

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 IN LENT SUNDAY, 16TH MARCH 2014

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.
Sunday:	9.00 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.
	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:

The Parish
Bethan Miller
Pauline O'Connor
Cyril Baxter RIP
Joan & Jack Sheeran RIP
Joanne Peppitt
Susan & Zera Miller
Dick Jones
Stations of the Cross, Benediction, and Holy Communion
Pauline Curran
John Shaw
The Parish
Annie Roberts. A.

LATELY DEAD:

Cyril Baxter, whose Funeral Mass takes place at St. Werburgh's on Wednesday 19th March at 12 noon. We pray for Joan and the family.

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:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Robert Ferguson, Frank Kirwan, Norman Ible, Ena Stinson, Maria Evans, Sr. Francis Reidy, Mary Winifred Tallon, John Gerraghty, Melvyn Alan Paterson, Mary Christopherson, Francis (Frank) Leslie Garside, Delia Mangan, James Michael Boyle, Margaret Gibbons, Bernadette Manifold, James Ryan, Ellen Raynor, Helen Shaw, Vincent Williams, Pauline Ashmore, John McNicholas, Alan Poole, Kevin Lewis, Vincent Francis Barlow, Edward Dean Donnelly, Margaret M McGeachin, Norman Thomas Dodd, Mary Jane Layden, Dr. John Foody, Mary Elizabeth Rodriguez, Francis Wright, Annie Roberts, Josephine Angela Daisy Roberts, Gloria Elizabeth Mary Williams, Stanley Richard Tilston.

CONFESSIONS:

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

OFFERTORY

Loose Plate:	£571.69
Planned Giving:	£425.60
Average Weekly SOs:	£547.00
Badminton Group	£150.00

Thank you for your continued generosity.

50TH ANNIVERSARY:

In September we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the Parish of St. Columba. Preparations and work have already started to make it a memorable time for our whole Parish.

I have recently recognised that there are needs in our Church building and for the Liturgy to be enhanced.

I draw to your attention that a new Processional Cross is badly needed together with a Pascal Candle Holder for the refurbished Baptismal part of the Sanctuary. Finally, the main Tabernacle badly needs cleaning and inside some important refurbishment. I would like to involve the Parish for our Anniversary to invite you to support the Family of the Parish in giving contributions for the above to be paid for.

I know and appreciate how generous you always are and I thank you in anticipation. **Please put your gift in an envelope marked "50th Anniversary Gift".** *Thank you.*

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

16 th March	Sewing Group
23 rd March	Heather Lannin – Sierra Leone
30 th March	Eileen & Brenda - Parish

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

LENTEN PRAYERS:

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Need and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

The theme this week and next is **Eco fortnight** and the prayer is:

Dear Lord, We thank you for the beautiful earth you created, from the smallest creatures to the vast oceans.

Guide us to make good decisions that will help the environment. As we learn, help us to share our knowledge so that more people can learn how to respect our school, our local area and our fragile planet. Amen

GIFT AID:

As the end of the financial year approaches those of you who contribute to the parish in the Gift Aid Scheme are reminded to ensure that you have paid enough income tax in 2013-14 to cover your donations. As a result of Gift Aid donations the parish received a refund of tax in 2012-13 of almost £11,000.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

The new envelopes for the tax year 2014-15 which begins on the weekend of 6th/7th April are available for collection from the rear porch. Any problems please ring David Savage 380626.

UPTON COMMUNITY CELEBRATION:

This is on **Saturday 22nd March**, 2.00 p.m. at Upton High School. Upton Parish Council and Upton Churches Together are combining forces to put on an event to celebrate the diversity of activities and organisations in the Upton locality. It will take the form of an Act of Worship, with singing led by the Upton Community Choir. A whole range of organisations, church and non-church related, have been invited to bring along an item that symbolises their activity. During the service these items will be brought up and built up into a display that represents "the diverse community of Upton". The afternoon will conclude with light refreshments.

As well as the invited organisations, Upton residents are all very welcome to attend this gathering.

THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE:

'We cannot live the afternoon of life according to the morning programme'. Sandymount Retreat House at Crosby is holding a weekend workshop on what it means to be in the second half of life. It will be led by Philip McParland, who is an experienced Director of Retreats and Group Facilitator. The weekend will take place **28-30th March**, and will cost £100 residential, £60 non-residential. For more information or to book a place, either phone 0151 924 4850 or go online at www.sandymountretreats.org.uk

HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

The one-day forum/workshop to look at the evil of human trafficking and the practical measures that may be taken to counter it is being held on **Saturday 29th March**, from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. at Frodsham Methodist Church. It is organised by the Salvation Army with the support of Churches Together in Cheshire, and further details are obtainable from info@frodshamchurchestogether.org.uk or phone 01928 735312.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Kingsway West, Rutland Place and Kent Rd.
- For the Growth Groups, Bible Study Groups and nurturing Groups.
- For a deepening of faith and awareness of Christ in us all.

FEAST OF THE WEEK: ST. PATRICK:

Monday March 17th is the feast day of the Patron Saint of Ireland. His was a highly dramatic story: a Romano-Briton born in the 4th century, captured by raiders at the age of 16 and enslaved in Ireland for six years before escaping, journeying to the continent and training for the priesthood. He returned to Ireland as a missionary bishop, working mainly in the north, but setting up a series of Sees from which the Christian word came to be spread throughout Ireland.

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could those 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.

NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH

10th-18th March at St. Joseph's Church, Maidenhead. Each year the Mill Hill Community prepares for the Feast of St. Joseph, their Patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary work of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer. Please write to Fr Denis Treacy, MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, Communications House, 12 Craufurd Rise, Maidenhead, SL6 7LS or e-mail novena@millmissionaries.com

Please see posters at front and rear of Church.

LENT FAST DAY:

Please return your Fast Envelopes via the offertory baskets at Masses this weekend. If you have forgotten your envelopes, don't worry, returning them next weekend will be fine. The offerings from the Fast Day go in support of CAFOD's work in developing countries, and your support is very much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – HELP WANTED:

This Liturgy takes place in the hall during 11.00 am Mass. Could you join the group of 15 to help pass on your faith to our children? All ideas and materials are provided. You only need to be there once every 5 weeks, and always swap if needed. Please contact Catherine on 3183866; 07462 780302; or catherine.green@care4free.net

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

This service was very successful. It was well supported by ladies and men from the local churches, and monies raised amounted to £207.87. This will be used to help the work of WWDP and projects run by Christian charities around the world. The service next year will be at Upton United Reformed Church and is open to all.

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 Ian Johnson
Tel: 01244 351022

Email: ian.johnson7@tiscali.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