

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.

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST 2015 MASS TIMES: INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Peace and Justice.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Separated and Divorced Catholics.
	11.00 a.m.	Sick of the Parish.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Irene Jones.
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.	Denis Patrick O'Donovan.
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.	Sally Nelbury.
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.	Private Intention.
Friday:	9.15 a.m.	Holy Souls.
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.	World Peace.
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Catholic Education.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	The Parish.
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Betty Fletcher, Joseph Strong, May Strong, Lesley Strong, Rosa Carney, Philip McEnery, Bernard Lumby, Patricia Carole Copeland, Mary Kathleen Hanna, Mary Agnes Moore, Mary Steadman, Loretta Roberts, Paul McKenna, Robert Croft, Christian Nicholas, Gwen Jones, Tom O'Loughlin, Lucienne Brayet, Eileen Casey, Mary Doyle, Michael Holland, Winifred Walker, Kathleen Hopkins, Elizabeth 'Lil' Jones, James (Jim) Michael Layden, Evelyn Woods, Violet Winifred Bailey, Ursula Joan Sarsfield, Harold Boulton, Robert Carr, James (Jimmy) Tallon.

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Cooke to arrange a date, please contact Claire Graham on 01244 341287/ 0788 055 3830.

We welcome **Lola Therese Robinson-Dillon** who was baptised on 16th August into our Parish. We ask for God's blessings on the family, please pray for them as they start their journey of faith together.

MORNING PRAYER:

Each morning at 9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, Monday through to Saturday, except Wednesdays when Novena prayers are held at 9.15 a.m. before Mass commences.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday, after morning Mass, and in the evening from 6.45 until 7.10 p.m.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate: £524.76
Planned Giving: £394.87
Average Weekly SOs: £683.00
Many thanks for your generous support.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- Pray for the residents of Greenfields, Flag Lane North and Oakfield Avenue.
- For the Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Lay Readers, Parish Assistant and Local Church Leaders. For all those not yet connected to the life of the Church or who have lost their faith.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

23rd August: SPUC Parish.

30th August

6th September: Chris & Elizabeth Tombola.

13th September: Catholic High School PTA Parish.

The next coffee rota is on the notice board in the hall. There are some vacancies. If you would like to volunteer please add your name to the rota or contact Margaret Cutis 318424.

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

JOB VACANCIES WITH THE SPIRITANS:

The Spiritans at 60 Hoole Road, Chester are looking to employ two full time domestic assistants to clean and care for their elderly priests. A full job description and application form are available from:-
provincial@spiritans.co.

CHARITY CONCERT FRIDAY 9th

OCTOBER:

Chifundo UK and Soroptimist International of Chester are holding a Charity Concert featuring A Handbag of Harmonies and The Queen's School Chamber Choir. This is in aid of The SOKO Fund, an educational charity providing university scholarships for women in Malawi. The concert will be at 7.30 p.m. here in St. Columba's Church, with refreshments served in the Hall. Tickets: £12 Adults, £6 for under 18s including refreshments from:

Susan Flynn 01244 381490 or
chair@chifundomalawi.org Further information:
www.chifundomalawi.org Posters on display in the porches and on the parish website.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON:

Forthcoming events:

- **5th Sunday Service** - Whenever there is a 5th Sunday in the month, the Upton churches take turns to host a Sunday evening service, to which members of all the churches are warmly invited. The next such occasion is **Sunday 30th August, 6.30 p.m. at Upton URC, Heath Road.**
- **Monday Coffee Mornings** - Currently, these weekly Coffee Meetings are held from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon at the Scout HQ in Weston Grove. Please note that from **Monday 7th September** they will be held in the brand-new Pavilion at the playing fields in Wealstone Lane (next to the Library).
- **Churches Together in Upton AGM** - CTU has changed and evolved over the years, and if you have ideas about its future activities, or would like to be involved in any way you are very welcome to attend our informal AGM meeting on **Wednesday 9th September, 7.30 p.m. at Upton URC.**
- **Quiz Evening Friday 16th October** - Over the last few years this annual Quiz has proved very popular and sociable. Again this year the Quiz is hosted by St. Columba's, and will be held in our Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m. Watch out for further details.

UPTON VILLAGE WI MEETING:

Thursday 10th September 2015, at The Club House, Mannings Lane, Hoole Village, Chester, Cheshire CH2 4EU*. 7.30pm for 8pm start. (*Please note change of venue, which is permanent, thank you). This month's meeting will be a presentation by "Animal Behavioural Referrals".

NEEDLES AND PINS:

Needles and Pins meet again on Wed. August 26th in the hall at 2pm. We have set ourselves a challenge – as a group we aim to make a quilt which will be raffled eventually. Any ladies who can offer help and advice and would like to join us will be most welcome. See you there.

WORLD YOUTH DAY, KRAKOW, AUG 2016:

Bishop Mark is inviting the young people of the Diocese to join Pope Francis in Kraków next summer for the World Youth Day. Many young people have described their experience at past World Youth Days as life changing moments. There are still a few places available in our Diocesan group for young people aged 16 and over. Please encourage any young people in your parish to think seriously about joining Bishop Mark in Kraków 2016. More information is available on the Diocesan website www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/youth or from Pauline McCulloch at the Curial Offices pauline.mcculloch@dioceseofshrewsbury.org.

ASSISTED DYING BILL:

Bishop Mark has asked parishes to encourage parishioners who haven't already done so, to write to their MPs before the debate on the Assisted Dying Bill due to take place on Friday 11th September. The website www.catholicnews.org.uk offers a simple and accessible way of doing this by email which will only take a couple of minutes. It even supplies the name of one's MP!

ST. COLUMBA'S HALL BOOKINGS:

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

PARISH BUILDINGS COMMITTEE August 2015

In the newsletters in July we reported on the plans to improve the effectiveness of the heating in the hall through installing insulation and reducing the amount of glazing. To enable the hall to be used best for the widest range of activities it was proposed that the upper half of the windows only should be retained and replaced with double glazed units with electrically operated opening lights and blinds.

Several parishioners subsequently wrote to express their concerns at the loss of the view from the lower windows in the hall which this alteration would produce. Their concerns were passed on to the diocese, which owns the building. Diocesan representatives met with those parishioners to consider their concerns.

We have now heard from the diocese that while those views are respected the proposal that will be taken to the diocesan finance committee is the original one - to retain the higher level glazing only. There is no possibility of the diocese carrying out any improvements to the hall without the support of WREN funding. Since that funding is dependent on demonstrating benefit to the wider community the improvements to the hall must ensure benefit to the widest range of users. That cannot be effectively achieved by retaining the lower windows.

The committee recognises that change is rarely welcomed – we all become accustomed to things as they are. However, the proposed change to the windows offers a number of significant benefits. It will: provide valuable privacy for a wide range of physical activities; shield children from the view of passers-by; allow the lighting to be well controlled; improve the overall appearance of the hall as half closed, drooping curtains will no longer be in place.

We are grateful for the support of a wide range of hall users in fundraising to assist our bid for substantial external funding.

pauline.rourke@btinternet.com;
leech2000@btinternet.com

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Muriel Green
Tel: 01244 383836

E-mail: muriel.green1@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 Thursday. Please include a phone number in case of queries.

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk