

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

28th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year C)
9th October 2022

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Prisoners Sunday

'I was in prison and you came to me'

Today we mark Prisoners Sunday when we are asked to pray for prisoners, their families and those involved in our criminal justice system. Prisoners may not be the most popular cause or focus of our concerns but maybe love is needed most of all if our prisons enable people to make a fresh start. Prisons must too be safe places and yet just in the last year 50,000 incidents of self harm happened in our prisons, one every 10 minutes. Maintaining contact with family and friends is recognised as a major factor in preventing self harm and in the success of prisoners turning their lives around and not re-offending. Prisoners who receive regular visits are 39% less likely to re-offend yet families offer suffer from stigma and prejudice through no fault of their own. It is estimated that around 300,00 children have a parent in prison. Today we pray for prisoners and their families.

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.

We pray for those in prison.

Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.

Support with your love prisoners and their families
and friends,

prison staff and all who care.

Heal those who have been wounded by the actions
of others, especially the victims of crime.

Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love
mercy and walk humbly together with Christ,
in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.

Amen



from the Catholic Social Action Network statement on the governments financial statements

Almost half of the gains from the tax cuts due to come into effect next year will go to the richest 5% of households, at a time when many of the hardest-hit households will struggle this autumn and winter with the cost-of-living crisis, previous government interventions notwithstanding.

This is an unjust distribution of resources based on the ‘trickle down’ theory of economics, which as Pope Francis says in *Evangelii Gaudium*, has never been confirmed by the facts as working for the benefit of the poorest. This approach, the Pope says, “expresses a crude and naïve trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system. Meanwhile the excluded are still waiting” (EG, 54).

The Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales has already issued a statement on the cost-of-living crisis that called on the new government, among other things, to uprate welfare benefits, remove the two-child cap on universal credit payments and ensure that in any tax and welfare policy, priority is given to the most vulnerable.

The Chancellor’s statement on 23rd September meets none of these requirements. CSAN supports the requests of the Bishops Conference of the new government and in addition urges the government to ensure there is targeted support for the hardest hit families this autumn and winter, and beyond that a vision for a poverty-free England and Wales. We are deeply concerned about the fate of our public services in the light of the fiscal statement, especially social care and the pressure on the NHS.

Our country needs a vision for the common good in which all can flourish, not a vision of economic growth in which a minority prosper while many struggle. CSAN stands in solidarity with those who experience various forms of poverty which prevent human flourishing and, as Pope Francis tells us, solidarity presumes “the creation of a new mindset which thinks in terms of community and the priority of the life of all over the appropriation of goods by a few” (EG, 188).

Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 8th/9th October

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

Sunday 11.00 am Mass at St C (Nugent)

Tuesday 11th October

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C

Wednesday 12th October

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St JF

Thursday 13th October

9.15am Mass at St C (Chapter Intentions)



Next Weekend 15th/16th October

Saturday 5.30 pm Mass at St JF (Thomas Kirkwood)

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

Confession - available before and after Mass or by appointment

Collections: Weeks 03/04 Sept - 24/25 Sept TOTAL £1435.55

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal

Today we will hold a second collection to support the work of CAFOD. Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. As each day goes by, the situation worsens. As people of faith we must act. Your donations can help CAFOD's local experts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst affected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Thank you again for your prayers and donations to the emergency Pakistan Floods Appeal.

Welcome Service

Later this week we will be having a short welcome service for the children who are starting Reception in St John Fisher School. It is a chance to welcome the children and give them a blessing as they start their time in school learning in both knowledge and faith. We will hold a similar service later after half term in St Columba's. You are very welcome to attend if you are able, on Friday 14th at 9.15am

Parish Baptism Meetings

We have started our new programme of meeting with parents prior to celebrating the Baptism of their children. The first meeting went very well and it was positive opportunity to meet the parents, share with them aspects of the celebration and be able to get to know them as they prepare for this special event in their families life of faith.



Catholic Pic

The latest edition is available at the back of the churches or online at <https://tinyurl.com/4f7psmjh>



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.