

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent - Year B  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

Fr Michael Fitzsimons Tel. 0151 936 7688

Parish Office Tel. 0151 489 1802

Email: [cjf@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:cjf@rcaol.org.uk)

Website: [www.columba-johnfisher.org.uk](http://www.columba-johnfisher.org.uk)

### **A 10 Year Plan?**

This last week I spent a 24 hour period with the senior staff in the Archdiocesan Education Department. We were looking at our key priorities for the next 18 months, and a more detailed plan of how we were going to work towards them. In reality we recognised that many issues were a 5 year or even a 10 year programme to achieve where we felt we need to be. Of course in reality in the next 5 or even 3 years, things will change and the longer term plans will be adapted and changed to take in account new realities, but it was still really important to have that long term view and it felt positive to have the plan. This coming week I am at Nugent for our board meeting and we always use that chance to review the 5 year strategic plan for the charity. At the meeting it will be good news to hear about new initiatives and programmes. One area of focus is in supporting children with multiple and complex needs and Nugent are looking at opening new projects and expanding our current work. It is really good to know that the most vulnerable children and young people will be looked after, and more importantly be given the care and opportunities to really flourish. (We have a second collection this week of course to support the work of Nugent and I know you will be as generous as ever). The idea of forward planning is now the norm for charities, and I suppose all agencies and companies too.

This week we have a pastoral letter from the Archbishop about the new families of parishes. In some ways maybe this could be seen as forward planning - maybe a 10 year plan? Like all human organisations the church and the Archdiocese needs to look to the future. Ten years for some maybe seen as a long way off but it is good that we look ahead and plan together, so we can remain the church that we are called to be.



## Parish Film Night

The return of the popular parish film night which was postponed last year. We will gather at 7pm Friday 8th March 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.

## The Belle Vale Passion

This moving musical drama tells the story of the final stages of Jesus' life. The Belle Vale Passion will present the story of the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in a way you will have not seen before and promises to be an unmissable experience for Easter 2024. The Passion play is being organised by Our Lady of Assumption Parish and will be performed in Belle Vale Shopping Centre at 12pm on Easter Saturday 3rd March.

Attendance is free but they do request you register if possible for planning. They are also looking for more volunteers for the project. For more information on the project, attendance registration and the volunteer roles available, please visit: <https://bellevalepassion.co.uk/>



## Palm Sunday Children and Family Crafts

We will be holding craft activities and prayers for children and families on Sunday 24th March at 4pm at St Columba's. There will be children's, activities and crafts and a short time of prayer to help us enter into the joy of Easter. All children are welcome

accompanied by an adult

## Catholic Pic

The latest edition of the Catholic Pic is available at the back of the churches. Please take a copy home.

# Masses & Services This Week

## Weekend 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> March

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (Robert and Margaret Cullen)

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (People of the Parish)

## Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March

9.15am Mass at St C (In Thanksgiving)

11.30am Requiem Mass for Damian Farrell at St JF

## Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March

9.15am Mass at St JF (Marcella Varey)

## Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March

9.15am Mass at St C (John Earle)



## Next Weekend 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> March

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (The Work of Nugent)

**Confession** - usually available before or after Mass, or by appointment

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**Collections:** Weeks 7th Jan - 4th Feb TOTAL £1422.70

## Second Collections

Thank you for your support for CAFOD our collection for the Lent Fast Day raised £310.10

Next weekend 9th/10th March we will have a collection to support Nugent, our official archdiocesan caring and social action agency.

## Holy Week Services

### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Maundy Thursday

7pm Mass of the Lords Supper at St John Fisher

### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Good Friday

3pm The Passion of the Lord in BOTH churches

### Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Holy Saturday

8.30pm Easter Vigil at St Columba

### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Easter Sunday

9am Easter Morning Mass at St John Fisher

11am Easter Morning Mass at St Columba



**Holy Week**

## Lent and Easter



### Stations of the Cross

During Lent we will pray the Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays, 1pm at St. Columba Church and 7pm at St John Fisher Church.

### Lent Reflection Evenings

This year our Lenten reflections will be on the theme of Care for Creation. Come and join us for a time of readings, Scripture, discussions, prayer and refectation. Reflection evenings will be 7pm on Thursdays at St John Fisher on the following dates

Thursday 7th March

Thursday 14th March

Thursday 21st March



### Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass is at the Cathedral at 7.30pm Wednesday 27th March. The Chrism Mass is a key time in the life of the Archdiocese when each Holy Week the priests gather with the Archbishop, and renew their priestly vows and the Sacramental Oils of Baptism, Chrism and the Sick are also consecrated. We will organise a coach for those who wish to attend. Please sign up on the sheets at the back of church if you wish to come on the coach.



### 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, Elizabeth Jones, Marie Shepherd, Eileen Hayden, Ruth Kemp

### Parish Safeguarding Representative

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is

Jan Box 0151 548 5268

Please make contact if you have any concerns relating to the safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults in our parish.