

St Columba's Church

1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton, Chester CH2 1SA

Parish Priest: Fr. Russell Cooke

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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

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 25th DECEMBER 2013

MASS TIMES:

INTENTIONS:

Christmas Eve:

Vigil Mass	6.00 p.m.	Kevin Connolly.
First Mass of Christmas	9.00 p.m.	The Parish.

Christmas Day:

Dawn Mass	9.15 a.m.	John Barrett.
	11.00 a.m.	John O'Sullivan.

Feast of St. Stephen: 12.00 Noon. Frank Wilkinson. A.

Friday: 9.15 a.m. Eileen Beck.

Saturday: 9.15 a.m. Judy Hough.

Feast of the Holy Family:

Saturday Vigil 7.15 p.m. Michael Wolfe.

Sunday 9.15 a.m. Darren Sheeran.

11.00 a.m. The Parish.



A HAPPY AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL

Fr. Cooke wishes the Parish a very happy and blessed Christmas Season. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to prepare for the great Feast of Our Lord's Birth.

We give a warm welcome to all our visitors to St. Columba's over the Christmas period.

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.

BAPTISMS:

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

CONFESSIONS:

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

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Faye-Marie, Carly, and Becky Herbert, and to Luke Melvin, who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday.

OFFERTORY (14th & 15th Dec.):

Loose Plate: £584.30

Planned Giving: £406.60

Average Weekly SOs: £547.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we 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 the young people in our community.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: John Carney, Sean Backhouse, David Thomas Cross, John Ignatius Mitchell, Molly Massey, Connie Barlow, Maria Galvin, Nora Garry, Patrick Joseph Burke, John McLoughlin, John Galvin, Eileen Burden, Florence Toop, Nellie Lennon, Elizabeth Mary Teresa Rimmer, Gerry Hickey, Mike Ayland, Carol Finan, Michael Griddale, 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, Eva McDonnell, Adam Barnhill, James Ball, Thomas Edward Johnston, Jacobus Philips, Joseph Herbert Lucas, Evelyn Taylor, Harry Ralph, John Leonard, Teresa Helena Adams.

PRAYERS IN ADVENT & CHRISTMASTIDE:

During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray in particular for the following:

Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

As well as the Nativity of Our Lord on 25th December and the Feast of the Holy Family the following Sunday, Christmas Week is a week full of feasts and commemorations:

- Thursday 26th December - **Stephen the first martyr**. He was stoned to death outside Jerusalem. Chosen as one of the first deacons because he was a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit.
- Friday 27th December - **St. John, Apostle and Evangelist**. He and his brother James were known as “the sons of thunder”. The 4th Gospel, three epistles and the Apocalypse are attributed to John. He witnessed the Transfiguration and was present at the foot of the Cross – where Jesus entrusted the care of his mother to him.
- Saturday 28th December - **The Holy Innocents**, all those children under the age of two, martyred in Bethlehem at the time Jesus was born, on the word of King Herod.
- Sunday 29th December - **St. Thomas Becket**, Archbishop of Canterbury murdered in his cathedral on this day in 1170 on the word of King Henry II.

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could parishioners holding Red Mission Boxes please leave them in the Sacristy for Margaret Curtis to collect. Your box can be collected from the rear porch.

Thank you for your continued support.

SHREWSBURY CATHOLIC VOICE:

The Advent/Christmas 2013 issue of the Diocesan magazine is available, price £1. Articles include an illustrated account of the Diocesan Holy Land Pilgrimage in October, and a “Year of Faith in Neston” – an account of the ways in which the parish of St. Winefride’s observed the holy year.

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 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 Thursday. Please include a phone number in case of queries.

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk