



St Columba's:
1 Newhall Road, Plas Newton,
Chester, CH2 1SA
01244 624019

Catholic Churches of St Columba and St Theresa

Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan Brandon

stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

Parochial Administrator, St Theresa's: Fr Isidore Madueke

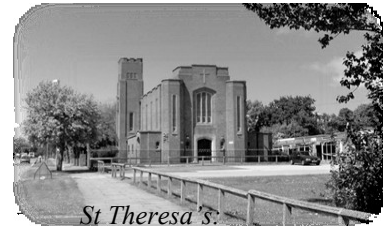
st.theresas@btinternet.com

Deacon: Rev Lawrence Hordley

01244 342048, mobile 07960 517463

www.stcolumbachester.org.uk

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025



St Theresa's:
128 Blacon Avenue
Chester, CH1 5BU
01244 371660

- ❖ Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy: Tel: 01244 364543, answer phone available.
- ❖ Parish Safeguarding Representative: Claire Graham. Tel 01244 341287 or 0788 055 3830.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2nd/3rd DECEMBER 2017

Saturday 2nd December

St. Theresa's 10.00 a.m. Sadie Linford RIP
St. Columba's 6.30 p.m. Frank Murphy **Vigil Mass**

Sunday 3rd December

St. Theresa's 9.30 a.m. Susan & Stephen Taylor
St. Columba's 11.00 a.m. The Parish

Monday 4th December

St. Theresa's 9.00 a.m. Special Intention
St. Columbas 9.15 a.m. Rodney Bactung

Tuesday 5th December

St Columba's 9.15 a.m. May Merchant
St. Theresa's 6.30 p.m. Catherine Hesketh

Wednesday 6th December

St Columba's 9.15 a.m. James Chapman
St Theresa's 7.00 p.m. Priest's Intention

Thursday 7th December – St. Ambrose, B.D.

St Theresa's 9.00 a.m. Peter Burton RIP
St. Columba's 9.15 a.m. Priest's Intention

Friday 8th December – Immac. Concept. of the BVM

St Theresa's 8-8.55a.m-9.25 a.m. Expos. of the Blessed
Sacrament

9.30 a.m. Graham George RIP
St. Columba's 9.15 a.m. Janette Doherty

Saturday 9th December

St. Theresa's 10.00a.m. Parishioners Intentions
St Columba's 6.30 p.m. The Parish - **Vigil Mass**

Sunday 10th December

St. Theresa's 9.30 a.m. Keith Evans RIP
St. Columba's 11.00 a.m. Frank Murphy

NB: Please note change of Mass Time on Friday 8th December.

EXPOSITION AND MORNING PRAYER

Exposition before the Blessed Sacrament takes place from 8.10 am followed by Morning Prayer at 9 am Monday to Thursday, except Wednesday when Morning Prayer will commence at 8.50 am followed at 9.10 am by Novena Prayers to our Lady of Perpetual Succour prior to Mass.

CONFESSIONS

St. Columba's: Between 6.00 pm and 6.25pm before the Vigil Mass. At other times by arrangement with Fr. Jonathan. **St. Theresa's:** After every weekday Mass.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS' ROTA (St Theresa's)

The new rotas are available in the Sacristy.

BAPTISMS:

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

A very warm welcome to the Blago family who celebrate the baptism of Marco Antony at St. Columba's this Sunday. Please keep the family in your prayers as they begin their life of faith together.

St. Theresa's: Please contact Mike Maxwell 07851 720217 (text or phone).

We welcome into God's family, Lara Jurczak, Ellis George Mortell & Georgia Highton who were baptised at St. Theresa's recently. May God bless them and their families.

OFFERTORY:

St. Columba's: Loose Plate £410.55, Planned Giving £206.60; Average weekly standing orders £735.00; Candles £44.31.

St. Theresa's: £240.69. Average weekly standing orders £100.

LATELY DEAD:

Please remember in your prayers **Janette Doherty**. May the Lord grant her Eternal Life and console her family and friends.

A Requiem Mass for **May Merchant** will take place at St. Columba's on **Tuesday, 12th December at 12 noon.**

ST. COLUMBA'S ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Baby Ann Burton, Winifride Dorothy Jones, Edward Fox, Sarah Morgan, John Parke, Peter Anthony Burton, Kily Dowd, Angela Chapman, John Wolfe, John Bellis, Charles Maloney, John Halligan, John Burton, Frederick James Wright, Gillian Gallagher, Harold Beadle, Kathleen McAleavy, Joseph Francis Tallon, Thomas Wilfred Wall, Agnes Jones, James Robert Chapman, William Bird, Henry Bird, Michael Burns, Joseph Dowd, Margaret Beech, Gillian Elizabeth Mary Rowley, John Barnett, Elaine White, Janet Haslam, Richard Newbrook, Jane Stubbs, Matilda Hanratty, Michael Lee, George Walker, Sarah Jane Brennan, Vera Fox.

ST. THERESA'S ANNIVERSARIES:

Please remember in your prayers: Thomas McLaughlin, Michael Joseph O'Hanlon, Sheila Margaret McHugh, Christian Mapp, Elizabeth Gorman, Christopher Scanlan, Mary Taylor, Gillian Thompson, Edwin Albert (Eddie)Mapp, Kathleen McMahan, James Joseph Hayden, Doreen Marjorie Erskine, Mary Anne Raftery, Herbert Michael Williams, Cornelius (Con) O'Hanlon. John McGuire, Vincent Patrick Dean, Catherine Hale, Margaret Hocking, Anthony Smith, Eileen Mary Scanlan, Maureen Avis Jones, Winifred Smellie.

HOSPITAL MASS:

The regular "First Thursday" Mass will be celebrated on **7th Dec** 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.

FIRST SACRAMENTS ENROLMENT MASS

(St Theresa's):

Children from St. Theresa's school will be enrolled for the First Sacraments on **Sunday 10th December** at the 9.30 a.m. Mass at St. Theresa's. Please pray for them and their families.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE:

St. Columba's:

3rd Dec. Badminton Hospice of the Good Shepherd
(Cakes would be much appreciated)

10th Dec. SVP SVP

17th Dec. CWL CWL

Tea, coffee and juice are available in the Hall after the 11 am Mass. All are welcome.

St Theresa's:

Tea, coffee and juice are available in the Parish Club after 9.30 am Mass. All are very welcome.

UPTON & BLACON CHURCHES TOGETHER:

This week we pray for the residents of:

- Blacon Avenue, Keats Terrace, Blacon Hall Rd, Malvern Rd, Gatesheath Drive, Alpraham Crescent, St James Ave.
- For those who prepare couples for marriage.
- For those couple married in our churches this year and those who are about to be married.

LOOKING AT THE ADVENT SUNDAY READINGS:

The second talk in this series will be held on **Tuesday, 5th December** at 7.30 pm in the Iona Chapel. We'll be looking at the readings for the second Sunday in Advent. For further details see the poster on the Notice Boards or contact David Savage, 01244 380626.

YOUTH GROUP:

The next Youth Group meeting will be on **Monday 11th December** from 7.15 pm to 9pm, beginning in the Iona Chapel and moving over to St. Columba's Hall for games and Christmas activities. If you are 10 to 14 years old please come along and have fun with other young people from our Chester parishes.

SURVIVE-MIVA:

There will be a retiring collection for Survive-MIVA after all Masses this weekend. This is a Catholic lay association which helps to fund means of transport for health outreach work and pastoral care in isolated rural areas, and places of difficult access, across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

CATENIAN CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Chester Catenian Circle will be holding their Christmas Party on **Thursday 7th December** at Chester Golf Club in Curzon Park. All parishioners are warmly welcome, come along and join us for a three-course Christmas Meal followed by dancing to a live band. The cost is £25 per person and the start time is 6.45 for 7.15pm. Tickets may be obtained from Keith Richards 01244 332136.

CHRISTMAS PARTY SATURDAY, 9th DECEMBER:

All Senior Parishioners are invited to this year's Christmas Party to be held in St. Columba's Church Hall on **Saturday, 9th December** starting at 2 pm. There will be free food and drink plus entertainment from Upton Community Choir.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL P.A. CAROL SERVICE:

This will be held on **Tuesday, 19th December** at 6.30 pm at the Catholic High School, followed by refreshments, a Christmas raffle and musical entertainment by the School Jazz Band. Free Entrance, everybody is welcome.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS LEAFLET:

Please take home with you this leaflet which gives details of the Masses and other events planned for the weeks of Advent and Christmastime. The diary should make it easier to follow the details week by week.

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 at St. Columba's 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, 10th December**, when there will be a short practice (no words to learn!).

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:

Thank you to St. Theresa's and St. Columba's parishioners for supporting the recent coffee mornings. Our Christmas Party will be held at St. Francis' Church Hall on **Monday 11th December** at 7 pm. Tickets £7 which includes Buffet and Entertainment and can be obtained from Elizabeth on 01244 346772 or any CWL Member.

FAITH-BASED ADMISSION CAP ON NEW FREE SCHOOLS:

This is part of the letter from Bishop Mark. Copies of the full letter you will find on the noticeboards.

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for "Catholic Education" in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

With thanks for your help and co-operation in this matter and with every good wish.

Yours sincerely in Christ + Bishop Mark Davies.

VINTAGE BLACON:

Please help your parish as part of Vintage Blacon to develop the "@Hope Community Garden" at the URC. We hope this garden will be used widely with the people of Blacon and the surrounding area who have loneliness and isolation issues. You can really help if you shop at Tesco in the Chester area, please ask at the till when paying, for a blue charity token and place it in the Vintage Blacon section of the stand on your way out. Many thanks, Brendan Doyle (St. Theresa's Director of Vintage Blacon).

ST. THERESA'S & ST. COLUMBA'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Carol Service Friday 22nd December

The Carol Service will be held at St. Theresa's at 6.30pm, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in St. Theresa's Centre. The event is linked to "The Great Christmas Get Together", an initiative of The Jo Cox Foundation which is aimed at bringing communities together and fighting loneliness. So please come and bring a friend/ neighbour who may be feeling lonely this year and share some singing and a mince pie!

ST. COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS:

If you wish to arrange meetings etc. in either the Church or the Iona Chapel, please make a booking through Carol Galvin,

Church Office: 01244 624019, email

stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

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

columbashallbookings@gmail.com

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Amy O'Donnell 07854 290897

e-mail: amyod@hotmail.co.uk

Items for inclusion can be left in the Sacristy at either church.

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