

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

33rd Sunday Ordinary Time
19th November 2023

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Is it too early.....?

These past couple of weeks we have started to see Christmas aisles in the shops and of course the arrival of the Christmas TV adverts. Some people actually now say that it is the John Lewis or M&S advert that marks the start of Christmas for them! I quite like the Lidl one and you can never go wrong with Kevin the Carrot at Aldi! (Other shops and supermarkets are available and I make no recommendation or endorsement beyond quality of the adverts!!!). I have also been asked if I have started my Christmas shopping - I have! And about when I might put up the decorations - I also have! - well not really but I did buy some new ones and was tempted just to put them in a corner and leave them out ready for display. In some ways all this is so much better than what I see on the news with war, turmoil in our politics and so on, it is tempting to escape into Christmas.

But the answer of course to the question above is I suppose yes! We still have a week or so of Ordinary Time in the Church, the Feast of Christ the King and of course Advent - which is about as short as it can be this year with Christmas Day falling on a Monday so the last 'week' of Advent is really less than 24 hours long! And it is always good to stay in the season.

However I can't help but think about the coming Christmas in the Holy Land and thinking the message of Christmas is needed right now.

Peace, goodwill to all, light in the darkness. So maybe the answer is no to the baubles, decorations and festive activities but perhaps the true Christmas values are needed now to guide us in our preparations to be prophets of peace, cares to the homeless and asylum seekers, care for the earth and the poor.



Archdiocesan Synodal Council

The first-ever Archdiocesan Synodal Council for the Archdiocese of Liverpool will be taking place on Saturday 25 November from 10.30am. Delegates from every deanery will gather plus others representing various aspects of Archdiocesan life. This is an important event in the life of the Archdiocese and will help shape our future. We want as many people as possible to be able to be part of this gathering.

Anyone can watch the ASC online and can submit questions by clicking the link on the Archdiocese of Liverpool's homepage on the day:

<https://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/>



Donations for Nugent Charity Shop

The staff and volunteers at the Nugent Charity Shop are always so happy with all the donations we are able to send them. We will be organising another pick up of donations in the next week or so if you are having a pre Christmas sort out.

We will also arrange for a post Christmas re gifting collection in the new year.

Prayer for peace in Israel and Gaza

Let us pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Gaza and Israel.
We remember especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies.

We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness.

Lord hear us.



Masses & Services This Week

Weekend Weekend 18th/19th November

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (John Earle and Family)

Tuesday 21st November

9.15am Mass at St C (Deceased Canons)

2.00pm Funeral Service for John Earle at St C

Wednesday 22nd November

9.15am Mass at St JF (Very Rev Frederick Provost Hines)

Thursday 23rd November

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C (Priests of the Deanery)



Next Weekend 25th/26th November - Feast of Christ the King

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Henry McCain)

Confession - available before and after Mass or by appointment

Collections: Weeks 1st Oct - 5th Nov TOTAL £1767.36

CAFOD - £339.60

World Missions - £209.83

Second Collection for Youth Sunday

Next weekend we celebrate Youth Sunday when we give thanks for all the contribution of children and young people to the work of the church. Here in the parish during our midweek Masses we are regularly joined by the children from our schools who often lead our bidding prayers and across the Archdiocese we have our wonderful youth pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Next week there will be a second collection to support our Animate youth services in their work in high school, Lourdes Pilgrimage and more. Supporting our young people has never been more important in the life of the church today. I know you will be as generous as you always are. Envelopes are available at the back of both churches if you wish to use

Parish Film Night

Advance notice of the return of the popular parish film night. We will gather at 7pm Friday 24th November at St John Fisher Meeting Room. We will be watching Save the Cinema which based on a true story tells the story of a local community trying to save its theatre and cinema. drinks, ice cream and popcorn will be available.



Childrens Liturgy and Activities



The next date for Childrens Liturgy is
Sunday 17th December

Also on Sunday 10th December we will be holding a Children and Family Crafts and Christingle Service at 3.30pm at St Columba's. We will gather for a range of children's activities including making a Christingle and other Christmas crafts. We will then celebrate a short Christingle service. All are welcome.



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.