

## **Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE**

Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)  
4<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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### **Advent in the Wilderness**

As we reach our second Sunday in our Advent journey we encounter the person of John the Baptist. He is a wild a fiery character living out in the desert and living on locusts and insects - he would fit in very well today on I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here eating bugs and so on. But John calls us to go out and join him in the desert for our Advent preparations. For him there is that call to leave our comfort zone and so somewhere new to prepare.



Now it is not likely that we have to head out into a real desert or wilderness, there is not really likely to be one anywhere nearby anyway. Our desert can be much closer to home, in fact we may not need to go anywhere different to be in a wilderness. We only have to think about our world today and it can appear to a very harsh place of war, poverty, crisis, sadness and confusion.

There is plenty to challenge us in our day to day experience that could qualify as a wilderness. Yet this is place we are called to be Advent people preparing a way to the Lord and a place for our Lord in our lives. So Advent is not a time of comfort or convenience. John the Baptist calls us to confront our own failings, and to turn around to open our hearts to the ways of the Lord. He calls us to change. There is much we may want to change in the wilderness that we experience in our world but maybe the start of the change is ourselves so we may be better able to prepare a way for the Lord and try to follow it in our Advent lives.

## **Reception Children Welcome Services**

Thank you to our school staff and our parish volunteers who helped with our two Reception Children Welcome

Services. We have celebrated both services and the children listened to the story of Noah and received special rainbow badges to remind them that God always loves and care for them.



## **Christingle Service**



Our next service for children and families will be our Christingle Service on Sunday 18th December 3.30pm at St Columba's. We will gather for a range of children's activities including making a Christingle and other Christmas crafts. We will then celebrate a short Christingle service. All are welcome.

## **CAFOD World Gifts**

What do you get for someone who has everything? Or the person that's says I don't want anything for Christmas this year? The answer might be a CAFOD world gift. You select and buy a gift such as a crops seed pack for a farmer, a school starter pack for a child, or a goat or a chicken to help a family feed and support themselves. CAFOD then ensures the gift is supplied to those in need and you receive a gift certificate to pass on to the person as a gift. It's a great way of sharing the true spirit of Christmas giving. The gift catalogues are at the back of both churches

## **Red Mission Boxes**

During the pandemic some boxes have not been collected for some-time. If you have a Mission Box please bring it into church during December. If all boxes can be brought in it would be helpful so we can get back into a regular collecting pattern. Thank You.

## Masses & Services This Week

### Weekend 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> December - Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5.30 pm Mass at St JF (People of the Parish)

Sunday 11.00 am Mass at St C (Gerry Boardman)

### Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C

### Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St JF (James and Anne Donelly)

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C

### Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December

11.00am Requiem Mass for Peggy Hilton at St C



### Next Weekend 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> December - Third Sunday of Advent

Saturday 5.30 pm Mass at St JF (Robert and Margaret Cullen)

Sunday 11.00 am Mass at St C (People of the Parish)

**Confession** - available before and after Mass or by appointment

**Collections:** Weeks 1st Nov - 28th Nov TOTAL £1630.59

Second Collections	World Missions	116.90
	Youth Sunday/Animate	109.11
	Late CAFOD donations	127.00



## **Advent and Christmas Services - Advance Notice**

The dates and times of Advent and Christmas Services are as follows

**Mince pies and mulled wine** will be served after Mass on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December at St John Fisher.

**Christingle Service** Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 3.30pm at St Columba.

### **Christmas Mass Times**

#### **Christmas Eve (Saturday 24th)**

Children's and Family Mass 5.30pm at St Columba

'Midnight' Mass 8.00pm at St John Fisher

#### **Christmas Day (Sunday 25th)**

Christmas Morning Mass 10am at St Columba



## **Christmas Cards**

Christmas Card packs are available at the St Columba piety stall. Last years stock is on sale at bargain prices before this years stock arrive. New stocks of cards and calendars and diaries have arrived this week too. There are cards available at St John Fisher from this week too.

## **Catholic Pic**

December edition is now available at the back of our churches.



### **Please pray for the sick of our parish:**

Kathy Molloy, Les & Mary Orritt, Joan Haigh, Norma Pritchard, Loretta McDonnell, M. Rivi, Thomas Hopkins, Amy Murphy, Joseph Cameron, Sharon Whitting, Rowan Sanderson, Claire L Walker, Karen Duffy, James Murphy, Betty Stewart, Elizabeth Jones

## **Parish Safeguarding Representatives**

Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are

Jan Box 0151 548 5268 and Colette Murphy 07796291485

Please contact them if you have any concerns relating to the safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults in our parish.