

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 OF LENT SUNDAY 1st MARCH 2015

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.
	11.00 a.m.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.
Friday:	9.15 a.m.
	7.15 p.m.
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.
	11.00 a.m.

INTENTIONS:

Charles O'Donnell
The Parish
Fr. William Dowds
Frances Connolly RIP
Audrey Mullan
Kathleen Stone LD
John Cummings
Bob Meadows
Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion
Margaret Leaver
Elizabeth Williams BR
The Parish
Mary Isabel Styles

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Cooke to arrange a date, please contact Claire Graham on 01244 341287 / 0788 055 3830.

MORNING PRAYER:

Each morning at 9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, Monday through to Saturday, except Wednesdays when Novena prayers are held at 9.15 a.m. before Mass commences.

LATELY DEAD:

Patricia McClure and Frances Connolly

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Mary Ellen Stansfield, Florence Edwards, John Daniel Jones, James Brian Kilcoyne, Cissie Jones, Margaret Rose Wollschlarger, Hugh Campbell, Stephen John Blythe, Maud Yates, Cornelius Heffernan, Elizabeth Heffernan, Thomas Conlon, Ulrica Lester, Mary Dutton, Ian Allmark, Anne Holland, Ellen Catherine Kerr, Sheila McCabe, Alfred Bolton, Sheila Faye, Bridget Roberts, Joan Burrows, Cornlius Murphy, Noel Morrissey, John Burrell, Anthony Xuereb, Philip Anthony (Tony) Lambe, Terence (Terry) Cunningham, Gemma Elizabeth Holcroft, John Nigel Burrell, Veronica Eileen McPeake, William Rodgers, Frederick Fletcher, Dolores Coriam, Walter Kenneth James Cooper, Michael Hutfield, Fred Hutfield, Alan Frederick Barker, Lily Margaret Jones, Michael Hogan, Margaret Hennessy, Thomas Anthony Evans, Gerald A Rigby

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday; after morning Mass, and in the evening from 6.45 until 7.10 p.m.

SVP COLLECTION:

The SVP collection will take place this weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£524.53
Planned Giving:	£537.93
Average Weekly SOs:	£510.00
Piety Stall:	£112.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

SPUC WHITE FLOWER COLLECTION:

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children is to hold the Annual White Flower Appeal at St Columba's on Sat 7th/Sun 8th March. SPUC defends Human Life, from conception to natural death. Please give generously to our collection. Thank you.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND:

This collection will remain open for a couple of weeks. Envelopes are available in both porches for your donations together with information about setting up a Standing Order to the Fund.

PRAYER INTENTIONS IN LENT:

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- Residents of Rosewood Avenue, Whitby Avenue and Egerton Drive.
- Those on the brass and flower rotas, and those who distribute flowers.
- Those who clean our churches and halls.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

Mar 1st	Marg & Jacque	Fellowship Lunch
Mar 8th	CHS PTA	Themselves
Mar 15th	Sewing Group	

The next coffee rota is on the notice board in the hall. There are some vacancies. If you would like to volunteer please add your name. *Teas, coffees and juices are served in the Hall after both Sunday morning Masses. All are welcome.*

CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT STUDY GROUPS:

This year's Lent Study Groups will be held in the Kempe Room at Holy Ascension Church on the remaining five Tuesdays in Lent: **3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st March**. There will be two sessions: at 2.00 p.m. and repeated at 7.30 p.m.

“THE CALL, THE JOURNEY AND THE MISSION”:

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Bishops of England and Wales are inviting us to reflect on marriage and family life, in preparation for the further Synod taking place in Rome in October 2015 on the very vital topic “*The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World*”..

Fr. Cooke encourages St. Columba’s parishioners to use this Lenten season as the opportunity to consider and respond to the consultation document.

- Copies of the Bishops’ 4-page document are available in both porches - also accessible on the Resources section of the parish website;
- We will hold a parish gathering to explain in more detail the Bishops’ invitation, and to explore the ways we can respond to the questions it raises. **You are warmly invited to attend this gathering, on Sunday 8th March, 7.00pm in the church Hall.**

If you are unable to attend the gathering, please still take a copy of the document – it contains details of how to submit your responses to the Bishops, via the diocese’s Marriage and Family Life Commission.

FEAST OF THE WEEK:

1st March is the feast of **St. David**, Bishop, Patron of Wales. David (Dewi) lived in the 6th century, his lifetime more or less coinciding with that of fellow Celt, Columba – though we don’t know if they actually met. David was a monastic saint, founding ten or more monasteries, including Glastonbury and Menevia (now St. David’s, in the SW corner of Wales). He became Archbishop of Wales and is credited with the conversion of all Wales to Christianity. His monastery at Menevia was also a training ground for a number of Irish saints, through whom St. David had a major influence on the development of the Irish monastic movement.

CATHOLIC GRADUATES:

The Catholic bishops are recruiting for their scheme to provide 8 recently graduated Catholics with an intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. Closing date Weds 4 March. See <http://www.cbew.org.uk/interns>

HOSPITAL MASS:

The regular "First Thursday" Mass will be celebrated on 5th March at 12.15pm in the Countess of Chester hospital Chapel. This is for patients/outpatients, staff, families and friends, and the wellbeing of our hospital. All are welcome.

WOMEN’S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

This year the Service has been compiled by ladies in the Bahamas, and will be at the Upton United Reform Church, Heath Road, Upton, on 6th March at 10.30 a.m. The Service is open to all and will last for about 1 hour, followed by refreshments in the Church hall.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE:

The Chester Section of the Catholic Women's League will celebrate a Day of Reflection on Sunday 8th March at the Convent of the Poor Clare Collettines, Hawarden. It will begin at around 10.30 and close at around 4pm. Any ladies who would care to join us would be very welcome. Meals are provided and we would pay a small cost. Contact Mary Kilcoyne 347238 or Marian Curtis 341307

PARISH CATECHISTS:

All catechists involved in the preparation programmes for Baptism, First Sacraments and Confirmation, and in the Children’s Liturgy team are asked to look at the two posters in both porches giving details of the Formation Day for everyone on Saturday 14th March, and dates for other relevant days for catechists. These posters can also be seen on the Noticeboard section of the parish website.

FLOWER WORKSHOP:

St Columba's flower ladies are holding a flower workshop in the hall on Thursday afternoon 19th March. Anyone interested please put your name on the list in the back porch, or see Sue, Anne, Marie. No skills required, it will be fun! More details later.

COMMISSIONING OF MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

This year Fr Cooke will (re-)commission Ministers of Holy Communion on the Solemnity of The Body and Blood of Christ, Sunday 7th June, at all Masses. This supersedes the practice, in past years, of commissioning during The Mass of The Lord’s Supper on Maundy Thursday. This will take place at all week-end Masses.

“THANK YOU”:

- Thank you to members of our Kerala Community for their recent kind donation of £50 for parish Third World projects.
- Thank you to everyone who supported last Sunday’s coffee morning in aid of the OAKS school in Sierra Leone. £103 was raised.

BRO. JAMES KIMPTON:

Copies of the latest newsletter from “Reaching the Unreached” (South India) are in both porches for you to take. The first article is about Bro. James who sadly is ill in hospital at the moment. Please keep him in your prayers. He will be 90 in May!

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY:

Please return your envelopes in the normal offertory baskets this weekend. Don’t worry if you have forgotten your envelope – there are still some available and you can return them next weekend. Many thanks for your support.

ST. WERBURGH’S GREAT WAR STUDY GROUP:

St. Werburgh’s parish are searching for photographs of **all 120** of their fallen men (see www.stwerburghchester.co.uk). They only have 24 so far. They also need information about their parishioners who died during the Great War. If anyone has any information, however seemingly small, they would be very pleased:

Contact cheshire.historian@fsmail.net or tel. 01244 851717.

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