

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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH 28th DECEMBER 2014

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.
Sunday:	9.15 a.m. 11.00 a.m.
Monday:	9.15 a.m.
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.
Thursday:	10.00 a.m.
Friday:	9.15 a.m.
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.
Saturday Vigil	7.15 p.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.
Sunday	9.15 a.m. 11.00 a.m.

INTENTIONS:

Maureen O'Hara and Eileen Beck
Patrick and Mary Regan The Parish
Rose & Dick Mitchell & Mary Mitchell
Jean Piggot
James Chapman SVP.
Joan Wells
Joan & Bertha Cummings
Gillian Ann Gallagher
Maureen O'Hara and Eileen Beck
Gavin Webster
Special Intention The Parish

*We wish everyone at St. Columba's a very Happy Christmas.
And many thanks for your generous Christmas offerings, gifts
and cards.*
Fr. Cooke

LATELY DEAD:

Please remember in your prayers Charles Fisher. His Requiem will be on Wednesday 7th January at 10.00a.m.

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.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Woodlea Avenue, Cornwall Road and Aldford Road.
- For All Age Family Worship, Messy Church, Junior Church and Children's Liturgy.
- For all children who attend our churches each Sunday and their leaders.

OFFERTORY (20-21st Dec.):

Loose Plate:	£511.76
Planned Giving:	£518.00
Average Weekly SOs:	£510.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

If you are interested in joining the Planned Giving and/or Gift Aid schemes, please ring David Savage on 01244 380626.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: 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, Elizabeth Mary Kirk, John Steven Colgan, Mary Winifred Smith-White, Arthur Hindley, Kathleen Tallon, Teresa Bettridge, Veronica Howard, Rachel Gibson, Thomas Wall, Chris Speed, Patrick Peter Wilson, Jane O'Hord, Anne O'Loughlin, Patrick Joseph Regan, Margaret Winterbottom, Eileen Josephine Donoughue, Ada Laura Savage, Sean Floyd, Harold Sweeney, Lawrence Stevens, John Hughes, Margaret Johnson, Frances Joseph Burk, Christopher Garner, Ester Rose Parker, Susan Sweeney, Agnes Morris.

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.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

28th Dec.	Marg & Geoff	Hospice
4th Jan.	Sewing Group	

Teas, coffees and juices are served in the Hall after both Sunday morning Masses. All are welcome.

If you would like to support a charity by making coffee in the Hall after Sunday morning Mass please contact Margaret Curtis, 01244 318424.

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.

VISITING CHOIR 4th JANUARY 11.00 MASS:

For the 11:00 Mass next Sunday (4th January) we will be joined by the Octavo Consort - a group of young, experienced choral singers, from Chester and elsewhere. They will sing the Gloria, Sanctus and Agnus Dei from William Byrd's *Mass for Five Voices* and a motet during communion – as well as joining the congregation for the usual hymns and carols at mass. Octavo is directed by Tom Coxhead of this parish. Tom is in his final year studying music at Durham University and is the Director of Music at Hatfield College.

PASTORAL LETTER 28-12-14:

Copies of Bishop Mark's Pastoral Letter reflecting on "*The Vocation and Mission of the Family*", the title given by Pope Francis to the forthcoming Synod, are available in both church porches. This is the third in a series, the others being "*On Overcoming the Crisis of Marriage and the Family*" 09-11-14 and "*On the Universal Call to Holiness*" 30-11-14. All can be accessed at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org (also from the parish website).

FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

The Holy Innocents: 28th December marks King Herod's massacre of all male infants under the age of two in and around Bethlehem, in his attempt to kill the young Christ.

Monday: **St Thomas Becket.** Archbishop of Canterbury, murdered in his cathedral on this day in 1170, reputedly on the word of the King, Henry II with whom Thomas was once a close friend.

Wednesday: **St. Sylvester I, Pope.** Sylvester, elected Bishop of Rome in 314, died there on 31 December in 335. He is remembered as the Bishop of Rome in the important years when the Christian Church was first tolerated and then legally recognised in the Roman Empire. It was during this time that the emperor Constantine called councils at Arles and Nicaea to combat heresy, and also that great basilicas were built in Rome and throughout the empire.

Thursday: **Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God.** This feast, occurring on 1st January, continues the Christmas Season by highlighting Our Lady's unique role as the woman who brought God into the world. Mary's complete openness to God and her willingness to cooperate with God's plan of salvation made her a model of Christian faith from the earliest days of the Church's existence

Friday: **St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops,** doctors of the Church. Basil was born about 330 at Caesarea (Turkey) and died there on 1 January 379. Gregory was born at Nazianzus (Turkey) in 329 and died there in 389. They both were hermits before becoming bishops – Basil bishop of his native city, Gregory, bishop of Constantinople. They are remembered together because of their friendship in life and their enduring influence on the Church, especially in the East.

SHREWSBURY CATHOLIC VOICE:

The Advent/Christmas 2014 issue of the Diocesan magazine is available, price £1. This issue includes an item *Parish says thank you with flowers* about our 50th Anniversary Festival.

CHESTER AND ELLESMERE PORT S.V.P TRIP TO WALSINGHAM:

The annual S.V.P. trip to Walsingham will take place on **Monday 13th April 2015** and return on **Thursday 16th April 2015**. A deposit of £75 will be required as soon as possible. If anyone wishes to go, please contact Brian Forrest on 01244 318863.

CHRISTINGLE APPEAL FOR BO:

Thank you so much for your generous donations, amounting to £1044.50. The OAKS charity is extremely grateful to the parish.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING

REPRESENTATIVE:

We would like to welcome **Claire Graham** as the newly-appointed Parish Safeguarding Representative. She will be working alongside the Diocese's Safeguarding Coordinator Andrew O'Brien on parish matters concerning children and vulnerable adults.

If anybody wishes to speak with Claire about safeguarding within the parish please see her contact details below:

07880553830

or

senco@stwerburghscolumba.cheshire.sch.uk

Alternatively please see the Diocese Safeguarding Office contact information below:

cpva@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or

01516529855 / 07557731492- office hours & evening/weekend emergency.

GIFT AID TAX REFUND for 2013-14

The total amount of income tax refunded by HMRC for 2013-14 was £11,041.36. This sum has been paid into the Parish's Central Fund at the Diocese. Many thanks to all of you who make your donations to the parish through the Gift Aid scheme.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN

UNITY 18th – 25th January, 2015:

Here in Upton, we will be marking the Week of Prayer at the alternative time, Pentecost. (17th -24th May). However, many parts of the county are coming together to celebrate the octave at its traditional January time. The service for Churches Together in Cheshire is being held at 6.00 p.m. on **Sunday, 25th January** at St. Mary's Parish Church, Nantwich, hosted by the Nantwich Christian Council. The preacher will be Bishop Mark. See poster in the porches and on the parish website.

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 (4th Jan):

This will be compiled by Alison Wrigglesworth
Tel: 01244 382457

Email alison.wrigglesworth@o2.co.uk

Items for inclusion can also 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