

## Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

Second Sunday of Easter - Year A, Divine Mercy Sunday  
16<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Fr Michael Fitzsimons Tel. 0151 936 7688

Parish Office Tel. 0151 489 1802

Email: [cjf@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:cjf@rcaol.org.uk)

Website: [www.columba-johnfisher.org.uk](http://www.columba-johnfisher.org.uk)

### He Is Risen Alleluia

After all the drama of Holy week and the incredible liturgies of our Easter we now settle into the season of Easter - seven weeks of rejoicing with the risen Lord so in reality we are just at the start of our Eastertide. It is a season of joy. Pope Francis has often spoken about Christians with glum, sad faces or funeral faces and he tells us we can't proclaim Jesus with such a face. He has asked, when do you hear of a sad faced saint? We can look at the world and see much to be sad about, war, injustice, poverty. And we can often be sad about the world of faith and religion and our own churches. No one comes any more, what will the future be, where are our young people and the next generations?

Yet in reality in our world and in our communities the world of faith, joy and the need of the risen Christ perhaps has never been so important. So let us enter Eastertime with joy faces and smiles. The Lord is with us and a smile and joy can change us and change others.

Faith with joy becomes real and relevant. We have a precious gift and a gift to share. People of faith do not lose faith in peace, in justice, in forgiveness. We have something to share and say. Where there is faith and joy, there is genuine welcome, hospitality and kindness. Our faith in the risen Lord has never been needed so much. This Easter season we can try to be Easter people and Easter people always try to have a happy face and a happy heart. This is always a good place to start so we can share that precious gift of faith.





## Quiz Night

Back by popular demand get your thinking caps on once again for our social Quiz Night on Friday 28th April in the parish room at St Columba's. We will start at 7pm. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided but if you want anything stronger eg beer or wine you can bring your own - it might strengthen your thinking power to answer the questions! As ever the word of the quiz master will be final - and as it is Fr Michael he will be very strict but fair!

## Communion for the Sick and Housebound

We have a number of Eucharistic ministers who take Holy Communion to our sick and housebound parishioners. If you know of anyone who might want to receive Holy Communion at home please first make contact with them to ask, and then if they wish pass on contact details to Fr Michael so we can arrange for a minister to attend with Holy Communion

If you feel that you may be interested in becoming a Eucharistic minister please also make this known to Fr Michael.

## Childrens Liturgy and Activities

Oh Palm Sunday we had the second of our craft and prayer sessions children and families. This was for Holy Week and Easter and it was a super event and built on our first Christmas event. We are starting to hope that we could establish a Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11am Sunday Mass at St Columba's as there is a growing number of children present there. We are thinking that we would have this once a month and a number of people have already expressed an interest in taking this forward. If you would like to get involved or help please speak to Fr Michael



# Masses & Services This Week

## Weekend 15<sup>st</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> April

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Thomas (Tuck) Culley)

## Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am Mass at St C (Murphy Family Special  
Intention)

## Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am Mass at St JF (Lilian Cowen/Robert Cowen)

## Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April

9.15am Mass at St C (Special Intention)



## Next Weekend 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (Maureen Valle)

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

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

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**Collections:** Weeks 6th Mar - 2ndApr TOTAL £1707.60

## Easter Thanks

On behalf of the parish I would like to thank all those who have helped us mark our journey through Lent and Holy Week to the joy of our Easter celebrations. There are many who assist, read, and serve in our services but there is also work behind the scenes cleaning, leading reflections, supporting our children and many other ways.

Thank you all so much!

## Ethiopia Talk

Fr Michael will give a talk about his experience of visiting Ethiopia and his work with CAFOD supporting street children and the wider work CAFOD support in Tigray in the north of Ethiopia. The talk will be on Wednesday 17th May at 7pm at St John Fisher meeting room

## Deanery Synodal Council

Deanery Synodal Councils are now being established across the Archdiocese and our deanery council has now been formed. Every parish is asked to provide a lay representative for the council. Our parish representative is Colette Murphy. The priests of the deanery also send two priests to be part of the council. Fr Michael is one of the priest members alongside Fr Sean Kirwin and Fr Andrew Rowlands as dean. The Synodal Councils are tasked with various activities to help shape the future of each deanery including the establishment of families of parishes who will work closely together on pastoral and other initiatives. The council held its first meeting before Easter and are coming together again in a few weeks. We will keep you updated as the works progresses.



## Defibrillator

We now have a defibrillator in St Columba's church thanks to the generosity of Debbie Bennett Funeral Directors who via their charity fund aim to provide these to churches, school and other places so that life saving emergency first aid assistance can be given when people have heart attacks.



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

Les Orritt, Joan Haigh, Norma Pritchard, Loretta McDonnell, M. Rivi, Thomas Hopkins, Amy Murphy, Joseph Cameron, Sharon Whitting, Rowan Sanderson, Karen Duffy, James Murphy, Betty Stewart, Elizabeth Jones, Marie Shepherd

## **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.