

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.
- ❖ Parish Safeguarding Representative: Claire Graham. Tel 01244 341287 or 0788 055 3830.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT. SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER 2015

MASS TIMES: INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Valerie Fagan and Jack & Mary Byrne
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	James Chapman
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Successful operation. B.C.
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.	Brenda Dugdale. SVP
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.	Beryl Chapman
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.	Wilf Feeney. RIP
Friday:	9.15 a.m.	Margery Hough. RIP
Saturday:	NO MORNING MASS	
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Elizabeth Williams
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Monica Pickering. RIP
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish.

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 Friday, except Wednesdays.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday 6.45 p.m. to 7.10pm. (before the Saturday Vigil Mass).

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: John Burton, Frederick James Wright, Gillian Gallagher, Harold Beadle, Kathleen McAleavy, Joseph Francis Tallon, Thomas Wilfred Wall, Agnes Jones, James Robert Chapman, William Bird, Henry Bird, Michael Burns, Joseph Dowd, Margaret Beech. John Barnett, Elaine White, Janet Haslam, Richard Newbrook, Jane Stubbs, Matilda Hanratty, Michael Lee, George Walker, Sarah Jane Brennan, Vera Fox, James Canavan, Fred Fazey, Richard Mitchell, James Francis Galvin, Lily Collins, Michael Whitehouse

PRAYER INTENTIONS, ADVENT & CHRISTMASTIDE:

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for these intentions: Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

ADVENT READINGS:

A reminder that the talks on the Advent readings continue on **Wednesday evening** in the Iona Chapel at 7.30 p.m. when we'll be looking at the readings for the Third Sunday. All welcome.

ST. PIO PRAYER GROUP:

The next meeting is on Thursday 10th December at 7.30pm at 10, Totland Grove, Newton, Chester CH2 2EY.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£547.50
Planned Giving:	£486.73
Average Weekly Standing Orders:	£683.00

Many thanks for your generous support

GIFT AID TAX REFUND for 2014-15:

The total amount of income tax refunded by HMRC for 2014-15 was £11,943.10. This sum has been paid into the Parish's Central Fund at the Diocese. Many thanks to all of you who make your donations to the parish through the Gift Aid scheme.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

6 th Dec.	Badminton Group	Hospice of the Good Shepherd
13 th Dec.	Sue	Parish
20 th Dec.	Sewing Group	Wren Bid

The coffee rota is on the notice board in the Hall. If you would like to manage a coffee morning for a charity of your choice, please add your name to the rota.

Tea, coffee and juice are served in the hall after both Sunday morning Masses. All are welcome.

- **Badminton group** : A selection of cakes will be on sale, in the Hall this Sunday after the morning Masses, to support the Hospice of the Good Shepherd.
- **Third world projects**: Many thanks to everyone who generously supported the coffee morning last week. £195.75 was raised to go in support of our three parish projects.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

- Pray for the residents of Gatesheath Drive, Alraham Crescent and St. James Avenue.
- For those who prepare couple for marriage.
- For those couples married in our churches this year and those who are about to be married.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 11 a.m. MASS:

In the four Sundays of Advent, Children's Liturgy will start off in Church for the lighting of the Advent candles, and then the children will go out to the Hall for their liturgy returning for the offertory. All children and any parents or other helpers welcome.

DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK 2016:

Copies of the new Year Book are now available, price £4. They contain a wealth of information about the diocese, its parishes and supporting organisations.

FATHER COOKE:

At the end of Masses last weekend, Fr. Cooke gave us the news that he is to retire as Parish Priest of St. Columba's. This will be on 17th January. He was appointed to our parish in late 1997, and we are very grateful for all the years of service he has given. We offer our thanks for his service, and our prayers that he will enjoy a long and happy retirement. We also offer our prayers for Bishop Mark as he makes his decisions on the appointment of Fr. Cooke's successor.

HYMN, CLOTH FOR THE CRADLE -11.00 a.m. MASS:

*Cloth for the cradle, cradle for the child,
The child for our every joy and sorrow;
Find him a shawl that's woven by us all
To welcome the Lord of each tomorrow.*

1. Darkness and light and all that's known by sight,
Silence and echo fading,
Weave into one a welcome for the Son,
Set earth its own maker serenading.
2. Hungry and poor, the sick and the unsure,
Wealthy whose needs are stranger,
Weave into one a welcome for the Son,
Leave excess and want beneath the manger.
3. Wrinkled or fair, carefree or full of care,
Searchers of all the ages,
Weave into one a welcome for the Son,
The Saviour of shepherds and of sages.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS MASS ARRANGEMENTS:

The Advent and Christmas Mass Times information leaflet is ready for collection in both porches. Please pick up a copy. Also please note that 25th December Mass times should read:

9.15 a.m. Dawn Mass, 11.00 Mass of the Day with tableau.

CHRISTMAS DAY NATIVITY, 11.00 a.m. MASS:

Children are invited to take part in the Nativity Scene at the 11.00 a.m. Mass on Christmas morning. Could parents of any children interested please get in touch with Pauline Payne (01244 350323) or email pauline.payne4@btinternet.com this week. The clothes can be collected from the Iona Chapel after the 11.00 a.m. Mass **next Sunday, 13th December**, when there will be a short practice (no words to learn!).

CONCERT AT ST. WERBURGH'S:

An Italian choir "Coro Calycanthus" from Treviglio, Northern Italy, are visiting Chester. They are giving a free concert in St. Werburgh's Church on **Monday 7th December**. Doors open at 6.00 p.m. for 6.30 p.m. start. They promise to "delight you with their rich mixed harmonies and beautifully crafted classical repertoire".

CHRISTMAS CHARITY CONCERT:

Ellesmere Port Music Society will perform works by Bach, Haydn and Vivaldi, accompanied by the 18th Century Sinfonia playing period instruments. This baroque concert will be given on **Saturday 12th December** at 7.30 p.m. in the Civic Hall, Ellesmere Port, tickets £15. Full details on posters in both porches (and on the parish website) or contact Pauline Payne, 01244 350323.

CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR SENIOR PARISHIONERS:

This year we will once again be holding a Christmas Party for senior parishioners on **Saturday 12th December** starting at 2 p.m. Free buffet, drink of wine, sherry or soft drinks including tea and coffee. Please come along and make merry with other members of the parish.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thank you to members of the parish for your continued support at our recent coffee and cake sales. The Christmas Party will be on **Monday 14th December** at 7.30. Tickets £7 and can be obtained from 01244 346772.

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 14th**: 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon at The Pavilion, Wealstone Lane (part of the regular coffee morning).
- **Tuesday 15th**: 6.30 p.m. at Wealstone Lane Care Home, then 8.00 p.m. at Mallard Court, Long Lane.
- **Wednesday 16th**: 2.30 p.m. at Orchard Manor, Acres Lane.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER WORKSHOP:

You are welcome to come and make a floral arrangement for your Christmas table on the afternoon of **Wednesday 16th December** in the Hall. Please see notice at the back of church or see Marie, Anne or Sue for further details. We will be in the Hall this Sunday.

CHARITY CLASSICAL CONCERT FOR CHILDREN: "The Wheels on Debussy"

Join in a classical musical experience for both parents and children in a relaxed environment on **Sunday 27th December**, 3.00 p.m. at St Werburgh's Church. The programme will include solo performance and audience participation: seasonal singalong favourites plus music that captures the magic and mystery of Christmas. Soft drinks, mulled wine and mince pies to follow. All funds go to the Fergal O'Mahony Memorial Charity Foundation, supporting the development of young talented musicians. Tickets £10 for 1 adult and 1 child, £2.50 for each additional child. They can be purchased online at: <https://billetto.co.uk/events/100252#sthash.i6edL0rn.dpuf> or in St Columba's Church Hall after 11.00am Mass on Sunday 13th and 20th December.

RED MISSION BOXES:

Can those parishioners holding Red Mission Boxes please them in the Sacristy. You can collect your box from the table in the rear porch. Thank you for your continued support.

MISSION CALENDAR 2016:

The Mission Calendars are available in the front and rear porches of the church. Thank you for your continued support.

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 Alison Wrigglesworth
Tel: 01244 382457
Email: alison.wrigglesworth@o2.co.uk
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