

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.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT 28th FEBRUARY 2016.

MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 7.15 p.m.
Sunday: 9.15 a.m.

Monday: 11.00 a.m.
Tuesday: 9.15 a.m.

Wednesday: 9.15 a.m.
Thursday: 9.15 a.m.
Friday: 7.00 p.m.

Saturday: 9.15 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass: 7.15 p.m.
Sunday: 9.15 a.m.
11.00 a.m.

INTENTIONS:

Kathryn Sanson (RIP)
Roman Boryslawski
Richard Murphy (A)
Chris Kirkham
Armando Malanga (RIP)
REQUIEM Bill Brown
Mary Elizabeth (Mae) Kay
Private Intention (JB)
Margaret & Frank Lennon
Followed by Stations Of The
Cross and Benediction

NO MORNING MASS.

Elizabeth Williams
Mary Regan
Richard Murphy (A)

WELCOME:

We welcome Fr. Isidore Madueke, with us to celebrate all Masses this weekend, whilst Fr. Jonathan introduces himself to parishioners at St Theresa's, Blacon. We are reminded that Fr. Isidore is appointed to assist Fr. Jonathan bringing St Columba's and St. Theresa's parishes together to be one, over the next twelve months.

BAPTISMS:

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

MORNING PRAYER:

Each morning at 9.00 a.m. before the Blessed Sacrament 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.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS:

On Fridays in Lent daily Mass will be at 7.00 p.m. followed by Stations Of The Cross and (except 19th Feb. and 11th Mar.) Benediction.

LATELY DEAD: Bill Brown, Terence Cunniff & Eileen Jones:

We remember them in our prayers. May they rest in peace, and may God comfort their families and all who mourn.

CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday, in the morning 10.00 to 10.30 a.m. and in the evening 6.45 to 7.10 p.m. (before the Saturday Vigil Mass).

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Ellen Cottam, Angela Wilding, Gavin Webster, Mary Ellen Stansfield, Florence Edwards, John Daniel Jones, James Brian Kilcoyne, Cissie Jones, Margaret Rose Wollschlager, Hugh Campbell, Stephen John Blythe, Maud Yates, Cornelius Heffernan, Elizabeth Heffernan, Thomas Conlon, Ulrica Lester, Mary Dutton, Ian Allmark, Anne Holland, Ellen Catherine Kerr, Sheila McCabe, Alfred Bolton, Sheila Faye, Bridget Roberts, Joan Burrows, Cornlius Murphy, Noel Morrissey, John Burrell, Anthony Xuereb, Philip Anthony (Tony) Lambe, Terence (Terry) Cunningham, Gemma Elizabeth Holcroft, John Nigel Burrell and Veronica Eileen McPeake.

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£490.64
Planned Giving:	£445.74
Average Weekly Standing Orders:	£683.00
Candles	£66.03

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

28 th Feb	Sewing Group	Parish
6 th March	Catholic High PTA	Parish
13 th March	Vacancy	

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

HOSPITAL MASS

The regular "First Thursday" Mass will be celebrated on **3rd March** at 12.15pm in the Countess of Chester Hospital Chapel. This is for patients/outpatients, staff, families and friends, and the wellbeing of our hospitals, including the Bowmere. All are welcome.

LENT FAST DAY:

Please return remaining Fast Day envelopes in the offertory baskets this weekend. We will send the offerings to CAFOD next week and will report the total in next week's newsletter. Many thanks for your support.

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Rosewood Ave., Whitby Ave. & Egerton Drive
- Those on the brass and flowers rotas and those who distribute flowers
- Those who clean our churches and halls.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON:

The series of short **Lent Reflections** continue this **Thursday, 3rd March**, here at St. Columba's, 6.45 p.m. in the Iona Chapel. The final session will be on **Thursday 10th March**. All are very welcome to join us for these Lenten Reflections.

A JOURNEY THROUGH LENT:

The talks on the readings for the Sundays of Lent continue on **Wednesday** at 7.00 p.m. in the Iona Chapel, when we'll be looking at the readings for the Fourth Sunday. A warm welcome is extended to all interested parishioners. You don't have to come every week, just drop in when you can. See the Notice Boards for more details. Please note that it's Wednesday this week.

FOOTSTEPS TO THE CROSS (Friday, 11th March 7.30 p.m.):

If you are high school age and would like to take part in reading at this service, please phone Denise Lusk on 01244 379742.

CHESTER CAFOD SUPPORT GROUP:

The next meeting of this Group will be next **Tuesday 1st March** in St. Clare's Parish Room starting after the 7.00 p.m. Mass in church. For various reasons our numbers have diminished, so we would love you to come along if you can, to see what we get up to and to make your suggestions. Our focus is on some of the poorest and most remote communities in the world, but our activities are varied and include prayer/inquiry/ campaigning and fundraising in all its shapes and forms. The meeting will finish no later than 9pm. Looking forward to seeing you there. Sue Bownas (Tel 679270)

PARENTING TEENS:

Are you interested in exploring positive ways of parenting teenagers and building on your skills and strategies to keep communication open in your family? Join like-minded parents in a small and supportive group for 6 weekly sessions where you can develop and adapt tried and tested techniques to suit your family situation, taking small steps each week to bring about big changes.

The course is free and starts on **Wednesday 2nd March** at 7.30 p.m. at Chester Catholic High School. For more information or to book a place, please ring Claire on 01244 300338 or 07743704383.

CHANGES TO CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

Children's liturgy starts again on Sunday 28th Feb at 11 o'clock Mass. The children will now join their families in Church for the start of Mass, then going to the hall with the helpers to listen to one of the readings for the day in a format suited to them, and an activity. They will then return to Church for the offertory and, usually, readings or prayers by some of the children. Reading is always voluntary; please reassure your child that they won't have to read if they don't want to. More helpers are always welcome – if you'd like to join the team to help once every 6 weeks or so, please contact Catherine on catherine.green@care4free.net or telephone 07462780302. If you can't make a week, you can swap - swaps are going on all the time - and we break for the Summer holidays.

GIFT AID:

As the end of the Tax Year approaches you are reminded to check that you will have paid enough Income Tax in 2015-16 to cover the

tax that will be reclaimed on your gift aided donations. If in any doubt, please contact David Savage tel. 380626.

CONGRATULATIONS:

Our congratulations go to Neila Santos and her daughter (*our Altar Server*) Mary, on achieving British Citizenship. Neila and Mary took their Oaths of allegiance before the Sheriff of Chester and the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire at a joyful ceremony at Chester Town Hall last Tuesday. We wish them every blessing and happiness for the future.

LENT APPEAL FOR SIERRA LEONE:

I will be making another humanitarian holiday trip to Sierra Leone, West Africa for Easter this year leaving March 23rd. The young RC orphans and teenagers are begging me for secondhand (or no longer needed) laptop computers, gameboys, cameras and telephones to take to them as useful gifts. Please contact Heather on 07840621878 if you have any and/or would like to share...Thank you. With appreciation.

EASTER SUNDAY CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS COMPETITION:

In aid of Ickle Pickle's neo-natal charity, a Fancy Dress Competition will be held in the Church Hall after 11 o'clock Mass on Easter Sunday, 27th March. 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 will be 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.

For further details, please call Annette on 01244 399707 or email annettealbuq@gmail.com

- **HELP NEEDED!** Volunteers are needed to serve tea and coffee and sell cakes on 27th March, whilst the Fancy Dress Competition is taking place. (also after the 9:15 Mass). If you can bake a batch of cakes to sell, that would be much appreciated. Please call Annette if you are able to assist in any way.

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 Harry Sweeney.

Tel: 01244 327462

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

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk