

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*

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 17TH 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.
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:

Eric Shanley
The Parish
Angela Garnett/Hughie
Middleton
Adriano Semenzato
Letty Doran
Mary Jeffes

Exposition until 11am

Geoffrey Ehlen
Nancy Byrne RIP
LENTEN DEVOTIONS
Frank Keating RIP
Andrew James A
Richard John Murphy A
The Parish

LENTEN 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: 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, Thomas Croghan, Anne Rigby, Lilly Shirley, Agnes O'Connell, John Cummins, Hector Burton, Mary Anastasia Jeffes, Joan Wilkin, Mary Jeffes, Gladys Murdoch, Elizabeth Dalziel, Ernest Roberts, Elizabeth Rodgers, Thomas Burke, John Parker, Robert Moor, Mary Byrne, Andrew James, Danny Roberts, Gladys Marron, Margaret Gerrard, Mary Dutton, Evelyn Jones, John Spencer Madden (Dr.)

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 10TH FEB:

Loose Plate: £595.27
Planned Giving: £455.10
Average Weekly Standing Orders: £556.00
Thank you very much for your generous support.

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 01244 380626.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Gayton Close, Denhall Close and Moorhouse Close.
- The Scouts, Venture Scouts, Cub Scouts and Beavers.
- For the Ranger Guides, Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Boys' Brigade and Girls' Brigade.

EXPOSITIONS DURING LENT:

As part of the Year of Faith initiative, Exposition will take place after Mass each Wednesday morning during Lent, until 11.00am, commencing Wednesday 20th February 2013.

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.

CHRISTIAN AID:

'Big Coffee Morning' in Hoole URC, Hoole Road, from 10.00 to 12.00 on 23rd February.
Lent Lunches on 20th and 27th February, 6th, 13th and 20th March from 12.00 to 1.20pm in the Welsh Church, St John Street, Chester.



YEAR OF FAITH 2013

YEAR OF FAITH

The resignation of Pope Benedict leads us to consider the role of the Papacy in the Church and the legacy of St Peter, whom we regard as the first pope. It is clear from the gospels that Our Lord intended that Peter should be the leader of the Church when he called him 'Peter' which means 'rock'.

"You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven." By these and other words of Christ, St Peter became the leader of the Apostles and, having journeyed through Asia Minor, took the road to Rome where, after tending the infant flock of Christ, he suffered martyrdom. Tradition holds that he was crucified upside down on the Vatican Hill. In recent years it has been confirmed that he was buried under the high altar of St Peter's. Interestingly not far away in the same area is a chapel dedicated to St Columba.

Future newsletters will consider aspects of the Papacy and the Church.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

- **ST PETER DAMIAN**, Bishop, Religious, Doctor of the Church. Born in Ravenna (Italy) in 1007, Peter died on 22 February 1072. After a career as a professor, he became a hermit monk. Ardent, energetic and strict, he was an outspoken reformer of church life and discipline. He was appointed Cardinal-Bishop of Ostia and became a diplomat and ecclesiastical statesman. He is remembered as a scholarly reformer possessing a deeply ascetical spirituality.
- **ST POLYCARP**, Bishop, Martyr. Born about the 69, Polycarp died in about 155 at Smyrna (Turkey), where he had been the beloved and respected Bishop. He was a Disciple of St John the Apostle, and wrote to the Philippians to strengthen their faith and to defend the Church against heresy. Because of the account of his martyrdom, he is remembered for his fearless acknowledgement of Christ. Polycarp is honoured as one of the apostolic fathers of 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.

VATICAN II FIFTY YEARS ON:

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

- Thursday February 21st: *The Legacy of the Council*

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.

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND – SPECIAL COLLECTION:

The annual collection for this fund closes today. Special envelopes are still available in the porches. 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.

HALL BOOKINGS:

Bookings and enquiries to the Muddimans,
0755 311 4531 or
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 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.