



# The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



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

Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp  
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**Deacons:**  
**Rev Lawrence Hordley** 01244 342048, mobile 07960 517463  
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St Theresa's  
128 Blacon Avenue  
Chester CH1 5BU  
01244 371660

Website: [www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk](http://www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk)  
Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

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

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Sue Hutcheson (07964 130982 or 01244 371070) and Jane Walsh (07506 768870 or 01244 378201)

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Saturday 23rd October – Blessed Virgin Mary M

St Columba's 12.00 **Baptism of Jamie Ezekiel Blatch**  
St Theresa's 5.00 p.m. Parishioners' Intentions  
St. Columba's 6.30 p.m. Peter Thornton RIP

### Sunday 24th October – Day of Special Prayer for World

#### Missions

St. Theresa's 9.30 a.m. James Casey RIP  
St. Columba's 11.00 a.m. The Parish

### Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October

St. Theresa's Tom Garner RIP  
St. Columba's Priests' Intentions

### Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October

St. Theresa's Priests' Intentions  
St. Columba's Parishioners' Intentions

### Wednesday 27th October

St. Theresa's Peter Thornton  
St. Columba's 10.30 a.m. Marianito R Bunol

### Thursday 28th October - Ss Simon & Jude Ap.

St. Theresa's 11.00am **Funeral Service for Elsie Maguire**  
St. Columba's Pat Blythe RIP

### Friday 29th October - The Douai Martyrs

St. Theresa's 10.00 a.m. Pauline Hackett RIP  
St. Columba's Parishioners' Intentions

### Saturday 30th October

St. Theresa's 5.00 p.m. Katherine Gannon RIP  
St. Columba's 6.30 p.m. Joan Bullough M

### Sunday 31st October – All Saints

St. Theresa's 9.30 a.m. Nicholas Lancaster RIP  
St. Columba's 11.00 a.m. Parishioners' Intentions

## **STREAMING OF MASS:**

Mass will be streamed from St Theresa's today at 9.30.  
[www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresas](http://www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresas)

## **Extra Mass – Advance Notice:**

There will be an extra Mass at St Columba's, at 10.30am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November for the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed.

## **CONFESSIONS:**

**St. Columba's:** after the 10.30 a.m. Mass on Wednesday until 12 noon or by appointment by calling the parish office.  
**St. Theresa's:** after the 10.00 a.m. Mass on Friday until 12 noon or by appointment by calling the parish office.

## **WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS:**

Please contact one of the Parish Offices to make your arrangements. We welcome to our Parish community Jamie Ezekiel Blatch, baptized at St Columba's this weekend. May God Bless him and his family.

## **LATELY DEAD**

Please remember in your prayers, Elsie Maguire who died recently, and also her family and friends. Her funeral is on Thursday 28 October at 11am..

## **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Mary Keating, Breda Mary Wright, Marie Willetts, Rose Marshall

## **PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

We remember especially members of our parish who are sick: Ellie Marsden and Lauren Heywood.

## **TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

World Mission Sunday is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sister Veronica build peace in Nigeria and share the love of Christ with those most in need. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please call 020 7821 9755 or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a direct debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible: [mission.org.uk](http://mission.org.uk).

## **THE PRAYER OF THE SYNOD:**

Adsumus Sancte Spiritus: We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

## **SUGGESTED SPIRITUAL PREPARATION FOR THE OPENING OF THE SYNOD.**

Please see bulletin section on our website, or alternatively see the Diocesan website.

## THE PARISH:

- During Fr William's absence until the end of November, please contact Fr James.
- Please note the new parish email addresses above.
- St Columba's Parish Office is closed on Wednesday mornings until Christmas. Nuala will be working in the afternoons instead.

## OFFERTORY:

St. Columba's: Loose plate - £174.25; Planned Giving - £158.00 and Average weekly SOs - £677.00

St Theresa's: Loose plate £187.24; Average weekly SOs £149  
Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**Hour change** – just a reminder that Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October the clocks will go back 1 hour (at 2am.)

## ST COLUMBA'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT (year ended 31 March 2021)

The parish Annual Return was submitted some months ago and as we begin to return to some form of normal life it is time to share this with parishioners.

Total parish income from all sources was £79,977 and in addition we drew a further £5,400 from our central reserves held by the diocese when our bank account was at a low level in the early days of the pandemic. This income was significantly lower than in previous years with Offertory receipts down some £22,000 versus last year. With church being closed for much of the year on going parish running costs were also lower which helped to offset some of the shortfall.

The Parish Hall is part of our total parish income and normally generates approximately £14,000. Understandably, this reduced significantly to less than £2,000 but we were helped considerably by the hall being used as a Covid vaccination centre for which we received over £6,000.

Thanks to a lot of hard work and continued financial support from parishioners we have been able to successfully navigate a very difficult year. Many thanks to everyone.

The highlights of the main income and expenditure report have been posted on the Parish Notice Boards. Anyone wishing to have access to the full report can contact the Parish Office.

## TRICYCLE PROJECT

Tea and cakes make a difference! Sylvia and Ann would like to thank everyone who supported the Ghana Tricycles Appeal fundraiser at last Sunday's tea and cake sale at St Columba's. Thanks to all the support a grand total of £91.75 has been raised and will be going directly to this amazing cause.

## UPTON & BLACON CHURCHES TOGETHER:

Pray for:

- the residents of Upton Drive, Pine Gardens, Bache Avenue, Imperial Avenue, Embassy Close, Bristol Close & Virginia Drive.
- For the British Legion, Golf Club and Village Hall Committee, and all who use their facilities.
- For those who have served their country.

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON EVENTS:

Three dates for your diaries.

The Coffee Mornings have restarted. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 10 -12 at the United Reformed Church.

The Annual Quiz in the Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October. £2 per head. Limited tickets due to Covid precautions, 20 tickets for St Columba's, available from Alex Mason and can be reserved by text to 07921856758. Advance ticket reservation required, payment on the night. See poster and website for more details.

The Fifth Sunday Service in St Columba's 4.30 p.m. on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Plenty of room for this one. Songs of Praise format. Watch out for more details to come.

## FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION CLASSES

These classes have now started at St Columba's church hall on Wednesday evenings from 5pm to 6pm following Diocesan Covid 19 guidance. If you have a child in Year3 or above who would like to attend and has not yet enrolled, please ring Pauline Payne 01244 350323 or [email pauline.payne4@btinternet.com](mailto:pauline.payne4@btinternet.com) as soon as possible.

## PAUSE FOR HOPE:

This is a prayer initiative for dealing with cancer. An ecumenical service will be held at St Columba's at 3pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November. All are welcome.

## REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE OF WORDS & MUSIC

This is on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November at Upton URC at 4.30pm. Tea and coffee after the service.

## ADVENT TALKS:

The talks on the Advent Sunday Readings will be held live this year as Covid restrictions are relaxed. The first of the five sessions will be held in the Newman Room at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November. There is a poster giving details on the notice boards and on the old website. Contact David Savage (01244 380626) for more information.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

As we move forward we now have some activities planned for the future, subject to regulations at the time.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December Senior Parishioners Christmas Party in St Columba's Church Hall.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December Carol Service at St Theresa's followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the parish Centre. See future newsletters and notice boards for further information.

## GARDEN PROJECT AT ST THERESA'S:

This is an ongoing parish project on the land at St Theresa's. If you are able to help, even for an hour, please turn up on a Thursday morning around 10am. If you would like to help at another time, please ring the parish office (Tel: 371660).

If anyone has any garden furniture they no longer want, it would be useful to have in the parish garden. It doesn't matter what state it is in. If so please contact the parish office 01244 371660 and leave your name and number and we will get back to you.

## ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS

To arrange meetings etc. in either the Church, Newman Room or the Iona Chapel, please book through Nuala Keegan, Church Office, 01244 624019,

Email: [admin@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk](mailto:admin@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk)

Hall availability can be checked by looking at St Columba's Church website – section for Church Hall gives a calendar of events in the Hall. Then contact Sue Carr on 07553 114531 or email [columbashallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:columbashallbookings@gmail.com) to arrange booking.

## NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER

This will be compiled by Alison Wigglesworth  
Email: [a.wigglesworth@outlook.com](mailto:a.wigglesworth@outlook.com) 01244 382457  
Please include a phone number in case of queries, and  
Please ensure that items are emailed or phoned to the compiler by 9.00 am on THURSDAY  
Website: [www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk](http://www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk)

**Thought for the week:** “Responsibility does not only lie with the leaders of our countries or with those who have been appointed or elected to do a particular job. It lies with each of us individually. Peace, for example, starts within each one of us. When we have inner peace, we can be at peace with those around us “ Dalai Lama

**We're all in this together:** Encounter, listen and discern is the message of the Pope in his and our journey together over the next two years culminating in the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican in October 2023. He said that the Gospels often showed Jesus in the midst of a journey, meeting people and listening to their deepest concerns. He asks us “Let us not soundproof our hearts; let us not remain barricaded in our certainties. Certainties often close us off. Let us listen to one another.” The Synodal Process is a pilgrimage of the whole People of God in discerning the way the Church needs to be in its localities and worldwide at this moment in time. The [Bishops Conference of England and Wales](#) provides additional information on the process as does the [Diocese of Shrewsbury](#) web site. It is open to all to participate.

**Resources:** Silver singers is back, a choir for the over 50s, you get to choose the songs, meet new people and have fun. Monday 3pm All Saints Church, Hoole and Tuesday 4pm Blacon URC, Fridays 2pm St Mary's Handbridge. To find out more contact Michael Reynolds On 07786 323946 or [michaelreynoldsmusic@gmail.com](mailto:michaelreynoldsmusic@gmail.com)

#### **SPUC VACANCY:**

SPUC has an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated candidate to join our team as the full-time Fundraising and Major Gift Administrator. Candidates should be fully supportive of SPUC's aims and objectives, with exemplary communication skills and the ability to assist with the smooth and successful operation of SPUC's fundraising programmes.

For more information and details on how to apply please email [matthewmccusker@spuc.org.uk](mailto:matthewmccusker@spuc.org.uk)

**A message from CAFOD: Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal** for our recent Family Fast Day. Every donation helps us in our work and is gratefully received. [cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis](https://cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis)

**Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November.** There are prayer cards at the back of church; please do take one and pray that that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see [cafod.org.uk/COP26](https://cafod.org.uk/COP26)

*May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.*

#### **ST. COLUMBA COFFEE ROTA:**

If anyone would like to volunteer to join the rota please contact Margaret Curtis 01244 318424.

#### **RED MISSION BOXES - ST COLUMBA'S:**

If you have a Red Mission box for collection, here's the ongoing Covid process:

**DON'T TAKE IT TO CHURCH**, ring me and leave a message on my answer machine. I'll call back and arrange to collect from your home when convenient. When counted I will return it to your house. Thank you, Margaret Curtis, [01244 318424](tel:01244318424).

#### **FOODBANK HARVEST APPEAL:**

Please can you help us this harvest. The warehouse is looking a little empty after the school holidays and as we continue to give local people crisis support we are currently having to purchase food ourselves to keep up with demand. This situation will become worse with the planned cutbacks in universal credit. The Top Ten items needed are UHT juice, tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding, instant custard, instant mash, Instant noodles, tinned tomatoes, rice, coffee, chocolate bars/sweets. See poster in church porch. Collection points are in the main supermarkets. You can check the website for others [www.westcheshirefoodbank.org.uk](http://www.westcheshirefoodbank.org.uk) Thank you very much for your support.