

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 ADVENT SUNDAY, 7TH DECEMBER 2014

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Jack & Mary Byrne.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Ann Poole.
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Bridie Flynne.
Tuesday	9.15 a.m.	David Morley.
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.	Marcia Hindle.
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.	Pat Cummins.
Friday:	9.15 a.m.	Special Intention.
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.	Sydney Hughes.
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Elizabeth Williams.A.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Alan Gregory.
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish

INTENTIONS:

LATELY DEAD:

Catherine Louise Columbine, please remember her and her family in your prayers.

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Cooke to arrange a date, please contact Claire Graham on 01244 341287 / 07880553830.

MORNING PRAYER:

9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, except on Wednesday, when Novena prayers are held at 9.15 a.m. before Mass commences.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Harold Beadle, Kathleen McAleavy, Joseph Francis Tallon, Agnes Jones, William Bird, Henry Bird, Michael Burns, Joseph Dowd, Margaret Beech, John Barnett, Elaine White, Janet Haslam, Richard Newbrook, Jane Stubbs, Matilda Hanratty, Sarah Jane Brennan, Vera Fox, James Canavan, Fred Fazey, Richard Mitchell, James Francis Galvin, Lily Collins, Michael Whitehouse, Margaret Howcroft, Henrietta Whitehead, Kathleen Elizabeth Delaney, Rebecca Teresa Humphreys, Delia Rooks, Mary Elizabeth Atkinson.

CONFESSIONS:

Confessions are heard every Saturday after morning Mass, and in the evening from 6.45 p.m. – 7.10 p.m.

NEW CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR ROTA AND NEW PROCEDURES:

Please will you pick up your new Christmas/New Year Rota from the basket in the front porch. Information for new practises for both Eucharistic Ministers will be enclosed. These procedures will commence from this week-end.

If you have an e-mail address or if you have changed your e-mail address, please let me know. My e-mail address is: - gerryandcarol.galvin@gmail.com Many thanks.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£461.12
Planned Giving:	£537.42
Average Weekly SOs:	£510.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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:

7th Dec.	Badminton	Parish
14th Dec.	Maggie Jarret	OAKS
21st Dec	Marg & Geoff	Hospice
28th Dec	Volunteers please contact Margaret 318424	

Teas, coffees and juices are served in the Hall after both Sunday morning Masses. All are welcome.

The 2015 Sunday coffee rota for January -April 2015 is pinned on the notice board in the Hall. If you would like to support a charity by making coffee in the Hall after morning Mass please contact Margaret Curtis 318424.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

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

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, 14th December**, when there will be a short practice (no words to learn!).

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS:

As a thank you for the Golden Jubilee and Flower Festival celebration, Father Cooke would like to invite all those involved in making the occasion so successful, to a Buffet lunch in the Church Hall on **Monday 15th December**, 12 noon. In addition to flower arrangers, this includes Stewards, Choir, Tea Ladies and Brushers Up etc.

To assist with catering, please add your names to the list in the front or back porch.

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.

NEW LITURGICAL YEAR – NEW LITURGICAL PRACTICE:

As the Church's new Liturgical Year begins, you will become aware of two changes to our practice at Sunday and weekday Mass, from now on:

- After Holy Communion, before the "Prayer after Communion", Fr. Cooke will call to him our Ministers of Holy Communion who are to take the Eucharist to those confined to their homes. He will send them out using the following words: *"As you go, please take with you not only the Sacrament we have celebrated, but also the Word of God which we have heard, as well as the affection of this parish community, and ask for the prayers of those whom you visit in return."*
- Secondly, Ministers will purify the sacred vessels immediately after Mass is concluded, at the credence tables in church/chapel; Fr. Cooke will appreciate your remaining aware of this and showing appropriate respect. Thank you.

CHRISTINGLE APPEAL, SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER:

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). Unfortunately, due to the Ebola crisis the OAKS school still has to remain closed so the children are having their lessons via radio to their homes. Any support we can give the OAKS community at this difficult time will be much appreciated. Please take an envelope from either porch this weekend and return it in the normal offertory baskets next week, or to Pauline Payne. The work of the OAKS charity can be seen at www.oaks-sl.org

ST COLUMBA'S HALL BOOKINGS:

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

QUARANT'ORE (Forty Hours' Devotion):

Friday 05.12.14 to Monday 08.12.14. Contact St Clare's for more information.

SVP MONTHLY COLLECTION:

The monthly collection takes place after Masses this weekend. Thank you very much for your continued support.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. COLUMBA'S:

A small cream coloured leaflet giving details of all the Masses and Carol Singing planned for the Advent and Christmas Season is now available. Please take one home as a reminder.

FLOWER FESTIVAL CALENDARS:

Showing displays from the Flower Festival will be on sale on Piety Stall and in the Hall after Mass on Sunday.

PARISH BUILDINGS COMMITTEE - December 2014

The committee has been responsible for some substantial improvements to the furnishing and fabric of the church buildings over the last few years. It continues to see to matters of maintenance. In relation to 'improvements' the focus is now on the church hall. We are planning to improve the effectiveness of the heating through insulation. As this will be a costly activity we intend to apply for external funding. To assist in that process the committee has been joined by a number of new members.

Local Newton Councillors Adrian Walmsley (a Parishioner) and Tom Parry have very kindly responded to an application for funding assistance towards the cost of replacing the unreliable sound/PA system in the hall. From their individual community budgets between them they have offered the sum of £3000 for which the Parish Buildings Committee is extremely grateful.

The next meeting will be on **Monday 26 January 7.30 pm in the church office.**

pauline.rourke@btinternet.com;
leech2000@btinternet.com

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

Carol Service – A Carol Service will be held on Wednesday 18th of December at 7:00 pm at the Catholic High School, followed by refreshments and a raffle by the Parents' Association and musical entertainment by the School Jazz Band. Free entrance. Everybody is welcome.

CONFIRMATION GROUP SPONSORED WALK:

Well done to several of our recently Confirmed young parishioners (Aidan O'Sullivan, Iris Regan, James Pickering, Joe Hutcheson, John Gornall and Ollie Mulholland) who took part in a 8.5 mile sponsored walk from Connah's Quay to Kingsway, in order to raise money for CAFOD. They were accompanied by Dory Reagan, aged 8, who impressed us all by walking 6 miles from Connah's Quay to Blacon. Altogether they raised £228 for the CAFOD Ebola appeal.

MISSION CALENDARS 2015:

Mission Today Calendars are available on the tables in the front and rear porches of the church.

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Brian Webster

Tel: 01244 851026

Email: brianrobert@joycewebster.freemove.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

WEST CHESHIRE FOODBANK:

- Foodbank volunteers are currently wanted for both Chester and Ellesmere Port distribution centres. For more information about these part-

time vacancies please call Lynn Taylor on 01244 401062, or pick up an application form from either of the church porches.

- We have received a card sent on behalf of the Foodbank organisers thanking us for our ongoing support, and saying that the donation figures show that a total of 1093 kg of food items have been donated by St. Columba's parishioners since 1st April this year.

**CHESTER AND ELLESMERE PORT S.V.P TRIP TO
WALSINGHAM:**

The annual S.V.P. trip to Walsingham will take place on **Monday 13th April 2015** and return on **Thursday 16th April 2015**. A deposit of £75 will be required as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to go, please contact Brian Forrest on 01244 318863.