

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year A,  
30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

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**Message from Fr Ron Johnson,  
our Director for Vocations**

In these days of Eastertide, as we listen to the accounts of the growth and expansion of the early Church, we see how under the guidance of God's Spirit the seeds of the Gospel are carried from the Holy Land to the ends of the earth. On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we are encouraged to pray that all Christians recognise their baptismal vocation, remembering the words of St Paul to the Ephesians that "to some his gift was that they should be apostles, to some prophets, to some evangelists, to some pastors and teachers, so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ.

Today we are encouraged to pray in a special way for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. In our diocese, Archbishop Malcolm will be Ordaining Hugh Donleavy as a Deacon in a little over a month at St Charles Church in Aigburth. This will hopefully be followed, by 3 more ordinations to the Diaconate in Oscott and the Venerable English College, Rome towards the end of the college academic year.

Please pray for our seven seminarians and for all those discerning a vocation to the priesthood within our Archdiocese. Pray for our priests too, that our Church may be blessed with Good Shepherds who are prepared to spend their life in the service of the sheep entrusted to their care.

If you feel the Lord might be calling you to the priesthood why not speak to your Parish Priest about it, or make contact with the Vocations Director based at St Charles in Aigburth, by telephoning 0151727 2493 or emailing [r.johnson@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:r.johnson@rcaol.org.uk) .

## **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



## **Ethiopia Talk - note change of date**

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 Tuesday 16h May at 7pm at St John Fisher meeting room.

## **Celebration for Bishop Tom Williams**

All are welcome at a Mass at the Cathedral followed by a drinks reception in the Cathedral crypt to give thanks for the ministry of Bishop Tom Williams. The Mass is on Wednesday 17th May at 7pm

# Masses & Services This Week

## Weekend 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> April

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (World Peace)

## Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

9.15am Mass at St C (King Charles)

## Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

9.15am Mass at St JF (First Communion  
Children)

## Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May

9.15am Mass at St C (Philip Norris)



## Next Weekend 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> May

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (For Prayers Answered)

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

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



## Coronation of King Charles

There will be a Mass in the Cathedral at 5pm Friday 5th May to mark the coronation of King Charles.

There are prayer cards to mark this moment for our nation available in our churches this weekend.

## Parish Committee and Deanery Synodal Council

Both these groups met in the last week. The parish committee started to look at our finances and will continue this work at our next meeting. We also confirmed dates for the parish feast days - more info to follow. The deanery council held its second meeting and continued a general sharing of the parishes in our deanery.

## Elections

We have local elections coming up for Knowsley Borough Councillors on Thursday 4th May. Please remember that due to a change of the law you now need photo identification to vote such as a passport or drivers license. You have to take the photo ID with you to the polling station.

You can find more information at

[www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id/accepted-forms-photo-id)

Voting is a real privilege and responsibility. As a Christian we can use our vote to promote the common good for all and especially for the most vulnerable people etc. Do think about casting your vote at this and future elections.

## Lourdes Pilgrimage 2023.

If you or a member of your family would like to travel to Lourdes as an “assisted pilgrim” with the Archdiocesan pilgrimage this July please contact Debbie at our Lourdes office. There are places available for pilgrims who require medical and other assistance both to travel and while staying in Lourdes. Our team of doctors, nurses and other volunteers will be on hand to help all through the pilgrimage. Talk to Debbie in our Lourdes office and she will be able to answer any questions you may have. Call 07484911623. Pilgrims not requiring assistance who would like to join our pilgrimage are asked to contact [Joe Walsh tours](mailto:JoeWalsh@joewalshstours.co.uk) on freephone 0800 1890 468. Website: [joewalshstours.co.uk](http://joewalshstours.co.uk)



### **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.