

St Columba's Church

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA



Parish Priest: Fr. Russell Cooke

Tel: 01244 400873 E-mail: st.columba@btinternet.com

Deacon: Rev. Lawrence Hordley: Tel: 01244 342048, Mobile 0796 051 7463

Parish website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. SUNDAY 17th JANUARY 2016

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil	7.15 p.m.	INTENTIONS:	Denis O'Donovan. A.
Sunday	9.15 a.m.		Lisa Christkansen.
	11.00 a.m.		The Parish.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.		Service of Word & Communion.
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.		" "
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.		" "
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.		" "
Friday:	9.15 a.m.		" "
Saturday	9.15 a.m.		NO SERVICE
Saturday Vigil:	7.15 p.m.		The Parish.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.		Mrs. G. Shanley.
	11.00 a.m.		Bob Meadows. A.

MORNING PRAYER:

Each morning at 9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, Monday through to Saturday, except Wednesdays.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday, from 6.45 to 7.10 p.m. (prior to the Vigil Mass).

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Rowena Thompson, Angela Finan, Mary Anne Corner, Eliza Dean, John Rooney, Joan Mary Connolly, Kenneth Liversage, Helen Wilson, Rosemary Larsen, Jack Cunniff, John Abbott, Veronica Martell, Edith Watkins, Ann Mahoney, John Joseph McLoughlin, Ian William Mylchreest, Bryan Burden, Maurice King, Reg Wells, Annie O'Loughlin, Margaret Holding, Eileen Coombes, Jason Monet, Siobhan McKenna, Raymond James Storton, Elsie Rowlands, William Woods, Mgr. George Roger Leonard, Joan Connolly, Nora Margaret Connolly, David Noel Beckett, , Bridget O'Malley, William Hope, Mary (Molly) Tallon, Monica Tweedle, Olivia Trotter, Tony Comerford, Richard Monet, James Kilcoyne, Florence Donnolly, Dorothy Tallon, Reginald Walpole, Anne Cunniff, Ivy Katherine Vickery, Mary McCallum , Michael Gritten, William Carter, Edward Halligan, John Mahoney, Robert Stephen Macdonald, Vicky Smith, Susan Pollock, Charles Dutton, Christine Elizabeth Colgan, Ann-Marie Loughlin.

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. Please contact Claire Graham on 01244 341287 / 0788 055 3830.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND READERS ROTA:

Please ensure you pick up new Rota from the table in the front porch. This Rota includes Lent. Carol will send out the Holy Week Rota later. *Many thanks.*

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£546.19
Planned Giving:	£591.54
Average Weekly SOs:	£683.00
Donations: Candles.	£53.70

Many thanks for your generous support.

If you are interested in joining the Planned Giving and/or Gift Aid schemes, please ring David Savage on 01244 380626.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

17 th Jan 9.15am	Parish
11.00am	Fr. Cooke's Farewell Gathering
24 th Jan	Annette Albuquerque NEOnatal
31 st Jan	Sue Carr OAKS

There are a few Sunday coffee mornings vacant this coming year. If you can devote a couple of hours either to raise money for the parish or a charity of your choice, please put your name on the rota or contact Margaret Curtis 318424 for more details. Tea, coffee and juice are served in the hall after both Sunday Masses. All are welcome.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Newton Lane, Appleton Road and Handforth Road.
- For the Archive Group, Social Committees and fundraising groups.
- For the fellowship and sharing at social gatherings.

FIRST FORGIVENESS MEETING:

The First Forgiveness Celebration for the children will be on **Saturday 6th February** at 10.00 a.m. here at St. Columba's church.

CESHIRE CHURCHES TOGETHER – WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2016:

A service will be held at Chester Cathedral on **Sunday, 24th January** at 4.00p.m. The preacher will be Rev. Lord Leslie Griffiths, former President of the Methodist Conference. All are welcome.

THANK YOU:

The family of Walter James Hale would like to express appreciation and thanks to everyone who helped to arrange and celebrate Walter's Requiem on 6th January.

FR. COOKE'S RETIREMENT:

This is Fr. Cooke's final weekend as our Parish Priest. He has been with us since 1997 and we offer him all our thanks for his years of service at St. Columba's and in support of our schools. We offer our prayers that he will have a long and happy retirement.

- The 11.00 a.m. Sunday Mass will be followed by a Farewell Gathering and presentation in the Hall, to which all are warmly invited.
- Thank you for the contributions to Fr. Cooke's Leaving Book. After the 7.15 p.m. Vigil Mass and 9.15 a.m. Sunday Mass Richard Curtis will be at the rear porch in order for parishioners to write their own farewell message in the book. Rich will be in the Hall after the 11 a.m. Mass.

PEACE SUNDAY:

This Sunday is a **Day of Special Prayer for World Peace**. Each year, this day in January is set as an opportunity to reflect on the Pope's World Day of Peace message. This year, Pope Francis' message – *Overcome Indifference and Win Peace* – is an exploration of the various factors which, in the midst of all the tragedies besetting the world, offer signs of hope. He encourages everyone not to lose hope in our human ability to conquer evil, and to combat resignation and indifference. You can see the Pope's Message in full via a link on the parish website, Resources section.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

- Tuesday, **St. Wulstan** (1008-1095), a Benedictine monk who became Bishop of Worcester and was unusually successful in combining monastic and diocesan duties. As an Anglo-Saxon, he was also unusually successful in weathering the turmoil of the Norman Conquest. He played an active role in the abolition of the slave trade between Bristol and the Viking domains in Ireland, and lived to the venerable age of 87.
- Thursday, **St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr**. Very little is known of her except that she died around 304 and was one of the most widely venerated of the Roman martyrs. She refused to be married and consecrated herself to God. When persecution broke out she offered herself, at the age of about 12 for martyrdom and was executed by being stabbed in the throat.

SIGN AT THE CONFESSIONAL:

The sign at the Confessional has been provided by the Diocese to mark the Jubilee of Mercy. In *Misericordiae Vultus* Pope Francis places the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre of this Jubilee Year. The Holy Father writes, "*so many people, including the youth, are returning to the Sacrament of Reconciliation; through this experience they are re-discovering a path back to the Lord, living a moment of intense prayer and finding meaning in their lives. Let us place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands. For every penitent, it will be a source of true interior peace.*" (n 17)

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE:

This year the Mass for Marriage and Family Life with Bishop Mark will be celebrated at noon on **Saturday 6th February** here at St Columba's. All married couples and families are welcome, but if you are a couple celebrating a significant wedding anniversary (silver, pearl, ruby, golden or platinum) and you wish to attend, **please let our parish know by Monday 18th January** and we will arrange for a special invitation to be sent you on behalf of the Bishop. (Please drop a note into the presbytery, or email Deacon

Lawrence at lhordley@btinternet.com or phone him at 01244 342048.)

UPTON CHURCHES TOGETHER WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING:

A coffee morning is held each Monday at The Pavilion in Upton (by Upton Library) from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. This is an ideal opportunity to meet and make friends in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere. If anyone is interested in helping out, please come along on a Monday to find out more.

UPTON CHURCHES T PRAYER REQUESTS:

Upton Churches Together have started an initiative to extend the current practise of praying for the residents of particular roads by encouraging individual prayer requests. Requests can be made by writing on a piece of paper and posting it to Prayer Meeting, Upton United reformed Church, Heath Road, Chester or by email to info@uptonurc.org.uk More details are on posters on the Church notice boards.

PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE:

Rob Ellsworth, CAFOD's Policy Adviser for Climate and Energy, is giving a talk at the University of Chester "*The Paris Agreement: a new beginning (for old battles)*". This will be on **Tuesday 2nd February** at 7.00 p.m. in Best Building, Chester Campus. The talk is arranged jointly by the University and the Chester World Development Forum, and all are welcome. See posters in the porches and on the parish website.

A WAR-TORN PARISH – ST. WERBURGH'S, CHESTER:

This exhibition has recently opened at Chester History and Heritage, Bridge Street. It is based on the Great War Display in St. Werburgh's Church, Nov. 2014. It is open Mon-Fri, 10-12am and 1-4pm. and describes the parish just before, during and just after the Great War. Please invite your friends, as it is well worth a visit.

ST. COLUMBA'S HALL BOOKINGS:

For all Hall bookings and enquiries please contact Sue Carr on 07553 114531
E-mail: columbashallbookings@gmail.com

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Ann Siddall
Tel: 01244 371787 Email: a-siddall@sky.com
Items for inclusion can be left in the blue folder in the Sacristy. Please ensure that all items are in place by 9.00 a.m. on Thursday. Please include a phone number in case of queries.

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk