



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

PALM SUNDAY, 29th MARCH 2015

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.

**7.00 p.m. DIOCESAN CHRISM MASS,
Blessing of Oils by Bishop Mark**

**Holy Thursday: 8.00 p.m. MASS OF THE LORD'S
SUPPER.**

Watching until 10.00 p.m.

Good Friday: 9.45-10.45 a.m. CONFESSIONS

**11.15 a.m. FAMILY STATIONS OF THE
CROSS**

**3.00 p.m. CELEBRATION OF THE
LORD'S PASSION**

Holy Saturday: 8.00 p.m. EASTER VIGIL

EASTER SUNDAY: 9.15 a.m. Ann Langheld RIP.

11.00 a.m. The Parish

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Cooke 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 Saturday, except Wednesdays when Novena prayers are held at 9.15 a.m. before Mass commences.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: 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, Margarita Lee, Pauline Josephine Redford, Anthony Burns, Holly, 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, Frank McNamara, Frank Sullivan, Frances Fearon, Margaret Beckett, Mabel Josephine Douglas, Kathleen Frances Blohm, Anna Maria Borg, Vincentius Dilworth D. Keogh, Stan Smith, Ann Houghton, Joan Irene Wells

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

March 29th Anne & Anthony Parish
April 5th SPUC SPUC
April 12th Sue Carr Clatterbridge

The next coffee rota is on the notice board in the Hall. There are some vacancies. If you would like to volunteer please add your name or contact Margaret Curtis 318424.

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

OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate: £487.58
Planned Giving: £403.65
Average Weekly SOs: £683.00

Donations:

Badminton Group: £150.00
Many thanks for your generous support.

EASTER FLOWERS:

There will be a collection after all Masses this weekend towards the cost of flowers to decorate the Church during the Easter season and the coming months. Thank you in advance for your continued generous support.

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 the Weston Grove Clinic.
- For Doctors, Nurses, Health Visitors and Social Workers in our community.

HOSPITAL MASS:

The first Thursday of April being Maundy Thursday, the regular "First Thursday" Mass will be transferred to **Thursday 9th April** at 12.15 p.m. in the Countess of Chester Hospital Chapel. This is for patients/outpatients, staff, families and friends, and the wellbeing of our hospital. All are welcome.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS (PRIMARY) VACANCY:

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is looking to appoint to a full-time, permanent position, an Assistant Director of Schools who will support the Director of Schools. Salary circa £52,000-£62,000. Further details and an application form are available from the diocesan website: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org and completed applications should be returned to the Director of Schools at damian.cunningham@dioceseofshrewsbury.org
The closing date is Thursday 2nd April.

ST. RICHARD OF CHICHESTER:

St. Richard of Chichester would be remembered on Friday this week were it not coinciding with Holy Week. He lived in the 13th Century, in a time of some strife between church and state - his election as Bishop giving rise to a rival appointment being made by King Henry III before finally being settled. St. Richard was the author of a well-known prayer, destined to become even more famous 700 years later when parts were set to music in *Godspell*:
"O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly, day by day."

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could those Parishioners holding Red mission Boxes please leave them in the Sacristy for Margaret Curtis to collect. Thank you for you for your continued support.

GIFT AID:

As the end of the financial year approaches those of you who contribute to the parish in the Gift Aid Scheme are reminded to ensure that you have paid enough income tax in 2014-15 to cover your donations.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

The new envelopes for the tax year 2015-16, which begins on the weekend of **11th/12th April**, are available for collection from the rear porch. Any problems please ring David Savage 380626.

GIFT AID RENEWAL:

The Gift Aid Renewal Campaign in September last year resulted in the following increases in offertory donations:

Standing Orders increased by 34%

Weekly Envelopes increased by 12%

Loose Plate fell by 8%

The overall increase was 28%

Thank you to all of you who responded so generously.

PARISH THIRD WORLD PROJECTS:

We have recently sent off £300 to each of our parish projects – Fr. John Kirwan in DR Congo, the OAKS School in Bo, Sierra Leone, and Bro. James Kimpton for “Reaching the Unreached” in S. India. All these are registered charities. Thank you to everyone who contributes regularly via the wall boxes, standing orders, or by supporting coffee mornings. For further information please have a look at the Third World notice board in the front porch.

THE CALL, THE JOURNEY AND THE MISSION:

Following the recent parish gathering with Fr. Cooke, to consider the invitation from the Bishops of England & Wales to reflect on “the Gift of Marriage and Family Life”, ahead of the Synod on the family in October, there have been several expressions of interest in forming groups to respond to the Bishops’ invitation. Arrangements

are being made to facilitate this and a further announcement will be made soon.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHESTER:

Churches Together are arranging:

- a **United Service in Chester Cathedral, Good Friday, 7.30 p.m.** The service is prepared by Churches Together in Garden Lane and the Preacher will be Revd Jack Embrey, Moderator of the URC Mersey Synod.
- an **Election Forum** at which the candidates for the Chester City Constituency of the main political parties will answer questions from the general public. This will be at **7.30 p.m. on Friday 17th April at the Catholic High School, Old Wrexham Road, Handbridge.**

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

- **Friday 24th April:** Family Bingo Evening
- **Sunday 7th June:** Annual BBQ to celebrate the anniversary of St Columba
- **Friday 24th July:** Coach trip to Lancaster

Keep an eye on the newsletters and notice boards for further information.

JAZZ NIGHT AT ELLESMERE PORT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

An evening of musical entertainment from the City Jazz Orchestra and Singers on **Friday 24th April**, 7.30 - 11pm, at Ellesmere Port Catholic High School. Tickets cost £5 (accompanied children gain free entry) with proceeds going to the Ellesmere Port and Chester Lourdes Youth Group. Please bring your own refreshments. For tickets please contact Amy O'Donnell on 07854290897.

FIRST AID KIT:

This is now in an alcove in the front porch. There is also a wheelchair, drinking water, cups, tissues, sick bowl etc. – if needed. Could we please ask anyone qualified to use these items to make themselves aware of their position, in case needed in an emergency?

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
Email: harrye_sweeney@hotmail.com

Items for inclusion can be left in the blue folder in the Sacristy.

PLEASE NOTE EARLIER DEADLINE THIS WEEK OF 9.00 A.M.WEDNESDAY.

Please include a phone number in case of queries.

Website: www.stcolumbachester.org.uk