

St Columba's Church

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA

Parish Priest: Fr. Jonathan Brandon (from 7th February 2016)

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.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 24th JANUARY 2016

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	The Parish
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Mrs. G Shanley
	11.00 a.m.	Bob Meadows A.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Service of Word & Communion
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.	“
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.	“
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.	“
Friday:	9.15 a.m.	“
Saturday:	NO SERVICE	
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	The Parish
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Roman Boryslawski
	11.00 a.m.	Hughie Middleton

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Lawrence (temporarily) 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 through to Friday, except Wednesdays.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary McCallum, Michael Gritten, William Carter, Edward Halligan, John Mahoney, Robert Stephen Macdonald, Vicky Smith, Susan Pollock, Charles Dutton, Christine Elizabeth Colgan, Ann-Marie Loughlin, Gladys Lilian Shanley, Patricia Banks, Margaret Johnstone, Malcolm Anthony de-Monte, Mary (Mollie) Callow, Robert Charles Gore, Julia Jones, Mary Thompson, Sean Murphy, Anne Gritten, Adam Turner, Josephine Patricia Grehan, Phoebe Phillips, Molly Choppen, John Martin, Marie Cousins, Patrick Foley, Jean Anderson, Margaret Barrow, Rosemary Larsen, Jim Gridale, Bernard Smith, Joseph Eric Gerrard, Mary O'Gorman, Bridget Rhoden, Anne Heaney-Glynn, Anne Helen Fitzpatrick, George Fletcher, Roman Boryseawski, Clifford Sale, Stephen Hunt, Kitty O'Donnell, Rachel Andrews, Joseph Blagg, Dr de Gamrose, John Joseph Lynch, Nellie Tyldesley.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday 6.45 - 7.10pm. (before the Saturday Vigil Mass).

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£695.46
Planned Giving:	£490.19
Average Weekly Standing Orders:	£683.00
Candles:	£ 47.97
Crib Collection	£ 36.36

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

24 th Jan.	Annette Albuquerque	NEONatal
31 st Jan.	Sue Carr	OAKS
7th Feb	Chris & Liz Nichols	Tombola
14th Feb	CWL	CWL

There are a few Sunday coffee mornings vacant this coming year. We urgently need volunteers to manage these mornings - either to raise money for the parish or a charity of your choice. If you can devote a couple of hours, please put your name on the rota in the hall or contact Margaret Curtis 318424 for more details.

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

CHESHIRE CHURCHES TOGETHER –WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2016:

A service will be held at Chester Cathedral **today, Sunday, 24th January** at 4.00p.m. The preacher will be Rev. Lord Leslie Griffiths, former President of the Methodist Conference. All are welcome.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Shocklach Road, Horrocks Road and Bolesworth Road
- For the choirs, music groups and Sing Praise
- For uniting all who play and sing from the three churches.

UPTON CHURCHES TOGETHER PRAYER REQUESTS:

Upton Churches Together have started an initiative to extend the current practice of praying for the residents of particular roads by encouraging individual prayer requests. Requests can be made by writing on a piece of paper and posting it to Prayer Meeting, Upton United Reformed Church, Heath Road, Chester, or by email to info@uptonurc.org.uk. More details are on posters on the Church notice boards.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE:

This year the Mass for Marriage and Family Life with Bishop Mark will be celebrated at noon on **Saturday 6th February** here at St Columba's. All married couples and families are welcome.

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND – SPECIAL COLLECTION:

Next weekend the annual collection for the Retired Priests' Fund will be held. In the time I have been with you, I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the people of the Diocese towards the Retired Priests' Fund. With your help, we can build up the Fund to meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

Special Envelopes are available for you to use. A Leaflet about the Fund is also available which explains how to make a regular donation to the Fund by Standing Order, or how you can make your donation by cheque. It also explains how to take advantage of Gift Aid for your donations to the Fund. I ask that you give as generously as you can to this very worthy cause, and would also like to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support.

With every blessing – **Mark, Bishop of Shrewsbury.**

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

- Monday: **The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle** - who as Saul was the harshest of persecutors of Christianity. His encounter with the vision of Christ on the road to Damascus led to his conversion, and on to his role as tireless missionary and powerful thinker and writer on behalf of the early church.
- Thursday: **St Thomas Aquinas** (1225-1274). He was one of the greatest teachers and writers in the history of the church, producing an enormous output during a comparatively short lifetime of 49 years. His special contribution was to develop a systematic understanding of Christian theology that embraced many of the ideas to be found in Greek and Islamic philosophy, and his writings are still studied today. He had joined the Dominicans at the age of 19, against the wishes of his family - who held him captive for a whole year in a vain attempt to deter him.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME FOR THE HOLY YEAR OF MERCY:

Bishop Mark will lead a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome for the Holy Year of Mercy from 17th -21st **October 2016**. We will visit the major Basilicas of Rome including passing through the Holy Door at St Peter's. In addition there will be a General Audience with the Holy Father and a visit and Holy Hour at the Venerable English College. Flights are from Manchester and accommodation is on a half board basis with lunch included on the first day. The cost is £695 in a twin room or £565 in a triple room. A very limited number of single rooms are available at a supplement of £130. Numbers are restricted to 100 so early booking is recommended. Full information and booking forms are available from your Parish Priest or can be downloaded from the Diocesan Website. Alternatively contact Fr David Long on 0151 638 1520.

SIGN AT THE CONFESSIONAL:

The sign at the Confessional has been provided by the Diocese to mark the Jubilee of Mercy. In Misericordiae Vultus Pope Francis places the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre of this Jubilee Year. The Holy Father writes, *"so many people, including the youth, are returning to the Sacrament of Reconciliation; through this experience they are rediscovering a path back to the Lord, living a moment of intense prayer and finding meaning in their lives. Let us place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre once more in such a way that it will enable people to touch the grandeur of God's mercy with their own hands. For every penitent, it will be a source of true interior peace"*. (n17)

HOSPICE SUPPORT GROUP QUIZ:

Friday, 12th February at 7.00 p.m. in the Hall. Raffle, Refreshments. Admission £2. Teams of 4-6. See poster on Notice Board.

A WAR-TORN PARISH – ST. WERBURGH'S, CHESTER:

This exhibition has recently opened at Chester History and Heritage, Bridge Street. It is based on the Great War Display in St. Werburgh's Church, Nov. 2014. It is open Mon-Fri, 10-12am and 1-4pm. and describes the parish just before, during and just after the Great War. Please invite your friends, as it is well worth a visit.

PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE:

Rob Ellsworth, CAFOD's Policy Adviser for Climate and Energy, is giving a talk at the University of Chester "The Paris Agreement: a new beginning (for old battles)". This is on **Tuesday, 2nd February** at 7.00 p.m. in Best Building, Chester Campus. The talk is arranged jointly by the University and the Chester World Development Forum, and all are welcome. See posters in the porches and on the parish website.

UPTON CHURCHES TOGETHER WEEKLY COFFEE MORNING:

A coffee morning is held each Monday at The Pavilion in Upton (by Upton Library) from 10 a.m. until 12 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.

VACANCY AT MALLARD COURT:

No.5 is a very smart one-bed ground floor retirement apartment, located at Long Lane, Upton. The apartment is fully carpeted, with vertical blinds, and is now available for rent. Close to main entrance and residents lounge with direct access to small private patio and gardens. Remote door system. £575 per month. For further details contact Kevin Sykes (01244 570129), or k.sykes@chester.ac.uk or Chris Walker, Manager, Mallard Court 01244 665976

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:

This will be compiled by Alison Wrigglesworth
Tel: 01244 382457

E-mail: alison.wrigglesworth@o2.co.uk

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