

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.

EASTER SUNDAY, 27th MARCH 2016.

MASS TIMES:	INTENTIONS:
Holy Saturday:	8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil
Sunday:	9.15 a.m. John & Caroline Tobin (Wedding Anniversary)
	11.00 a.m. Edwin Edwards
Easter Monday	7.00 p.m. Denis O'Brien
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m. Tom Wren
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m. Terence Cunniff
Thursday:	9.15 a.m. Gertrude Eggers
Friday:	9.15 a.m. Service of Holy Communion.
Saturday:	NO MORNING MASS
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m. Peter Kelly A.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m. Margaret Mary McGeachin
	11.00 a.m. Parish

MORNING PRAYER:

Each morning at 9.00 a.m. 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.

CONFESSIONS:

There will be no Confessions on Saturdays 2nd and 9th April.

BAPTISMS:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Donald Goodacre, Eddie Edwards, Joseph (Joe) O'Reilly, Kathleen Sharp, Annie Sweeney, Thomas Walter Bowker, Philip Parry, Kevin Coriam, Sarah Healey, Thomas Henry Lennon, Teresa O'Rourke, Angela Elizabeth (Betty) Beadles, Eva Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Veronica Lloyd, Bridget Kathleen Wilkinson, Anthony Adams, Ellen Tonks, Bridget Kerry, Doreen McNamara, Maureen Margaret Tolefree, Mary Kiernan, Thomas Edward Hill, Ena O'Flynn, Carlo Lanzetta, Annie Rowlands, Stephen Andrew O'Brien, Doreen Carrington, Joseph Logan, Margaret Jones, Hugh Gale, Thomas Townson, Norma Kirwan

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Newton Park Road, Kennedy Close and Sandon Road;
- For Upton Village Surgery and Weston Grove Clinic;
- For Doctors, Nurses, Health Visitors and Social Workers in our community.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£495.01
Planned Giving:	£484.04
Average Weekly Standing Orders:	£683.00
Stipends:	£92.00
Stole Fees:	£160.00
Donation (in memory of Pat Barker):	£150.00
Candles:	£56.70

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.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

27th March	Annette Alburquerque,	
	Fancy Dress & cakes,	Ickle Pickles
3rd April	Marie Cunniff	Hospice
10th April	Sue Carr	Third World

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

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could those holding Red Mission Boxes please leave them in the Sacristy for Marg Curtis 318424. The boxes can be collected from the table in the rear porch. Thank you for your continued support.

MISSION TODAY:

The Spring edition of Mission Today are available from both the front and rear porches.

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.

EASTER SUNDAY CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS

COMPETITION:

In aid of Ickle Pickles neo-natal charity, a Fancy Dress Competition in the Church Hall after 11 a.m. Easter Mass. 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.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

St Theresa's Church, Blacon on 3rd April at 3 p.m.

The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, who recorded the revelations she received about God's mercy. St. Faustina recorded our Lord's promises of specific, extraordinary graces: **"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."** There is also a requirement to do acts of mercy. Divine Mercy Sunday is an opportunity for us to pray for mercy for mankind in a specific way, during this designated Year of Mercy. It will include the opportunity to go to confession before 3 p.m., the Chaplet prayers, Holy Communion and Benediction. All are warmly welcome.

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.

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.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY, ASCENSION SUNDAY, 8th MAY 2016:

World Communications Sunday reflects Our Lord's mandate that we *"Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good news"*. On this day, Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in the field of communications. A particular prayer intention is for those who communicate on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country through the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the Communications Office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It supports the Bishops in their key national priorities in education; combatting human trafficking, life issues, safeguarding, prisons, interfaith relations and vocations, to name but a few.

CCN is responsible for developing the public profile of the Church in the press, radio and TV, digitally and across social media platforms. It is also a very helpful resource for national and international media professionals.

Please help CCN to continue this work through contributing generously to the collection on the day. Prayer cards for the Day will be available, and Parish resources will be online at: www.catholicnews.org.uk/wcd2016

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 Harry Sweeney
Tel: 01244-327462
Email: harrye.sweeney@hotmail.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