

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 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.
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.
Friday:	9.15 a.m.
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.
Saturday Vigil	7.15 p.m.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m. 11.00 a.m.

INTENTIONS:

Mr. & Mrs. Delaney.
Elizabeth Williams.
The Parish.
Michael Wolfe
Frank Devine.
Molly Massey A.
Peter Rogers.
Mrs Lauren Heywood.
Sean Backhouse A.
Judy. Thanksgiving for Faith..
Patricia Howe.
The Parish.

MORNING PRAYER:

9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, except on Wednesday.

BAPTISMS:

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

Eleanor Margot Mason was baptised on Sunday 24th November. A warm welcome and congratulations to Eleanor and her family on this happy occasion. Please remember them in your prayers.

CONFESSIONS:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Margaret Howcroft, Henrietta Whitehead, Kathleen Elizabeth Delaney, Rebecca Teresa Humphreys, Delia Rooks, Mary Elizabeth Atkinson, Eileen Jones, Ellen Veronica Croft, Margaret Upton, Celine Cawley, Doris Elizabeth Garrett, Michael Anthony (Tony) Keating, Elizabeth Maud Rodgers, Philip Tobin, Joe Corrigan, Adles Bronislaw, Vera Mary Michalak, Winifrid Roberts, John Joyce, Catherine Barford, 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, Anne O'Loughlin, Samuel Joseph Kenyon, Margaret Hill, John Joseph Cox, John Thomas Williams, Desmond Joseph "Bob" Breen, John Carney, Sean Backhouse, David Thomas Cross, John Ignatius Mitchell, Molly Massey, Connie Barlow, Maria Galvin, Nora Garry, Patrick Joseph Burke and John McLoughlin.

OFFERTORY (7th & 8th Dec.):

Loose Plate:	£454.23
Planned Giving:	£536.70
Average Weekly SOs:	£556.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

SVP COLLECTION:

The collection last weekend amounted to £300.38. Thank you all for your continued support. The members of the SVP wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. There will be no collection in January.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Glastonbury Avenue, Tewksbury Close and Marlowe Avenue,
- The Second Step Bereavement Care Scheme, all those who are bereaved and those who provide support.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

Dec 15 th	Anne & Antony	Parish
Dec 22 nd	Eileen, Jacque & Pat	Hospice
Dec 29 th	Sue & Marie	Parish

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

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

There will be a collection after all Masses this weekend to cover cost of flowers to decorate the Church for Christmas and the coming months. Thank you in anticipation of your continued generosity.

READERS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ETC. CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR ROTAS:

Your copy of the Christmas and New Year Rota is ready for collection from the front porch. Please can I ask you to make sure that you find a replacement should you be unable to carry out your duty, as this busy time of the year. Many thanks.

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could parishioners holding Red Mission Boxes please leave them in the Sacristy for Margaret Curtis to collect. Your box can be collected from the rear porch. Thank you for your continued support.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

This week's theme is **Christmas** and the prayer is:

Lord Jesus,

Light of the world, John told the people to prepare for you when you were very near.

As Christmas grows closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

Carol Service – This 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.

NATIVITY ON CHRISTMAS EVE:

If you will be attending the 6.00p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve and your children would like to take part in the children's short Nativity Play, please contact Claire Graham on 07880 553830 as soon as possible. If possible, she would like to get everyone together after the 11.00a.m. Mass this Sunday to give out the parts. Thank you.

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 this **Sunday**, when there will be a short practice (no words to learn!).

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON CAROL SINGING:

We would be very glad of your support on the following occasion 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:

- **Tuesday 17th December:** 2.30pm at Orchard Manor, Acres Lane.

DIOCESAN COURSE ON 'NEW EVANGELISATION':

Please do look at the information about this new course, designed to prepare lay people to meet the challenges of preaching the Gospel in 21st century British society. See the pamphlets in either porch, or look on the Diocesan website www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org or the parish website (under "Pastoral Letters & Resources"). If you might be interested in joining the course, which starts on a part-time basis in January, please speak to Fr. Cooke or Deacon Lawrence.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE UPTON CHURCHES:

Leaflets are available in both porches setting out the times of the main services in all the Upton Churches over the Christmas period – this is a copy of the notice that appears in the December issue of the locally-distributed magazine *Inside Upton*.

CHESTER & ELLESMERE PORT LOURDES YOUTH GROUP:

There will be a meeting for existing and new members on **Sunday 22nd December** at 6.00pm at St. Saviour's Church, Tarporley Road, Great Sutton, Ellesmere Port, CH66 3JY. If you are in Year 11 or above and are interested in coming to Lourdes as a volunteer in July with the diocesan pilgrimage, then please come along.

If you are interested and want more information but cannot attend the meeting please email parishesoff@rcchep.co.uk or call 0151 355 5877.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGMENTS/WREATHS:

These will be on sale in Hall after Mass this Sunday.

CHRISTINGLE APPEAL:

We would again like to help the children of Bo, Sierra Leone by our Christingle Appeal which supports the OAKS charity (Overseas Aid for the Kids of Sierra Leone). The school now provides an education for 250 children aged 5-15 funded by the small charity. Our appeal helps towards the growing educational expenses. 2013 saw a new junior secondary classroom being opened and further extensions are planned for 2014. Any parishioners who would like to help are asked to collect an envelope from either porch this weekend and return it in the normal offertory baskets or to Pauline Payne.

Thank you very much for your continued support. You can find out more about their work on the website www.oaks-sl.org

PRAYERS IN ADVENT:

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray in particular for the following:

Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees and Expectant Mothers.

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 Harry Sweeney

Tel: 01244 327462

Email: harrye_sweeney@hotmail.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