

ST. COLUMBA'S

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA
Part of Local Pastoral Area 11, Chester & District,
Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

Parish Priest: Fr. Russell Cooke:

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Deacon: Rev. Lawrence Hordley: Tel: 01244 342048

*Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available
Please see pamphlets in Church Porches for more details*

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2013

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.

Ash Wednesday: 9.15 a.m.

7.15 p.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:

Ray James and
Hughie Middleton

Anne Fitzpatrick
Frank Watts

Eileen O'Donovan A.

For Successful Operation

Patricia Duggan

Ida Trundle

Dennis Healey

Margery Whatmough

LENTE DEVOTIONS

Aaron McKenna RIP.

Eric Shanley

The Parish

Angela Garnett

ASHES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT BOTH MASSES ON ASH WEDNESDAY.

LENTE DEVOTIONS ON FRIDAY AT 7.15 P.M. DURING LENT.

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.

BAPTISMS:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Annie Sweeney, Stephanus Windsor, George Hollingsworth, Alfred Winn, Rachel Joyce, William Thompson, William Victor Fry, George Ogg, Ellen Ferguson, Joseph Hilton, Sheila Davies, Trudy Potts, James Frances Blythin, Henrietta Helen Bond, Bernard Nicholas, Francis James Watts, Hilda Heveran, Joyce Wynne, Sydney Joseph Merchant (B.E.M.), Susan McGann, Margaret Finnigan, Bridget Mary McManus, Lilian May Adams, Marlene Rose Tyrrell, John Cummings, Owen Foulkes, James Marron, John Joseph O'Boyle, Margaret Turner, Harold Joseph Phelan, Major John Edward Jones, Eileen Harrison, Emily Marian (Marie) Leonard, John McHugh, June Adrienne Angela Garnett, Wilfred Lee, Anna Spiten, Sheila Kilcoyne, Gwilym Griffiths and Eric Shanley.

CONFESSIONS:

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

COFFEE/TEA:

Tea and coffee are served in the Hall after both the Sunday morning Masses. All welcome.

OFFERTORY 4th FEB:

Loose Plate: £527.12

Planned Giving: £496.10

Average Weekly Standing Orders: £556.00

Thank you very much for your generous support.

SVP COLLECTION:

Thank you for your continued support, we raised £267.50 from last week's collection.

THE TABLET 2009:

A complete set of "The Tablet" for 2009 can be yours for a donation of £5 to the SVP. Lots of interesting reading for the dark evenings. Ring 021244 380626.

SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL:

The SPUC White Flower Appeal raised £415. Sincere thanks for the generosity of your donations and thanks to the people who collected the monies.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Whitton Drive, Sutton Drive, Bidston Close and Greenfield Lane.
- Babies & Toddler Group, Sunshine Tots, Praise & Play and for all the leaders.
- Young Families.

LENT:

Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday; please make some effort to do something for Lent.

The Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday evenings during Lent at 7.15 p.m.

CATHOLIC PAPERS:

Sadly, due to lack of sales, we will be stopping our supply of Catholic papers. If you wish to get a Catholic paper in the future you can order one from your newsagents.



YEAR OF FAITH 2013

YEAR OF FAITH

On Monday 11th of February the Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. We are probably familiar with the events of the appearances of Our Lady to 14-year old Bernadette in 1858, but what lessons can we learn for the enrichment of our faith in this special year? Our Lady asked for penance for

poor sinners. At the time Bernadette and her family were living in grinding poverty and Bernadette herself was in poor health. She was harassed by crowds, questioned by officials and even had pieces of her veil cut off for souvenirs. After 8 years she left her family and her beloved Grotto and became a nun of the Sisters of Nevers in central France, where her incorrupt body now lies. In 1863 she wrote "Love humility...love simplicity...love suffering." The ill health she suffered ended with her death at 35 years old. She offered her sufferings in union with the Passion of Christ for sinners and shows us a way of offering the trials we experience as part of Christ's Passion. In this way suffering becomes a prayer.

The saints form a rich part of our heritage and by their example help us to Heaven. The CTS has a range of pamphlets on their lives including 'The Message of Bernadette.' Ask the ladies of the piety stall to guide you.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

- Monday is the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes.
- Thursday is a Day of Special Prayer for Europe, marking the feast of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, "Apostles of the Slavs". They were 9th century pioneers in the use of vernacular languages in the liturgy, and did much work in uniting East-West traditions in the church.

LENT FAST DAY:

Lent occurs early this year! The traditional Lent Fast Day is on **Friday 22nd February**. Envelopes will be available with the newsletter next weekend, and can then be returned in the offertory baskets the following weekend, 23-24th February. The envelopes will provide information about CAFOD's "Hungry for Change" campaign – and we are asked to go hungry for one day, with the money raised going in support of schemes that combat hunger in developing countries.

ACADEMY STATUS FOR CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

Many parishioners are aware that Chester Catholic High School was considering a move to Academy status. This has now been formally agreed by all concerned, including the Diocese, and it takes effect on 1st March 2013. The change means that the school becomes independent of the local authority but remains very much a Catholic School and part of the family of Diocesan schools. It will be part of a multi-academy trust which is being set up, and which will have an executive group drawn from governors at the school and Diocesan representatives drawn from local Catholic schools and parishes. For more information please pick up a copy of the statement issued last week on behalf of the governors.

VATICAN II FIFTY YEARS ON:

To mark this notable anniversary, there are a series of four talks being given by Fr. Paul Shaw in St. Werburgh's (CH1 1QJ) on Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m. the remaining two are on:

- Thursday February 14th: *The Council's Greatest Document*
- Thursday February 21st: *The Legacy of the Council*

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND – SPECIAL COLLECTION:

The annual collection for this fund will be held today and next Sunday. Special envelopes are still available in the porches today for you to take home and return to the collection plate next Sunday if you missed them last week. Instructions are on the envelopes for those of you who donate by gift aid to enable the fund to recover income tax. Leaflets are available should you wish to donate by bankers order. All your donations will enable the Fund to be built up to meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

HOSPICE QUIZ EVENING:

A Quiz Evening in support of the Hospice of the Good Shepherd will be held in the Hall on Fri 22nd Feb starting at 7.30 p.m. Teams of 4-6. Raffle. Admission is £1.50 per person which includes 'nibbles' and hot drinks. Bring your own beer or wine (and glasses). Please come along to support our local hospice and to have an enjoyable but not too taxing evening.

CWL:

The Catholic Women's League is meeting on Monday 11th February at St Francis Church Hall. Mass will be at 12 noon in Church followed by the meeting. Please bring your own lunch. New members and visitors are always welcome. For further details please contact Hilary Wright on 01244 400220.

ST PIO PRAYER GROUP:

The next meeting of St Pio Prayer Group is on Thursday, 14th February at 10 Totland Grove, Newton, Chester, CH2 2EY at 7.30 p.m.

HEBREW FOR ADULTS:

Irene Jones will re-commence delivery of a free course in Biblical Hebrew for adults on Wednesday 23rd January 2013. Please contact her, Fr. Cooke or Rev. Hordley for details.

HALL BOOKINGS:

Bookings and enquiries to the Muddimans,
0755 311 4531 or
columbashallbookings@gmail.com

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Muriel Green.
Tel: 01244 383836
Email: muriel.green1@btinternet.com

Items for inclusion can also 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. Please take your newsletter home with you and use it for reference and prayer during the week.