



St Columba's Church

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA

Parish Priest: Fr. Jonathan Brandon: Tel 01244 400873

Deacon: Rev. Lawrence Hordley: Tel 01244 342048, Mobile 07960 517463

Parish Office: Tel 01244 624019, Email stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

Parish website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

- ❖ Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy: Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available.
- ❖ Parish Safeguarding Representative: Claire Graham. Tel 01244 341287 or 07880 553830.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY 17TH APRIL 2016.

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil
Sunday:

Monday
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday:
Saturday
Saturday Vigil Mass:
Sunday

INTENTIONS:

7.15 p.m. The Parish.
9.15 a.m. Bill Browne
11.00 a.m. Patricia Barker.
9.15 a.m. Special Intention JB.
9.15a a.m. Don Vamey.
9.15 a.m. Kathryn Sanson
9.15a.m. Petrina Caldwell.
7.00 p.m. Breda Wright.
NO MORNING MASS
7.15 p.m. Bill Browne.
9.15 a.m. Eileen Jones.
11.00 a.m. The Parish

MORNING PRAYER:

Each morning at 9.00 a.m. before the Blessed Sacrament in the Iona Chapel, Monday to Thursday, except Wednesdays, when Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour are said at 9.15 a.m. prior to Mass.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday, in the morning 10.00 to 10.30 a.m. and in the evening 6.45 to 7.10 p.m. (before the Saturday Vigil Mass).

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Jonathan to arrange a date, please contact Claire O'Donnell 07743 704383 (text or 'phone). Carrying on a family tradition at St Columba's, we welcome Ewan James Connolly into our parish. Congratulations to Andrew, Fiona and all the family, we wish them happiness on this special day. Please pray for them as they begin their family life.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Eve Parkes, Bernard McSweeney, Patricia Lynch, Joseph Walsh, Terence Shirley, Patricia Westrom, Georgine Ogg, Bernard Cunningham, James Vincent Kerr, Margaret Mary Welby, Eric Siddall, Freda Mary Wilson, Edward Clarke, Richard Heveran, Edward Clark, Elizabeth Poole, Veronica Fletcher, Margaret May Weston, Rodney Peters-Jones, Mary Winefred Murphy, Anthony Allingham, Brendan Joseph Nolan, Susan Josephine McLaughlin, Bridgit Ann Garner, Maria O'Sullivan, Alison Margaret Kelly, Mary Grubb, Derrick Wyndham Jones, Leslie Charles Ivor Hutfield, John Lloyd Hughes, Sarah McNicholas, Arnie Williams, Nora Mahoney and Edward McAleavy.

NEW OFFICE:

The Church Office has moved from the Presbytery into the Church Office. It is open between 10.00 – 12 noon Monday to Friday. The Office Telephone Number is: 624019. The Office email address is: stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate: £555.33
Planned Giving: £435.61
Average Weekly Standing Orders: £683.00
Donations:
Candles: £54.84

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Essex Road, Deva Lane and Walnut Close
- The Library, Pavilion and recreational areas in our community
- All adults and children that they will be safe as they enjoy leisure time

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING:

The final meeting in the preparation programme is the Commentary Mass, for **all parents and all the children** who are making their First Communion in May. It will be in St. Columba's Church at 6.30 p.m. on **Monday 18th April**.

CONFIRMATION:

If you wish to be Confirmed this year, please put your details on the list in the front porch to join the preparation programme. To be Confirmed you must be in high school Year 8 or above on **28th October 2016** (i.e. be at high school in Year 7 now, or older – there is no upper age limit.) Details of the parents and candidates meeting will be emailed to all on the list next week. For more information about the programme, please ring Denise Lusk on 379742.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – 15-21 MAY:

For many years the parish has joined forces with the other Upton churches in carrying out the house-to-house collections in a share of local streets during Christian Aid Week – which takes place in mid-May each year. We are now looking for a volunteer to take on the task of coordinating the effort from St. Columba's. If you are interested and would like further information about the role please contact Bernard Payne on 01244 350323.

PLANNED GIVING AND GIFT AID:

The new pink envelopes for 2016-16 came into use last weekend. Please collect yours from the front porch if you have not already done so and dispose of any out of date yellow envelopes which you may still have. If you would like to know more about these schemes, which can increase your offerings by 25% at no cost to you, please contact David Savage 380626.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

17th April Ruth & Jacquie BUZZ Group
24th April Marg & Jacquie Fellowship Lunch
1st May Sewing Group Funds for Africa

Many thanks to everyone who supported the coffee morning last week in aid of the parish's Third World projects. Your support (baking cakes or consuming them!) helped us raise the great sum of £216.25.

HIGH CHAIR:

Because we would like to encourage young families into the hall, does anybody have a high chair that is no longer needed? If you do, please contact Marg Curtis 318424

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN:

It will hold the Annual Pro Life Demonstration on **Saturday 23rd April** on Hoole Road, near Canadian Avenue, from 11a.m. to 12.30a.m. This is a Silent Witness to inform people of the truth about Abortion. Please pray for its success and join us if you can, if only for a short while.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:

The next meeting will be **Monday 18th April** at 2:00 pm in St Francis Church Hall. It is our AGM taking approximately half an hour, followed by afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. Please note change of date and time. For queries ring 01244 346772.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:

A Five Day Pilgrimage to Lourdes, from **Monday 6th to Friday 10th June 2016**, has been arranged, as an opportunity to celebrate the Holy Year of Mercy. The cost is £599 for full board. For more information, see poster on notice board. Forms are available from Fr. Jonathan or contact Fr. Paul O'Grady 0151 330 6588.

CALLING ALL DOCTORS, NURSES & CARERS:

Bookings are under way for the 2016 Lourdes Pilgrimage and we would welcome volunteers who are willing to work with our medical team in caring for our registered sick pilgrims. If you are able to join us, or know anyone who would like to serve those who need care during the week in Lourdes, call the medical office on 07970 943940 or e-mail info@shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk. Please also support and encourage those who are sick or in need of assistance to join the Diocese in this special Year of Pilgrimage.

ST. COLUMBA'S SOCIAL EVENTS DIARY:

Friday 29th April Family Bingo.
Sunday 5th June BBQ to celebrate St Columba's Anniversary.
Friday 22nd July Annual coach trip to Worcester.

FRIDAY 29TH APRIL FAMILY BINGO NIGHT:

We will be holding a family Bingo night on **Friday 29th April** starting at 7 p.m. come along and join in the fun. Teas coffees squashes provided, if you would like something stronger please bring your own alcoholic drinks, entrance fee 50p for everyone.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:

Rounders and Swing Band Dance Night – The Parents' Association invites you to a game of Rounders followed at 7pm by musical entertainment by the school's acclaimed City Jazz Swing Band on **Friday 29th April**, 4pm until late, in the School Hall. Tickets £5 for one or both events, available from the school (01244 981600) or on the night. Proceeds will go towards the building of the new hockey pitch. Many thanks for your support.

FOODBANK:

Thank you very much for the donations which come in regularly via the boxes in front and rear porches. Each month we are asked especially for items in short supply, and these are noted on the lids of the boxes.

FR COOKE:

You may be wondering how Fr Cooke is faring in his retirement. Unfortunately he was unwell recently and spent a short spell in hospital. Thankfully he is now discharged although not to his home. For the time being he is being well cared for elsewhere. Father has friends close by and the latest report says he is happy and settled. Please keep him in your prayers.

SVP HOLIDAY HOME:

S V P Holiday Home has the following dates vacant 16th, 23rd, and 30th April if any family or couple who are in need of a week's break at Talacre Beach could you please phone Brian Forrest on 07786248314 for further details.

BO, SIERRA LEONE:

A thank you written from one of the youngsters in Sierra Leone who grew up in St Mary's Childrens' Home, Bo....

Francis Vandy writes: "I may want u to extend our thanks and appreciation to all our UK friends, family for they gift they sent for us. We really appreciate them and we are always thinking of them in our prayers. Hope to see them one day."

Thank you all who so generously gave to my Eastertime humanitarian holiday to Sierra Leone, cut short because of the Brussels bomb incident.

MUSICAL EVENING, FRIDAY 22ND APRIL:

One of St. Theresa's young parishioners, Jake Maguire, is going to Krakow in July to the Pope's International Youth Conference. To help raise funds to support him, a Musical Evening has been arranged for **Friday 22nd April 22nd in St. Columba's Hall, 7.30-10.30 p.m.**, featuring The Songsmiths, John Finnan, and other musicians. Please try to support this event. Tickets are **ONLY £7.00** (children half-price) from Bernard Payne 350323 or Ann McCarthy 375606. See the church porches for more details.

SING FOR SYRIA WITH SOUNDWALL:

St. Columba's Hall **Saturday 23rd April**, 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. (after Mass). Tickets £5 BYOB.

Soundwall are back in concert to raise much-needed funds for the work in Syria of Médecins sans Frontières (MSF, Doctors without Borders). Please, please support this concert. Syria is on its knees and we can help the afflicted there. Helpers to serve teas and coffees are needed. *Through their live performances across the North West, Soundwall, founded in 2011 by St. Columba's parishioner Catherine Harrison, raised over £12k.* Contact 07840 114297 catherine@catherineharrisonarts.co.uk

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:

Will be compiled by Ann Siddall
Tel: 01244 371787. Email: a-siddall@sky.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