

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

25th Sunday Ordinary Time

24th September 2023

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A New Cathedral

It has been announced this week that our Archdiocese has a new Cathedral! Don't worry we still have our Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King in Liverpool but now we have a co-cathedral of St Mary of the Isles in Douglas on the Isle of Man.

Co-cathedrals are rare in the Catholic Church, but exist when two dioceses, each with its own cathedral, are merged or when a single diocese spans two distinct civil jurisdictions. The second is the case here as the Isle of Man is a separate territory with its own parliament. The Irish Sea separates the two cathedrals in the archdiocese. The new co-cathedral is the only one of its kind in the British Isles.

The request for the new cathedral status came from the civic authorities in the Isle of Man after Douglas the capital of the Isle of Man was given city status as part of Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee celebrations in 2022 and they wished to have a cathedral in the new city.

Archbishop Malcolm agreed to petition Pope Francis who has now granted this new status of co-cathedral.

Having two cathedrals is unusual for a diocese but should not be seen as a division but rather highlighting our togetherness. It may come as a surprise to some reading this that the Isle of Man is actually part of the Archdiocese of Liverpool so having this new co-cathedral will increase greater awareness on the island and here on the mainland that we are united as one diocese.

So now we can celebrate with our brothers and sisters on the Isle of Man that we are united by having our two Cathedrals. If you have family and friends on the Isle of Man or are visiting on holiday you will be able to visit your new co-cathedral!

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

Last week the relics of St Columba, St Andrew and St Margaret of Scotland were hosted in the Cathedral. I was fortunate to be at the cathedral for the Canons chapter meeting and so was able to remember you all in prayer at the relics of St Columba one of the patron saints of our parish.



Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 23rd/24th September

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Dorothy Sloan)

Tuesday 26th September

9.15am Mass at St C (Craig Lyons)

Wednesday 27th September

9.15am Mass at St JF (Special Intention)

Thursday 28st September

9.15am Mass at St C (Joan and Gerry Mahoney)

12.00noon Requiem Mass for John Murphy at St C

Next Weekend 30th/1st October

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Chris Pearson and family)

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.

Fr Anthony

Fr Anthony has arrived safely back in Ejisu in Ghana and sends us his best wished and thanks for the support during his stay.

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.