

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

24th Sunday Ordinary Time
17th 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

Comings and Goings

There are a fair few coming and goings in the parish this week and next. I am going off to Rome on a four day holiday with my mum and my sisters. I have visited Rome numerous times and my mum has been before but it is the first time for my sisters so we hope to have a lovely time all together. Its going to be very hot but it will be a good excuse to visit lots of the cafes for drinks and ice cream.

Also leaving us on Saturday is Fr Anthony as he returns back to Ghana. His journey will be a little longer than mine and he goes straight back to work teaching in the seminary and university. I know Fr Anthony has enjoyed all his visits to the various parishes he has supplied in over the summer but the parish has been his home base - not least because he loves my dog Ollie far too much as he gets terribly spoiled by Anthony who gives him chicken, sausages and pork pies! We hope to see Fr Anthony again when he next returns to the Archdiocese and he goes back to Ghana with our thanks, love and prayers.

Then just when I return from Rome I am off to Dublin for 2 days. I am going to visit my friend Sr Medhin from Ethiopia who has been invited to Ireland as she has won an award for her courage and commitment to development work presented by Trocaire (the Irish version of CAFOD). I have not seen Sr Medhin for over 6 or 7 years due to the Covid pandemic and then the war and conflict in Tigray, Ethiopia so again it will be wonderful to see her.

So this time involves people coming and going to Huyton and Knowsley, Rome and Dublin, and Ghana. It is great to be part of a global church, we all enrich each other with the gifts and experiences we can bring.

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 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 16th/17th September

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Phil Carroll)

Tuesday 19th September

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C

Wednesday 20th September

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St JF

Thursday 21st September

9.15am Mass at St C (Tony Ryan)

Next Weekend 23rd/24th September

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Dorothy Sloan)

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



Thank You

Thank you to all the priests from the team at St Wilfrid's Widnes who are coming to say the Masses this weekend.

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.

Social Events - Dates for your Diary

Cheese and Wine Evening

Join us for cheese and wine, on Friday 29th September at 7.00 pm in the meeting room at St John Fisher. Catch up with old friends and new.

There may even be pate and soft drinks for those who do not like cheese and wine! It would be good to have an idea of numbers to help with catering so if you've already made your mind up you are coming please let Dave or Fr Mike know. Donations on the door welcome. See you there!



Quiz Night

Back by popular demand put your thinking caps on once again for our social Quiz Night on Friday 27th October 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!



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.