

St Columba's Church

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA

Parish Priest: Fr. Russell Cooke

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Parish website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025



Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. SUNDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2015

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	INTENTIONS: Bob Meadows
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Winifred McSweeney
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Raymond Storton SVP
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.	Gillian Frances Pendleton SVP
ASH WEDNESDAY:	9.15 a.m.	Margaret Leaver
	7.15 p.m.	Elizabeth Crathern
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.	Peter Kelly A.
Friday:	9.15 a.m.	Mary Jeffes
	7.15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.	Bob Meadows
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Ida Benedicta Trundle
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	The Parish
	11.00 a.m.	Richard Murphy A.

BLESSING OF ASHES WILL BE GIVEN AT MASSES ON ASH WEDNESDAY - Lent begins this week. Please try to do something that will emphasise the importance of the Holy Season of gratitude to God for all he gives us and the constancy of his love.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Stations of the Cross; extra reading of the Scriptures and practical help for others.

LENT & EASTER AT ST COLUMBA'S:

A cream coloured leaflet is available giving details of the various feasts and services due to take place during Lent and Holy Week. On the back page is a diary giving the dates of each event. Please take a copy home with you.

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.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Lilian May Adams, Marlene Rose Tyrrell, Bernard Leigh, 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, Adriano Semenzato, Llewellyn Eaton, Wilfred Lee, Anna Spiten, Sheila Kilcoyne, Gwilym Griffiths, Eric Shanley, Thomas Croghan, Anne Rigby, Lilly Shirley, Agnes O'Connell, John Cummins, Hector Burton, Mary Anastasia Jeffs, Joan Wilkin, Mary Jeffes, Gladys Murdoch, Elizabeth Dalziel, Ernest Roberts, Elizabeth Rodgers, Thomas Burke, John Parker, Robert Moor.

CONFESSIONS:

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

PRAYER VIGIL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:

Please join Bishop Mark, the clergy of Shrewsbury Cathedral and the Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) in a Prayer Vigil for Religious Freedom at the Cathedral on **Saturday 21st February** at 3:00pm. The vigil will last no more than ninety minutes and will give us all the chance to learn about, reflect on and pray for all of those Christians around the world who are currently suffering terrible hardships because of their Faith. See posters in the porches or on the parish website.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£466.95
Planned Giving:	£521.10
Average Weekly SOs:	£510.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

Feb. 15th	CWL	CWL
Feb. 22nd	Maggie Jarrett	OAKS
Mar. 1 st	SVP	SVP

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

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- Residents of Gayton Cl, Denhall Cl & Moorhouse Cl.
- For Scouts, Venture Scouts, Cub Scouts and Beavers
- For Ranger Guides, Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Boys' Brigade and Girls Brigade.

LENT FAST DAY:

This year's Lent Fast Day is on **Friday 27th February**. The Fast Day envelopes will be available along with the newsletters next weekend, and can then be returned in the offertory baskets the following weekend, 28th Feb – 1st March. The Fast Day offerings go in support of CAFOD's work in developing countries. This year, parish and school offerings nationally will be matched pound for pound under the government's UKAid scheme.

ST. COLUMBA'S HALL BOOKINGS:

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

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND - SPECIAL COLLECTION:

Note from Bishop Mark:

Today the annual Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund is being held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

Special Envelopes are available for you to use. If you use weekly Offertory Envelopes, please can I ask that you write in your envelope number. If you do not have your Offertory Envelope with you, or you give to your Parish by means of a Standing Order, write in your name and home address. In this way, it will be possible to reclaim the tax on your donation if you have joined the Gift Aid scheme.

A Leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how to make a regular donation to the Fund by Standing Order, or how you can make your donation by cheque. It also explains how to take advantage of Gift Aid to boost your donation to the Fund. I ask that you give as generously as you can to this very worthy cause and would also like to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support.

With every blessing,

+ Mark **Bishop of Shrewsbury**

THE CALL, THE JOURNEY AND THE MISSION:

This is the title given by the Bishops of England & Wales to their document inviting us to reflect on "the Gift of Marriage and Family Life". Fr. Cooke thinks it would be good for the parish to use the document in our reflections during Lent, and arrangements are being made to facilitate this. In their document the Bishops pose six questions and invite our response. Our answers will feed into the Synod called by Pope Francis to take place in October 2015, with the theme *The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World*. Fr. Cooke encourages us to accept the Bishops' invitation. Please watch out for more details on how our parish can respond, which will be issued soon.

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 **Friday 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.

DAY OF REFLECTION SAT 28TH FEBRUARY

A Day of Reflection led by Barbara Davies has been organised by 'A.C.T.S.' ('ADULT Catholics Together Spiritually'). If you are aged 18 – 35 you are more than welcome to join us. The theme of the day is, 'The Tale in the Sting' - a look at the parables. This will take place at Wistaston Hall, Crewe CW2 8JS. The day will start approximately at 9.30am until approx 5pm (exact times to be confirmed nearer the date). Cost £20 (£15 for unemployed/students). If you would like to join us or wish to know more about it please contact Siobhan at siobhanbc@talktalk.net or tel: 0161 477 2783 / 07761 138947.

J&P ELECTION PLANNING MEETING:

The Diocesan Commission for the Promotion of Justice, Peace and Social Responsibility is running a workshop session to focus on planning a hustings event for local election candidates. This is intended for anyone interested or involved in justice & peace work/issues. This will be here at St. Columba's on **Saturday 28th February** from 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. The speaker will be Amanda Bickerton, national community link worker for Church Action on Poverty. To register for the day please contact Pauline McCulloch at the Curial Offices 0151 652 9855 or email Pauline.mcculloch@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

ARCH (ABORTION RECOVERY AND CARE HELPLINE)

Chester SPUC Group (meets 7.30 on 3rd Wed in St Francis' Friary) were able to donate £500 to ARCH and £500 to SPUC as a result of 'Little Feet Club' monthly draw. ARCH is holding a training weekend in Frodsham 1-3rd May, helping women and men come to terms with the trauma grief and pain of abortion by emotional, spiritual and psychological support. More information contact 0845 6038501.

VACANCIES AT THE FIRS SCHOOL:

The Firs School has two positions for part-time Teaching Assistants. An NVQ level 2 in childcare (or equivalent) is needed as a minimum. Times are 10.50 - 11.50 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 9.30-11.50 a.m. Friday. If you are interested please contact admin@firsschool.org for pay details, an application form and job description. Closing date Monday 23rd February.

"ST WERBURGH'S – A PARISH DURING THE GREAT WAR":

This is the title of a talk at Hoole Community Centre, Westminster Rd, on **Tuesday 17th February** at 7.30 p.m. All visitors welcome.

SVP THEATRE SHOW:

Do you fancy a night out on the 4th March? We have been allocated tickets for a show 'Neighbourhood Watch' at the Gladstone Theatre, Port Sunlight Village. Tickets are £8.00 and all monies will go towards the upkeep of our holiday home at Talacre. Anyone wanting tickets, please contact Brian Forrest (01244 318863).

CHURCHES TOGETHER LENT STUDY GROUPS:

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

NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS ROTAS:

Please pick up a copy of your new Rotas (which includes Holy Week) from the front porch. Please can I ask you to find a replacement should you be unable to carry out your duty - especially during Holy Week.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:

The annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place this year from **July 28th – August 5th overland and July 29th – August 4th by air**. Booking forms are available from St. Alban's Wallasey and St. Peter's Hazel Grove as well as from the pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk. The pilgrimage is led by Bishop Mark, and in recent years some 900 people from the diocese and of all ages have joined in making the pilgrimage to this special place. All are welcome to join the pilgrimage and we look forward to receiving applications from those who have never been to Lourdes. We particularly look forward to welcoming nurses and healthcare professionals to assist in the care of the sick and less able. Full details are available on the website.

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Alison Wigglesworth
Tel: 01244 382357

Email: alison.wigglesworth@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