

St Columba's Church

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA

Parish Priest: Fr. Jonathan Brandon

Tel: 01244 400873 E-mail: jonathanbrandon@hotmail.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.

PASSION SUNDAY 20th MARCH 2016.

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 7.15 p.m.
Sunday: 9.15 a.m.

INTENTIONS:

Helen Kelly
Mrs A Timpson
The Parish

Monday: 9.15 a.m.

NO MORNING MASS

Tuesday: 9.15 a.m.

Bill Browne (RIP)

Wednesday: 9.15 a.m.

Frances & Kevin Connolly

Holy Thursday: 8.00 p.m.

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Watching until 10.00 p.m.
concluding with Compline

Good Friday: 9.45-10.45 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

11.15 a.m. FAMILY STATIONS OF
THE CROSS

3.00 p.m. CELEBRATION OF THE
LORD'S PASSION

Holy Saturday: 8.00 p.m.

EASTER VIGIL

EASTER SUNDAY 9.15 a.m.

John & Caroline Tobin
(Wedding Anniversary)

11.00 a.m.

Edwin Edwards

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Jonathan to arrange a date, please contact Claire O'Donnell 07743 704383 (text or 'phone).

MORNING PRAYER:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: 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 Daisie Roberts, Gloria Elizabeth Mary Williams, Stanley Richard Tilston, Maurice Chapman Snr, Harry Grove, Rose Mary Mitchell, Kenneth (Ken) Roy Thompson, Donald Goodacre, Eddie Edwards, Joseph (Joe) O'Reilly, Kathleen Sharp, Annie Sweeney and Thomas Walter Bowker.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£454.20
Planned Giving:	£515.20
Average Weekly Standing Orders:	£683.00
Donation from Badminton Group:	£150.00
Candles:	£50.54

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Kelvin Grove, Western Approach and Kent Road.
- Greater compassion for those who feel marginalised in our society.
- Deeper unity between the churches.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

20th March	Alison & Paul	Tombola
27th March	Annette Alburquerque	
	Fancy Dress & Cakes	Ickle Pickles
3rd April	Sewing Group	Parish

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

FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS' MEETING:

The meeting for parents to discuss the Sacrament and how it will be celebrated takes place on **Monday 21st March** at 7.00 p.m. in St. Werburgh's and St. Columba's School. Please try to attend this meeting.

CONFIRMATION:

If you wish to be Confirmed this year please put your details on one of the lists in the front or back porch to join the preparation programme. To be Confirmed you must be in high school year 8 or above on 28th October '16 (i.e. be at high school in year 7 now, or older – there is no upper age limit) Further details will be given out at a meeting after Easter – date to be announced in the church newsletter. For more information speak to Denise Lusk at church or ring 379742.

LENT APPEAL FOR SIERRA LEONE:

I will be making another humanitarian holiday trip to Sierra Leone, West Africa for Easter this year leaving **March 23rd**. The young RC orphans and teenagers are begging me for secondhand (or no longer needed) laptop computers, gameboys, cameras and telephones to take to them as useful gifts. Please contact Heather on 07840621878 if you have any and/or would like to share...Thank you. With appreciation.

EASTER SUNDAY CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS COMPETITION:

In aid of Ickle Pickles neo-natal charity, a Fancy Dress Competition will be held in the Church Hall after 11 am Mass on **Easter Sunday, 27th March**. Entry fee £1. Prizes for the winners of each age group: under 5; 5 - 8; 9 - 12. Each competitor will also receive a Certificate of Participation. Hand-crafted cloth dolls will be auctioned and delicious home-made cakes on sale. Every penny raised will go to Ickle Pickles to help buy life-saving equipment for babies born too soon, too small and too sick to survive on their own. For further details, please call Annette on 01244 399707 or email annettealbuq@gmail.com

- **HELP NEEDED!** Volunteers are needed to serve tea and coffee and sell cakes on 27th March, whilst the Fancy Dress Competition is taking place. (also after the 9:15 Mass). If you can bake a batch of cakes to sell, that would be much appreciated. Please call Annette if you can help.

ASYLUM SEEKERS AND THE RIGHT TO WORK:

Many people are unaware that asylum seekers are prohibited by law from working. As it currently stands, more than 3,600 asylum seekers have been waiting more than six months for an initial decision on their cases and surviving on just over £5 a day. CSAN, the Catholic Social Action Network, is supporting Lord Alton of Liverpool's proposed amendment to the Immigration Bill to grant the right to work to those asylum seekers who have not had their claim processed within six months. CSAN is keen to ensure this amendment is upheld in the House of Commons and are asking people to write to their MPs urging them to support the amendment. (You will find further information and a sample pro-forma letter in both porches.)

DIARY DATE, FRIDAY 22nd APRIL:

One of St. Theresa's young parishioners 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**. As he is the only young person from Chester who is attending the conference, we are keen to get the support of all the Chester parishes. Please put the date in your diary. Tickets will be on sale after Easter. Contact Ann McCarthy, 01244 375606

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.

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could those Parishioners holding Red Mission Boxes please leave them in the Sacristy for Marg Curtis (318424) to collect.

The boxes can be collected from the table in the rear porch. Thank you for your continued support.

MISSION TODAY:

Spring edition of Mission Today are available in the front and rear porches.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON:

Churches Together in Upton have started an initiative to extend the current practice of praying for the residents of particular roads by encouraging individual prayer requests. These can be made in writing to: Prayer Meeting, Upton United Reformed Church, Heath Road, Chester, or email: info@uptonurc.org.uk.

Churches Together in Upton hold a coffee morning each Monday at The Pavilion, Wealstone Lane (next to the Library) from 10 a.m. to noon. This is an ideal opportunity to meet and make friends in a relaxed welcoming atmosphere. If anyone is interested in helping out, please come along on a Monday to find out more.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

The envelopes for 2016-17, which begin on Sunday 10th April, are now available. Please collect yours from the porch. Any problems please ring David Savage 380626.

PLANNED GIVING AND GIFT AID:

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 280626.

ST COLUMBA'S SOCIAL EVENTS DIARY:

29 th April	Family Bingo
5 th June	St. Columba's Parish barbeque
22 nd July	Coach Trip to Worcester

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 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 **Wednesday**. Please include a phone number in case of queries.

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk