

# 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](mailto: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*

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> 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.  
Thursday: 9.15 a.m.  
Friday: 9.15 a.m.  
7.15 p.m.

### INTENTIONS:

Margaret Lever  
The Parish  
Terry Cunningham  
Patrick O'Driscoll A.  
Patricia McClure SVP  
Con O'Sullivan A.  
Joanne Peppitt  
Helen Lawler  
Stations of the Cross and  
Holy Communion  
Lilian Donohue  
Nancy McHugh  
Frances Connolly  
The Parish

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

### 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:* Donat O'Loughlin, Michael O'Leary, Tom Boulton, John Kavanagh, Mary Swift, Robert Ferguson, Frank Kirwan, Norman Ible, Ena Stinson, Maria Evans, Sr. Francis Reidy, Anna (Anne) Maria Reid, Mary Winifred Tallon, John Gerraghty, Melvyn Alan Paterson, Mary Christopherson, Francis (Frank) Leslie Garside, Delia Mangan, James Michael Boyle, Margaret Gibbons, Bernadette Manifold, James Ryan, Ellen Raynor, Helen Shaw, Vincent Williams, Pauline Ashmore, John McNicholas, Alan Poole, Kevin Lewis, Vincent Francis Barlow, Edward Dean Donnelly, Margaret M McGeachin, Norman Thomas Dodd, Mary Jane Layden, Dr. John Foody, and Mary Elizabeth Rodriguez.

### OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate: £463.25  
Planned Giving: £464.16  
Average Weekly SOs: £510.00

*Many thanks for your generous support.*

### CONFESSIONS:

Each Saturday; after morning Mass, and in the evening from 6.45 until 7.10 p.m.

### SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE ROTA:

Mar.15<sup>th</sup> Sewing Group Containers for Africa

Mar.22<sup>nd</sup> Alison & Paul Tombola

Mar.29<sup>th</sup> Anne & Anthony Parish

*Teas, coffees and juices are served in the Hall after both Sunday morning Masses. All are welcome. The next coffee rota is on the noticeboard in the hall.*

There are some vacancies. If you would like to volunteer please add your name.

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES, DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April Family Bingo evening,  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June annual BBQ to celebrate the anniversary of St Columba

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July Coach trip to Lancaster

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

### UPTON CHURCHES PRAYER DIARY:

*This week we pray for:*

- the residents of Kingsway West, Rutland Place and Kent Road
- the Growth Groups, Bible Study and nurturing groups.
- a deepening of faith and awareness of Christ in us all.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON:

**Lent Study Groups**, hosted this year by Holy Ascension Church, held in the Kempe Room on each Tuesday in Lent. The remaining dates are **17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> March**, you can choose between two sessions at 2.00 p.m. & 7.30 p.m. All welcome.

### LENT FAST DAY:

Thank you very much for your generous offerings. A total of £558.22 has been sent to CAFOD in support of their work across the developing world.

### RED MISSION BOXES:

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

## THE CALL, THE JOURNEY AND THE MISSION:

More than fifty parishioners joined Fr. Cooke at the parish gathering last Sunday, to consider together the invitation from the Bishops of England & Wales to reflect on “the Gift of Marriage and Family Life”, ahead of the second stage of the Synod on the family in October. There were several interesting contributions made during the time for discussion/questions e.g.:

- † *in league with other prolife groups, SPUC have drawn attention to what they consider are some disturbing views on Church teaching on marriage and the family, coming from the first stage of the Synod in 2014. We were urged to look into this.*
- † *The quotations, choice of readings, questions and format seem to be seeking to guide the responses in a direction that is at odds with what people might want to say about their own experiences. That makes it challenging to say what we want to in the response.*
- † *There seems to be a real change in the Church with our opinion asked for the first time. Whilst we might have liked things to have been worded differently or some aspects given more prominence, nothing is perfect and we should grasp this opportunity to make a real change, help the Church to hear directly from its people and so speak to their hearts in the future.*
- † *Modern family life is messy. People find themselves in less than ideal situations. I am hopeful that as a Church/parish we can find ways to make the Gospel truly Good News by seeking to answer the question “What would Jesus say or do?”*
- † *How do we help single people with “no family” not to feel excluded from the consultation?*
- † *Should we not be arranging for our young people, say in the Sixth Form at our High school, to be involved in the consultation?*

No one should feel excluded from being involved in responding to the Bishops, nor should our responses be constrained by the specific questions the Bishops’ have raised. There have been several expressions of interest in forming groups to formulate responses to the Bishops’ invitation and announcements will be made of any further developments.

## TRAINING & COMMISSIONING OF MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION & READERS:

The Diocesan Liturgy Commission has published the following list of Training & Commissioning Days. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Readers may attend any of these days to suit themselves. Please inform Carol Galvin or Fr. Cooke if and when you plan to attend so that names from the parish may be submitted:

- Stockport & Tameside, Stockport – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015
- North Cheshire, Chester/Runcorn – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015
- South Trafford & Wythenshawe, Altrincham/Wythenshawe – February/March 2016
- Shropshire, Telford – May/June 2016

Details of venues and times, etc. will be published nearer to the dates. You are welcome to attend any of the days, even those outside our area.

## OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:

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

## FEASTS OF THE WEEK:

- Tuesday **St. Patrick**, Patron of Ireland. His was a highly dramatic story: a Romano-Briton born in the 4<sup>th</sup> century, captured by raiders at the age of 16 and enslaved in Ireland for six years before escaping, journeying to the continent and training for the priesthood. He returned to Ireland as a missionary bishop, working mainly in the north, but setting up a number of Sees from which the Christian word came to be spread throughout Ireland.
- Thursday **St. Joseph**, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the earthly guardian of Jesus.

## 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.

## ST.COLUMBA’S PARISH HALL:

**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?

## FLOWER WORKSHOP:

St Columba’s flower ladies are holding a flower workshop in the hall on Thursday afternoon 19<sup>th</sup> March. Anyone interested please put your name on the list in the back porch, or see Sue, Anne, or Marie. No skills required, it will be fun. (Full details on the list.)

## ST. COLUMBA’S HALL BOOKINGS:

For all Hall bookings and enquiries please contact Sue Carr on 07553 114531  
e-mail: columbashallbookings@gmail.com

## ST WERBURGH’S GREAT WAR STUDY GROUP:

St Werburgh’s parish are searching for photographs of all 120 of their fallen men (see [www.stwerburghchester.co.uk](http://www.stwerburghchester.co.uk)). They only have 24 so far. They also need information about their parishioners who died during the Great War. If anyone has any information, however seemingly small, they would be very pleased. Contact [Cheshire.historian@fsmail.net](mailto:Cheshire.historian@fsmail.net) / tel. 01244 851717.

## NEXT WEEK’S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Rebecca Vaughan  
Tel: 01244 350323

Email: [rebecca\\_vghn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rebecca_vghn@yahoo.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)