortable submitting a form, visit: [Columba.org/pray-for-me](https://www.columba.org/pray-for-me)

## Receiving Healing Prayer

Healing Prayer Ministers can pray with you on second and fourth Sundays during communion.

## Pastoral Care

If you need to speak to someone directly, email: [pastoral@columba.org](mailto:pastoral@columba.org) or please call 202-669-4856

Upcoming funerals:

<https://www.columba.org/upcoming-funerals/>

# Are you New? We are so happy you're here!

Contact Courtney Hundley  
Minister for Member Engagement  
[chundley@columba.org](mailto:chundley@columba.org)  
for info on how to get involved!

## Meet Our Clergy

The Rev. Dr. Hillary Raining, Rector  
The Rev. Dr. Joshua Daniel,  
Senior Associate Rector  
The Rev. Adelyn Tyler-Williams,  
Associate Rector  
The Rev. Susan Flanders, Priest Associate  
The Rev. David Griswold, Deacon  
The Rev. Cindy Dopp, Deacon  
The Rev. Joy Carroll Wallis  
The Rev. Santana Bartoldus, Deacon  
Seminarian  
Katelyn Printz, Seminarian

