

# 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](http://www.stcolumbachester.org.uk)

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025



*Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available*

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 9th MARCH 2014

### MASS TIMES:

Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	Elizabeth Williams BM
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Alan Barker A.
	11.00 a.m.	The Parish
Monday:	9.15 a.m.	Bernard Leigh
Tuesday:	9.15 a.m.	John Mansley
Wednesday:	9.15 a.m.	Angela Garnett
Thursday:	9.15 a.m.	Carol Stanley
Friday:	9.15 a.m.	For Sick Friend
	7.15 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
		Benediction and Holy Communion
Saturday:	9.15 a.m.	Peter Kelly RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass:	7.15 p.m.	The Parish
Sunday:	9.15 a.m.	Bethan Miller
	11.00 a.m.	Pauline O'Connor

### INTENTIONS:

### MORNING PRAYER:

9.00 a.m. in the Sacristy Office, except on Wednesday, 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 / 07880553830.

### LATELY DEAD:

Please remember in your prayers: Mary McClafferty; Cyril Baxter, who gave many years of devoted service as Headteacher of St Werburgh's and St Columba's School. Many children, teachers and our parish communities are grateful to him. His Funeral Mass will be at St Werburgh's on Wednesday 19 March at 12 noon.

### ANNIVERSARIES:

*Please remember in your prayers:* Michael Hogan, Margaret Hennessy, Thomas Anthony Evans, Gerald A Rigby, James Rooney, William Patrick Lester, John Christopherson, June Winifrede Mullins, Winifred Basaraba, Teresa Cowdrey, Fr. Bernard Wilkinson, Carol Vozniack, Irene Quance, Cornelius Lally, Jane Henderson, Daniel John Darcy, Dorothy Sybil Jefferies, Pauline O'Connor, Martin McKenna (Snr), Annie Elizabeth Bowler, Edward Sweeney, John Weaver, Margaret Sutcliffe, Donat O'Loughlin, Michael O'Leary, Tom Boulton, John Kavanagh, Mary Swift, Dorothea Carroll, Leo Carroll, Robert Ferguson, Frank Kirwan, Norman Ible, Ena Stinson, Maria Evans, Sr. Francis Reidy

### CONFESSIONS:

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

### LENTEN PRAYERS:

During Lent we are asked to pray for these intentions: Candidates for the Sacraments; Women; The Needy and Hungry of the World; Penitents and Wanderers.

### OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate:	£450.27
Planned Giving:	£375.90
Average Weekly SOs:	£547.00
Priests Retirement Fund	£812.20
Diocese of Shrewsbury Cheques	£235.00

Thank you for your generous support.

**THE SVP COLLECTION** amounted to £254.67, and the coffee morning raised £35. Many thanks for your continued support.

### UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Ellesmere Avenue, Pensby Avenue and Kendal Close.
- Pax Christi, Saving to Share, Mission Groups, Christian Aid, Cafod and Traidcraft.
- Our mission in the wider church.

### LENTEN DEVOTIONS:

Please try to make an effort to come to Lenten devotions to prepare to celebrate the Paschal mystery of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. A leaflet in both porches gives details of services throughout Lent and Easter. Please take one home with you to refer to throughout the Lenten Season.

During the season there are opportunities to do a **One Day Retreat** at the Sandymount Retreat House in Crosby. The dates are:

- **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March**
- **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.**

Details are on a poster in the porch. To book a place either phone 0151 924 4850 or go online at [www.sandymountretreats.org.uk](http://www.sandymountretreats.org.uk).

### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

March 9th Catholic High School  
March 16th Sewing Group  
March 23rd Heather Lannin Sierra Leone  
Teas, coffees and juices are served in the hall after both Sunday morning masses. All are very welcome.

**THE LADIES OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** will meet at St. Francis's Church for Mass at 12noon on Monday 10th March. Lunch and the meeting will follow. The speaker will talk and bring items on dolls houses. All welcome.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING:

The Commentary Mass for **all parents and the children** who are making their First Communion in May will be in St. Columba's Church at 6.30 p.m. **this Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> March.**

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

The theme again for this week is **Lent** and the prayer is:

*Lord, Watch over us in the six weeks of Lent. As we think of others, teach us to be selfless in our acts of charity and fasting. Help us to remember the importance of Lent and what Jesus did for us. Amen*

## ST PIO PRAYER GROUP:

The next meeting is on **Thursday 13th March** at 7.30pm at 10, Totland Grove, Newton, Chester. New members welcome.

## LENT FAST DAY:

This year's Lent Fast Day is on **Friday 14th March**. The Fast Day envelopes are available along with the newsletters this weekend, and may be returned in the offertory baskets next weekend, 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> March. The offerings go in support of CAFOD's work in developing countries, and your support will be greatly appreciated. As last year, the envelopes are in two parts, the green part for a making a single donation, the orange part if you wish to set up a regular donation.

## NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH:

**10th - 18th March** at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. Each year the Mill Hill Community prepares for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary work of the church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer.

Please write to: Fr Denis Treacy MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, Communications House, 12 Craufurd Rise, Maidenhead SL6 7LS or email [novena@millmissionaries.com](mailto:novena@millmissionaries.com).

Please see posters at front and rear of church.

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON:

- The 5-week Lent Course, "**From the Ram to the Lamb**" started on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March and continues each Thursday evening until 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 7.30 p.m. at Upton URC, Heath Road. The course provides an exploration of the ways in which Jesus fulfils Old Testament prophecy and the sacrificial system.
- A **FRIENDSHIP LUNCH** of Soup and Sandwiches is being held on **Thursday 13th March** from 12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. at Upton URC, Heath Road. All welcome. The proceeds will go to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd.
- Churches Together are joining forces with Upton Parish Council to arrange a "**Community Celebration**". Residents and Upton organisations are invited to this event, starting at 2.00 p.m. on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**, at Upton High School. The occasion will take the form of an Act of Worship celebrating the rich diversity of the community and organisations in Upton, with singing led by Upton Community Choir. It will be followed by refreshments. All welcome. See the posters in both porches – or on our website [www.stcolumbachester.org.uk](http://www.stcolumbachester.org.uk)

## THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE:

'*We cannot live the afternoon of life according to the morning programme*'. Sandymount Retreat House at Crosby is holding a weekend workshop on what it means to be in the second half of life. It will be led by Philip McParland, who is an experienced Director of Retreats and Group Facilitator. The weekend will take place **28th-30th March**, and will cost £100 residential, £60 non-residential. For more information or to book a place, either phone 0151 924 4850 or go online at: [www.sandymountretreats.org.uk](http://www.sandymountretreats.org.uk).

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

Bishop Mark has asked the newly refreshed Justice and Peace Commission to take positive action in such causes as the evil of human trafficking, including support for the Anti Human Trafficking Forum, to be held in Frodsham Methodist Church on **Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> March**, 9.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m. The programme is geared to positive steps to combat this evil, and is

organised with the support of Churches Together in Cheshire. For further details contact [info@frodshamchurchestogether.org.uk](mailto:info@frodshamchurchestogether.org.uk).

## 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.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY CATECHISTS

### WANTED:

Children's liturgy takes place in the hall during 11 am mass. Could you join the group of 15 catechists to help pass on your faith to our children? All ideas and materials are provided. You only need to be there once every 5 weeks and you can swap any week when you can't be there. For more information contact Catherine on 383866 or 07462 780302 or email [catherine.green@care4free.net](mailto:catherine.green@care4free.net).

## THANK YOU ST COLUMBA'S:

Thank you very, very much to the people who came to eat cakes and raise funds for the Ellesmere Port and Chester Lourdes Youth Group a few weeks ago. You were extremely generous, our parents took the leftovers to work the next day and in total we raised £230, an astonishing amount and well worth all the dawn baking. We hope you enjoyed them.

Watch this space for our next fundraisers, an Irish night in March followed by a 'Pop-Up Restaurant' with full table service in April.

## PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND:

The total donated to this fund in the recent special collection was £1,047.20. A further £200 is expected to be recovered from income tax paid on donations made under the Gift Aid Scheme making a total of £1247.20. Thank you for your generosity.

## 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 2013-14 to cover your donations. As a result of those donations the parish received a refund of tax in 2012-13 of almost £11,000.

## OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

The new envelopes for the tax year 2014-15 will be available for collection from the rear porch from next weekend.

## ST COLUMBA'S HALL BOOKINGS:

For all Hall bookings and enquiries please contact Sue Carr on 07553 114531

E-mail: [columbashallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:columbashallbookings@gmail.com)

## NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Ian Johnson.

Tel: 01244 351022

Email: [ian.johnson7@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:ian.johnson7@tiscali.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](http://www.stcolumbachester.org.uk)