

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.
- ❖ Parish Safeguarding Representative: Claire Graham. Tel 01244 341287 or 0788 055 3830.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT. SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER 2015

MASS TIMES: INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Gerardus Marinus Frickel
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Bob Breen
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Service of Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.	“
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.	“
Thursday:	9.45 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.	Confessions
Vigil Mass of Christmas:	6.00 p.m.	Kevin & Frances Connolly
Midnight Mass:	9.00 p.m.	Joan & Ron Wells
Christmas Day Dawn Mass	9.15 a.m.	Sean Backhouse A.
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Thanksgiving for Successful Operation
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Patricia Howe & Kathleen Tallon
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish

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 to Friday, except Wednesdays.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday 6.45 p.m. to 7.10pm. (before the Saturday Vigil Mass).

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: James Judge, Muriel Hoole, Gerard Monroe Gibbons, Sue McGann, Frances Williams, Bridie Rowley, Frances Williams, Samuel Joseph Kenyon, Margaret Hill, John Joseph Cox, John Thomas Williams, Desmond Joseph “Bob” Breen, John Williams, John Carney, Sean Backhouse, David Thomas Cross, John Ignatius Mitchell, Molly Massey, Charles Fisher, Connie Barlow, Maria Galvin, Nora Garry, Patrick Joseph Burke, John McLoughlin, Bridgid Lynch, Terence Ogg, John Galvin, Eileen Burden, Florence Toop, Nellie Lennon, Elizabeth Mary Teresa Rimmer, Gerry Hickey, Mike Ayland, Carol Finan, Michael Grisdale, James Edward Price, , George John, William John, Edward John, Doris McCleary, Ann Chesters, Thomas McGuinness, Frederick Nixon, Francis Wilkinson, Richard Bird, Paul Murphy, Marjorie Houlbrook, Elvet Roy Eaton, Joe Brickland, Mary Mitchell, Catherine Sheridan, Fred Beswick, Harry O’Koru

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£455.12
Planned Giving:	£454.87
Average Weekly Standing Orders:	£683.00
Candles	£ 45.57
Badminton	£150.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

20th Dec	Sewing Group	Wren Group
27th Dec		
3rd Jan		
10th Jan	21st Guides	Themselves
17th Jan	9:15	Parish
17th Jan	11:00	Fr Cooke's farewell

The 2016 coffee rota is on the notice board in the Hall. If you would like to manage a coffee morning for a charity of your choice, please add your name to the rota.

Tea, coffee and juice are served in the hall after both Sunday morning Masses. All are welcome.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

- Pray for the residents of Woburn Drive, Halton Road, Dorset Place and Cotswold Close.
- For the Youth Clubs and Youth Workers in our churches.
- For all young people in our Community.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT 11 a.m. MASS:

Children's Liturgy will start off in Church for the lighting of the Advent candles, and then the children will go out to the Hall for their liturgy returning for the offertory. All children, parents and helpers welcome.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

There will be a collection after all Masses this weekend towards the cost of flowers in church over the Christmas period.

MISSION CALENDAR 2016:

The Mission Calendars are available in the front and rear porches of the church. Thank you for your continued support.

RED MISSION BOXES:

Can those parishioners holding Red Mission Boxes please leave them in the Sacristy. You can collect your box from the table in the rear porch. Thank you for your continued support.

FATHER COOKE:

With Fr. Cooke indisposed, arrangements have been made for visiting priests to celebrate all Sunday Masses for the time being. However, prior to his retirement on 17th January, Fr. Cooke plans to celebrate the 6.00 p.m. First Mass and the 11.00 a.m. Mass of the Day at Christmas. We are very grateful to the Franciscans and Spiritan Fathers for celebrating our Masses during Father's indisposition.

Father's final parish Mass, the 11.00 a.m. Mass on Sunday 17th January, will be followed by a "Farewell Gathering" in the church Hall, all will be welcome.

Arrangements have been made for a Retirement Collection to be taken, and special envelopes will be available on Sundays 27th December and 3rd January. It will be helpful if contributions are made by Sunday 10th January at the latest.

Richard Curtis is compiling material regarding St Columba's and Fr. Cooke during his time at the parish for use in a leaving book. If you have any photos, digital or developed (these can be scanned and then returned) or anything else that you think is appropriate, please get in touch with him at: rich.curtis89@yahoo.co.uk or 07787 782255.

CHRISTINGLE CAROL -11.00 a.m. MASS:

1. O sing about Christingle, your voices loud employ,
Your praises bring to God our King, for Jesus and His joy.
2. The orange of Christingle, the world reminds us of,
And how our God created us, and on us shed His love.
3. The candle of Christingle, with shining flame so bright,
Reminds us of our loving Lord, who is the world's true light.
4. The red band of Christingle, which plainly we can see,
Reminds us of how Jesus Christ was killed upon that tree.
5. The four sticks of Christingle, with which the orb we spear,
Remind us how God cares for us, through seasons of the year.
6. The fruits of the Christingle, they have a special worth,
Reminding of the Spirit's fruits as well as fruits of earth.
7. The whole of the Christingle, it is a joy to see,
It shines to show how God our Father loves both you and me.

CHRISTINGLE APPEAL THIS SUNDAY 20th December:

We are again helping the children of Bo in Sierra Leone by our Christingle Appeal for the OAKS charity (Overseas Aid for the Kids of Sierra Leone). They have had a very difficult year dealing with the Ebola crisis and had to miss 8 months of schooling. However, they have been back since September and are working really hard to catch up so that they can pass their exams. Any support we can give them is always greatly appreciated. **Please take an envelope from either porch this weekend** and return it in the normal offertory baskets next week, or to Pauline Payne. Many thanks. The work of the OAKS charity can be seen at www.oaks-sl.org

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY, 6.00 p.m. MASS:

Children are invited to take part in the short Nativity at the Christmas Eve Mass. Could parents of any children interested please get in touch with Claire Graham or Rachel Borman on 07880 553830 or 01244 341287. There will be a short practice after 11.00 a.m. Mass on **Sunday 20th December**. Costumes will be provided.

SHREWSBURYCATHOLIC VOICE:

Copies of the Christmas 2015 issue of the Diocesan magazine Shrewsbury Voice are available in either porch, price £1.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Last week's party for Senior Parishioners was a great success, enjoyed by all who attended, and we offer a big Thank You to all those who helped

A LOOK AT THE ADVENT READINGS:

Thanks to all who attended the recent series of talks and to David Savage for his thoughtful and helpful presentations. David invites any feedback you may wish to make, to aid development of this initiative for the future. Comments may be sent to savage214@btinternet.com or lhordley@btinternet.com

M.O.H.C AND READERS ROTA:

Please ensure you pick up your Christmas and New Year rota from the table in the front porch. Many thanks.

CHARITY CLASSICAL CONCERT FOR CHILDREN: "The Wheels on Debussy"

Join in a classical musical experience for both parents and children in a relaxed environment on **Sunday 27th December**, 3.00 p.m. at St Werburgh's Church. The programme will include solo performance and audience participation: seasonal singalong favourites plus music that captures the magic and mystery of Christmas. Soft drinks, mulled wine and mince pies to follow. All funds go to the Fergal O'Mahony Memorial Charity Foundation, supporting the development of young talented musicians.

Tickets £10 for 1 adult and 1 child, £2.50 for each additional child. They can be purchased online at: <https://billetto.co.uk/events/100252#sthash.i6edL0rn.dpuf> or in St Columba's Church Hall after 11.00am Mass.

VISITING CHOIR 3rd JANUARY 11.00 MASS:

Again this year, The Octavo Consort will be joining us for the 11:00 Mass on Epiphany Sunday 3rd January. The Octavo Consort is a group of young, experienced choral singers from Chester and elsewhere. They will sing the Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei from Palestrina's Missa Brevis and a motet during communion as well as joining the congregation for the usual hymns and carols at Mass. The Octavo Consort is directed by Tom Coxhead of this parish. After graduating last summer, Tom is now Organ Scholar at Ripon Cathedral.

ST. COLUMBA'S HALL BOOKINGS:

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

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Bernard Payne
Tel: 01244 350323
Email: bernard.payne691@btinternet.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 **Tuesday 22nd December** (NB earlier deadline this week because of Christmas closure). Please include a phone number in case of queries.

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk