

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

23rd Sunday Ordinary Time
10th September 2023

Fr Michael Fitzsimons Tel. 0151 936 7688

Parish Office Tel. 0151 489 1802

Email: cjf@rcaol.org.uk

Website: www.columba-johnfisher.org.uk

Education Sunday

Education Sunday has been embraced by our Church for 175 years, serving as a tribute to the significance of education in our faith journey. This year, on 10 September, as we come together in our parishes and schools, we are reminded of the words of Jesus: "Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them."

The day commemorates the dedication of our forebears in the 19th century, who recognised the transformative power of education and the role it played in nurturing faith, morals, and culture. Today, we celebrate their legacy, as the Catholic Church has become the largest provider of secondary schools and the second-largest provider of primary schools in the country.

Joan McCarthy, Director of Education, commented: "as we gather for Mass, we recognise those who work tirelessly within our schools and colleges - teachers, staff, administrators, and volunteer helpers – as well as the children and young people themselves. Let us extend a blessing to them, acknowledging their dedication and contribution."

Let us remember the words of St. John Bosco: "Without confidence and love, there can be no true education." Our Catholic schools foster this confidence and love, empowering young minds to embark on journeys of discovery and growth.

Here in our parish we are possibly more aware of the work of the Education Department with my roles as Episcopal Vicar for Education so really sometimes only end up 'part time' in the parish. On this Education Sunday can I take the opportunity to thank you all for the prayerful support you give me in this role as well as your understanding and care.



Children's Liturgy

We will be having our children's liturgy during Sunday Mass at St Columba's this weekend and then again on 8th October, 12th November and 10th December.

Noise Before and During Mass

A number of comments have been made to Fr Michael at both churches that it is potentially very noisy before Mass due to people greeting each other then chatting. Some are asking for a quieter time to say prayers before Mass. I appreciate that people do want time for prayer and reflection but others to say hello to each other and catch up with friends and neighbours too.

So we shared this at the parish committee and decided that a few moments before Mass we will ring the bell for a first time and ask that people are quiet then to allow time for prayer and personal preparation for Mass, the a second bell will be rung for the start of Mass in our usual way of standing for the hymns and so on.

We will try and see how this works and can I remind people to maintain a quiet and prayerful atmosphere as much as possible once we start the Mass.

Book of Remembrance



You will have seen the Remembrance books in both churches recording the names of of family and friends from the parish who have died. If you wish to have names added to the book please fill in one of the forms available in both churches. The books are updated on a regular basis.

The Relics of the Scottish Saints to Visit the Cathedral

As part of their tour, the Relics of the Scottish Saints (St Andrew, St Margaret and St Columba) will be hosted at the Metropolitan Cathedral from Monday 18th – Thursday 21st September.

A welcome Mass will be held on Monday at 5pm, and a closing Mass will be held on Thursday at 12:15pm - 1pm. During their time at the Cathedral, all are welcome to visit the Relics in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 9th/10th September

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Our Parish Schools)

Monday 11th September

2.15pm Funeral Service for Joan Caddock at St C

Tuesday 12th September

9.15am Mass at St C (Frank Argent)

Wednesday 13th September

9.15am Mass at St JF (Our Parish and Deanery)

Thursday 14th September

9.15am Mass at St C (Tony Ryan)

Next Weekend 16th/17th September

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Phil Carroll)

Confession - available before and after Mass or by appointment

Collections: Weeks 1st July - 1st Aug TOTAL £1715.19
 Weeks 1st Aug - 3rdSept TOTAL £1757.66

Parish Database

A note for newer parishioners and a reminder for those who have been here for a longer time! We have a parish database which we set up after the Covid lockdowns to ensure we can always keep in contact. Please fill in a registration form available at both churches. Those who supply an contact email address will also receive the newsletter via email each week.

Goodbye to Fr Anthony

Having served the last few parishes he has been covering during his time in the diocese Fr Anthony is back here in the parish just for a few days this coming week. He returns to Ghana on Saturday with our love and prayers. I am sure we will be seeing him again when he returns in the future



Education Sunday Prayer

A prayer in thanksgiving for those working in Catholic schools

Dear Lord,
Thank you for the gift of Catholic schools.

Thank you for all those who have given their talents to educating our young people. Through the challenges they encounter each day, lead them to an ever-deeper appreciation of the sacred duty to which you have called them.

Thank you for all those who contribute to the efficient running of our schools: support staff, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, governors and chaplains.

We thank them for their hard work and dedication.

Thank you for all those who lead our Catholic schools. May they be people of integrity so that they can be witnesses as well as teachers. We pray that the schools they lead will become places where our young people can experience your love in their lives.

Thank you for our pupils.
May your love strengthen and nurture them through the influence and example of those who care for them. We pray that through their time at school they will flourish and grow to discover who you have called them to be.

We make this prayer through your Son,
Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord,
Amen



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.