

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2013

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

INTENTIONS:

Elizabeth Whitmore. RIP.
Mary and Patrick Regan. The Parish.
Robert Trundle. A. Special Intention.
John Barrett. RIP.
Daphne Amos. Gary Vickers.
Paddy McGowen. RIP. Mr. and Mrs. Delaney.
Elizabeth Williams. The Parish.

MORNING PRAYER:

9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, except on Wednesday.

BAPTISMS:

By appointment. After speaking to Fr. Cooke to arrange a date, please contact Claire Graham on 01244 341287 / 07880553830.

CONFESSIONS:

Confessions are heard every Saturday after morning Mass, and in the evening from 6.45 p.m. – 7.10 p.m.

LATELY DEAD:

Please remember Fr. Pat O'Brien; Parish Priest of Holy Family, Pensby who died suddenly this week. We offer our prayers to his family and friends.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: William Bird, Henry Bird, Michael Burns, Joseph Dowd, Margaret Beech, John Barnett, Elaine White, Janet Haslam, Richard Newbrook, Jane Stubbs, Matilda Hanratty, Michael Lee, George Walker, Sarah Jane Brennan, Vera Fox, James Canavan, Fred Fazey, Richard Mitchell, James Francis Galvin, Lily Collins, Michael Whitehouse, Margaret Howcroft, Henrietta Whitehead, Kathleen Elizabeth Delaney, Rebecca Teresa Humphreys, Delia Rooks, Mary Elizabeth Atkinson, Eileen Jones, Ellen Veronica Croft, Margaret Upton, Celine Cawley, Doris Elizabeth Garrett.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

There will be a collection after all Masses next weekend 14th & 15th December to cover cost of flowers to decorate the Church for Christmas and the coming months. Thank you in anticipation of your continued generosity.

OFFERTORY

Loose Plate:	£538.94
Planned Giving:	£487.62
Average Weekly SOs:	£547.00

Donations:

Piety Stall:	£210.00
Badminton:	£150.00

Many thanks for your generous support.

S.V.P MONTHLY COLLECTION:

The SVP monthly collection will be taken after all Masses this weekend. *We thank you for your continued support.*

UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Gatesheath Drive, Alraham Crescent and St James Avenue.
- For those who prepare couples for marriage.
- For those couples married in our churches this year and those who are about to be married.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

Dec 8 th	Badminton	Hospice
Dec 15 th	Sue & Marie	Parish
Dec 22 nd	Eileen, Jacque & Pat	Hospice

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

RED MISSION BOXES:

Could those 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.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR ROTAS:

Your copy of the Christmas and New Year Rota is ready for collection from the front porch. Please can I ask you to make sure that you find a replacement should you be unable to carry out your duty, as this busy time of the year. Many thanks. Carol Galvin.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

The theme again this week is **Advent**, and the prayer is:

Advent is our opportunity to prepare ourselves for the birth of Jesus at Christmas. In Advent, we are encouraged to help others less fortunate than ourselves. Help us to put the Christ back in Christmas and support those less fortunate. Amen.

HYMN, CLOTH FOR THE CRADLE -11.00 a.m. MASS:

Cloth for the cradle, cradle for the child,

The child for our every joy and sorrow;

Find him a shawl that's woven by us all

To welcome the Lord of each tomorrow.

1. Darkness and light and all that's known by sight,
Silence and echo fading,
Weave into one a welcome for the Son
Set earth its own maker serenading.
2. Hungry and poor, the sick and the unsure,
Wealthy whose needs are stranger,
Weave into one a welcome for the Son,
Leave excess and want beneath the manger.
3. Wrinkled or fair, carefree or full of care,
Searchers of all the ages,
Weave into one a welcome for the Son,
The Saviour of shepherds and of sages.

CHRISTMAS DAY NATIVITY, 11.00 a.m. MASS:

Children are invited to take part in the Nativity Scene at the 11.00 a.m. Mass on Christmas morning. Could parents of any children interested please get in touch with Pauline Payne (01244 350323) or email pauline.payne4@btinternet.com this week. The clothes can be collected from the Iona Chapel after the 11.00 a.m. Mass **next Sunday, 15th December**, when there will be a short practice (no words to learn!).

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON CAROL SINGING:

We would be very glad of your support on the following occasions of carol singing out in the community. The only qualification is that you enjoy singing carols! Please arrive at the venue 10 minutes before the scheduled time:

- **Thursday 12th December:** 6.30pm at Wealstone Care Home, Wealstone Lane, and 8.00pm at Mallard Court, Long Lane.
- **Tuesday 17th December:** 2.30pm at Orchard Manor, Acres Lane.

VATICAN QUESTIONNAIRE ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY:

The deadline for completion of this wide-ranging questionnaire is **13th December**. Copies of the questionnaire, tailored for Shrewsbury Diocese, are available in both porches at St. Columba's, with further information available from the Diocesan website www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org or the parish website. N.B: it looks like an exam paper, but people are encouraged to provide brief comments on questions that may be of particular concern.

DIOCESAN COURSE ON 'NEW EVANGELISATION':

Please do look at the information about this new course, designed to prepare lay people to meet the challenges of preaching the Gospel in 21st century British society. See the pamphlets in either porch, or look on the Diocesan website www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org or the parish website (under "Pastoral Letters & Resources"). If you might be interested in joining the course, which starts on a part-time basis in January, please speak to Fr. Cooke or Deacon Lawrence.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE UPTON CHURCHES:

Leaflets are available in both porches setting out the times of the main services in all the Upton Churches over the Christmas period – this is a copy of the notice that appears in the December issue of the locally-distributed magazine *Inside Upton*.

SOUNDWALL'S CHRISTMAS-TASTIC SHOW:

Soundwall is a group of over twenty musicians and singers, among whom are members of our parish. They will be playing this year at the Chester Market and the Racecourse. Their Christmas Show features both the main band and junior singers playing and singing a variety of hits including their own Christmas songs. The show includes a short funny play. Their performance starts at 8pm on Saturday, 14th December in our hall. Tickets £7 (concessions £4) from the piety stall or pay at the door.

CHESTER & ELLESMERE PORT LOURDES YOUTH GROUP:

There will be a meeting for existing and new members on **Sunday 22nd December** at 6.00pm at St. Saviour's Church, Tarporley Road, Great Sutton, Ellesmere Port, CH66 3JY. If you are in Year 11 or above and are interested in coming to Lourdes as a volunteer in July with the diocesan pilgrimage, then please come along. If you are interested and want more information but cannot attend the meeting please email parishesoff@rcchep.co.uk or telephone 0151 355 5877.

ST PIO PRAYER GROUP:

The next meeting is the Christmas Party on Thursday 12th December at 7.30pm at 10 Totland Grove, Newton, Chester, CH2 2EY.

CHRISTMAS ARRANGMENTS/WREATHS:

On sale in Hall after Mass this Sunday and next.

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 Brian Webster

Tel: 01244 851026

Email: brianrobert@joycewebster.freemove.co.uk

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