



*St Columba's:*  
1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton,  
Chester, CH2 1SA  
01244 624019

# Catholic Churches of St Columba and St Theresa

Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan Brandon

[stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com](mailto:stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com)

Parochial Administrator, St Theresa's: Fr Isidore Madueke

[st.theresas@btinternet.com](mailto:st.theresas@btinternet.com)

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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025



*St Theresa's:*  
128 Blacon Avenue  
Chester, CH1 5BU  
01244 371660

- ❖ Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy: Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available.
- ❖ Parish Safeguarding Representative: Claire Graham. Tel 01244 341287 or 0788 055 3830.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 18 DECEMBER 2016

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December

St. Theresa's 10.00 a.m. Parishioners' Intentions  
St. Columba's 6.30 p.m. The Parish **Vigil Mass**

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December

St. Theresa's 9.30 a.m. Frank Lally RIP  
St. Columba's 11.00 a.m. Lily Jones  
4.00 p.m. Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament Holy Hour

### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December

St. Columba's 9.15 a.m. Denis Lace  
St. Theresa's 9.00 a.m. Private Intentions

### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

St Columba's 9.15 a.m. Carmel Walsh  
St. Theresa's 6.30 pm Dave Jeffs RIP

### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

St Columba's 9.15 a.m. Maureen Giannasi  
St Theresa's 7.00 p.m. Keith Evans RIP

### Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

St Theresa's 9.00 a.m. Constance & Joseph  
Rowlands  
St. Columba's 9.15 a.m. Molly Massey

### Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December

St Theresa's 8-8.55 a.m. Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament  
9.00 a.m. David&George Joyce  
St Columba's 7.00 p.m. John&Bertha Cummings

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December

St. Theresa's **4.30 pm** Readings & Carols  
**Vigil Mass 5.00 pm.** Parishioners' Intentions  
St Columba's:  
**Christmas Vigil 6.00 pm** Kevin & Francis Connolly  
**Night Mass 9.00 pm** Sean Backhouse

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December

St Theresa's 9.30 a.m. Parishioners' Intentions  
St Columba's:  
**Dawn Mass 9.15 am** Ann McGowan Scanlon  
**Children's Nat. 11.00 am** The Parish

### CONFESSIONS:

**St. Columba's:** Between 6.00 pm.and 6.25pm. before the Vigil Mass. At other times by arrangement with Fr. Jonathan.

**St. Theresa's:** Confessions heard after every weekday Mass.

### MORNING PRAYER (St. Columba's):

At 9.00 a.m. before the Blessed Sacrament in the Iona Chapel, Monday through to Thursday, except Wednesdays, when Morning Prayer will commence at 8.50 a.m. followed at 9.10 a.m. by Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour prior to Mass.

### BAPTISMS:

**St. Columba's:** By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Jonathan to arrange a date, please contact Claire O'Donnell 07743 704383.

Baby Matthew Drinkall will be baptised this Sunday, we welcome him to the parish family of St. Columba. Our warmest congratulations to Matthew's parents, big brother, family and friends attending Matthew's baptism. Please keep the family in your prayers.

**St. Theresa's:** To arrange a Baptism, please contact Fr. Isidore.

### ST. COLUMBA'S ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Mary Foley, Michael Francis Sharkey, Micheal Hayes, Robert Smith-White, Patricia Ann Rose Howe & Nora Kinder, James Judge, Muriel Hoole, Gerard Monroe Gibbons, Sue McGann, Frances Williams, Bridie Rowley, Frances Williams, Samuel Joseph Kenyon, Margaret Hill, John Joseph Cox, Thomas Williams, Desmond Joseph "Bob" Breen, John Carney, Sean Backhouse, David Thomas Cross, John Ignatius Mitchell, Molly Massey, Charles Fisher, Connie Barlow, Maria Galvin, Nora Garry, Patrick Joseph Burke, John McLoughlin, Brigid Lynch, Terence Ogg, John Galvin, Eileen Burden, Florence Toop, Nellie Lennon, Elizabeth Mary Teresa Rimmer, Gerry Hickey, Mike Ayland, Carol Finan, Michael Grisdale, James Edward Price, Sheila Hayden, Walter James Hale, George John, William John, Edward John, Doris McCleary, Ann Chesters

### ST. THERESA'S ANNIVERSARIES:

Patricia Rogers, Frederick Burgess, Ethel Pryce, Patricia Bird, Frances Dwerryhouse, Ronald Brown, Ellen Jones, Mary Moore, Louise Brennan, Peter Joyce, Winifred Johnson, Hendricus (Derek) Van Strien, Mary McLean, Francis Lally, William Mealor, John O'Kelly, Johanna Kavanagh, Jessica Johnson, Myrna Jarvis, Pamela Meyrick, Emily McManus, Rachel Holmes, Mary Whittaker, Jeremiah (Jerry) Ring

### CHRISTINGLE APPEAL – THIS SUNDAY:

We would again like to help the children of Bo in Sierra Leone by our Christingle Appeal for the OAKS charity (Overseas Aid for the Kids of Sierra Leone). Any support we can give them for their ongoing educational needs is always greatly appreciated. For information, see [www.oaks-sl.org](http://www.oaks-sl.org) Please take an envelope from either porch this weekend and return it in the normal offertory baskets next week, or to Pauline Payne. Many thanks.

### ST. THERESA'S CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY:

There are Readings and Carols at 4.30pm and the Children's Mass at 5pm.

### ST COLUMBA'S CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY:

If your child would like to take part in the short Nativity during the 6pm Mass at St Columba's on Christmas Eve please contact Rachel Borman or Claire Graham on 01244 981228 or 07880553830. We will have a short practice after the 11am Mass on Sunday 18th December.

### ST COLUMBA'S CHRISTMAS DAY NATIVITY:

Could the children who are taking part in the Nativity Scene at the 11.00 a.m. Mass on Christmas morning please collect their clothes from the Iona Chapel after the 11.00am Mass today, 11th December. If any other children would like to take part please get in touch with Pauline Payne: Tel 01244 350323 or email [pauline.payne4@btinternet.com](mailto:pauline.payne4@btinternet.com).

### OFFERTORY:

**St. Columba's:** Loose Plate £384.45, Planned Giving £556.79, average weekly STOs £720.00

**St. Theresa's** £335.69 plus an average STO's of £130

### PRIESTS' TRAINING FUND:

The total amount collected at St Columba's during the recent collection was £546.00. In addition there was a donation of £250.00 to the Priests' Retirement Fund. Many thanks for your generosity.

### FLOWERS (ST THERESA'S):

We would be grateful for donations towards the flowers or poinsettia plants to decorate St Theresa's at Christmas. Please leave any plants by Friday 23rd December.

### ALTAR SERVERS:

If anyone who has received their First Holy Communion is interested in becoming an altar server, please contact Richard Curtis on [rich.curtis89@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rich.curtis89@yahoo.co.uk).

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' & READERS' ROTAS:

The new rotas (St. Theresa's) are now available in the sacristy.

### UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Woburn Drive, Halton Road, Dorset Place and Cotswold Close.
- The Youth Clubs and Youth Workers in our churches.
- All young people in our community.

### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE:

#### St. Columba's:

18th Dec Any volunteers please?

25th Dec CHRISTMAS DAY!!

1st Jan Marg & Jacqui Parish

8th Jan Sue C OAKS

Tea coffee juice are available in the hall after Sunday Mass.

All are welcome.

The 2017 coffee rota is pinned up on the notice board in the hall, if you would like to make tea/coffee for a charity of your choice please add your name and ring Marg Curtis 318424.

**St Theresa's:** Tea, coffee and juice are available in the Parish Club after 9.30am Mass. All are very welcome.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON CAROL

#### SINGING:

We would be very glad of your support on the following occasions of carol singing out in the community. The only qualification is that you enjoy singing carols! Please arrive at the venue 10 minutes before the scheduled time:

- **Monday 19<sup>th</sup>:** 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon at The Pavilion, Wealstone Lane (part of the regular coffee morning).
- **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>:** 2.30 p.m. at Orchard Manor, Acres Lane.

### CLEANERS (ST THERESA'S):

If anyone is able to clean the church once a month we would be very grateful for your help. Please ring the presbytery 01244 371660 and leave your name & number if no one answers and we'll get back to you.

#### CLEANERS' ROTA B (St. Theresa's)

### CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

A Carol Service will be held on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** at 6:30 p.m. at the Catholic High School, followed by refreshments, a Christmas raffle and musical entertainment by the School Jazz Band. Free entrance. Everybody is welcome.

### ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS:

To arrange meetings etc. in either the Church or the Iona Chapel **please make a booking through Carol Galvin,**  
**Church Office: 01244 624019, email**  
**stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com**

For all Hall bookings and enquiries please contact Sue Carr on 07553 114531 or email [columbashallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:columbashallbookings@gmail.com)

### NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Ann Siddall, 01244-371787, email [a-siddall@sky.com](mailto:a-siddall@sky.com)

Items for inclusion can be left in the Sacristy at either church. Please ensure that all items are in place by 9.00 a.m. on **Wednesday**. Please include a phone number in case of queries.

### **CHRISTINGLE CAROL -11.00 a.m. MASS:**

1. O sing about Christingle, your voices loud employ,  
Your praises bring to God our King, for Jesus and His joy.
2. The orange of Christingle, the world reminds us of,  
And how our God created us, and on us shed His love.
3. The candle of Christingle, with shining flame so bright,  
Reminds us of our loving Lord, who is the world's true light.
4. The red band of Christingle, which plainly we can see,  
Reminds us of how Jesus Christ was killed upon that tree.
5. The four sticks of Christingle, with which the orb we spear,  
Remind us how God cares for us, through seasons of the year.
6. The fruits of the Christingle, they have a special worth,  
Reminding of the Spirit's fruits as well as fruits of earth.
7. The whole of the Christingle, it is a joy to see,  
It shines to show how God our Father loves both you and me.

### **HOLY HOUR:**

A Holy Hour concluding with Evening Prayer and Benediction is being held on Sundays throughout Advent, commencing at 4pm. Please come and join in.

#### **What is a 'Holy Hour'?**

Jesus asked his disciples in The Garden of Gethsemane to watch one hour with him. In Eucharistic Adoration the Blessed Sacrament of The Body and Blood of Jesus consecrated at Mass is exposed in a special vessel called a Monstrance. Exposition is based on our faith that the bread and wine are transformed in Mass into the Body, Blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. Praying before Jesus Christ uniquely present in the Blessed Sacrament has throughout the centuries been a privileged time for Christians to pray and meditate in the very presence of the Lord. Even if we are unable to find one whole hour, we can still devote 'quality time' to Jesus present in The Blessed Sacrament even if we can only spare ten or twenty minutes.

### **CHURCH RAMP (ST THERESA'S):**

As you will have seen, work has started on the ramp, it is hoped to be completed by the end of January.

### **200 CLUB (ST THERESA'S):**

The winners of the 200 club are £150 A. McCarthy (no. 72) £100 G.Gilhooley (no.74) and £50 M.Lane(. no. 15)

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

Thank you to everyone who made the seniors' Christmas party a big success. Thanks to all the helpers, and a special thank you to Upton Community Choir for the brilliant entertainment.

### **SEWING GROUP QUILT:**

The St. Columba's sewing group "Needles and Pins have raffled the Grandmother's Flower Garden double quilt which they hand made. The lucky winner is Enid and £216 has been donated to The Hospice of the Good Shepherd. Thank you very much to those who worked on the quilt and to those who bought raffle tickets.

### **CHURCH HEATING:**

The gas heaters in the church have had their annual service and all are working well and efficiently and saving us a lot of money. The engineer did, however, notice that the gas supply to two of them had been turned off. This is potentially dangerous. Please, please, please - do not endanger safety by interfering with the heaters at all. Pauline Rourke; Buildings Committee.

### **WALSINGHAM RETREAT TRIP:**

Walsingham retreat from 24th to 27th April 2017, cost £225 p.p. availability of 50 places. Please advise your interest sooner rather than later. Places will be offered to the parishioners from St Columba's, St Theresa's, the Wirral & Ellesmere Port. If interested please telephone Janette Doherty 01244 678265

### **CARITAS, DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY (CARITAS):**

As from 9th December 2016 the Catholic Children's Society was officially replaced by Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury, to serve as the Diocesan Social and Community Work Agency. The change to Caritas will allow us to expand our portfolio of services to children and families to include intergenerational work, youth at risk of homelessness, and support for those seeking asylum and refuge. All staff and services have transferred to the new charity and contact numbers remain the same. Those of you who have a "little house" collection box, or contribute by standing order will be contacted in due course. CARITAS is an exciting new project; we need your support and prayers as we begin this new journey. Thank you, Mary Kilcoyne, Director of Catholic Children's Society.

### **YEMEN CRISIS APPEAL:**

CAFOD is part of the national appeal by the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) to respond to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen – where as many as 7 million civilians caught up in the horrific civil war are suffering from severe hunger. CAFOD's partner in Yemen is providing humanitarian assistance in the form of food, water, medical care and shelter. Parishioners can donate online via [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk), or by cheque to CAFOD at Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7JB or by phone 0303 303 3030.

### **SHREWSBURY CATHOLIC VOICE:**

Copies of the Christmas 2016 issue of the Diocesan magazine Shrewsbury Voice are available in either porch, price £1.