

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

4th Sunday of Lent - Year B
10th March 2024

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A Joyful Lent?

Today is Laetare Sunday which marks the middle of Lent as a time of rejoicing and joy. I am not sure I immediately think of rejoicing in Lent. It is more a time of serious reflection and possibly by now a time of trial, as our Lenten promises really start to kick in; whether we have given up biscuits or have committed to try and be more kind, at this time we often start to find people difficult even in our kindness, and start to really crave a crumbly biscuit! This Sunday tells us to remember that even in Lent there is joy.

Lent, if it goes well, helps us to refocus on the love of God in our lives. It calls us to be in right relationship with God and our friends and families. When we reflect on this, it makes sense that this is a joyful time and process. When we are in deeper right relationship with God and our fellow human beings we will experience deep joy. I hope you are experiencing the joy of Lent.

A Prayer for Mothers Day

Loving creator, you called upon your servant Mary to bring your Son into the world. We give thanks for her, and for all mothers who bear witness to your love. Their generosity and strength have blessed generations. Please bless our mothers. Ease their worry for the families you entrust to them, guide them in times of doubt, and hold them close when they are overwhelmed by both joy and sorrow. May they know our deep gratitude for giving us life and love. In union with Mary, we ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.



Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 9th/10th March

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

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

Tuesday 12th March

9.15am Mass at St C (Mary Cowie)

Wednesday 13th March

9.15am Mass at St JF (Pat Fitzsimons)

Thursday 14th March

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C



Next Weekend 16th/17th March

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Peace in Gaza)

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



Palm Sunday Children and Family Crafts

We will be holding craft activities and prayers for children and families on Sunday 24th March at 3pm 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 welcome accompanied by an adult

Holy Week Services

Thursday 28th March - Maundy Thursday

7pm Mass of the Lords Supper at St John Fisher

Friday 29th March - Good Friday

3pm The Passion of the Lord in BOTH churches

Saturday 30th March - Holy Saturday

8.30pm Easter Vigil at St Columba

Sunday 31st March - Easter Sunday

9am Easter Morning Mass at St John Fisher

11am Easter Morning Mass at St Columba



Holy Week

Masses & Services Week Beginning 17th March

Weekend 16th/17th March

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Peace in Gaza)

Tuesday 19th March

9.15am Mass at St C (John Earle)

Wednesday 20th March

9.15am Mass at St JF (Special Intention)

Thursday 21st March

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C



Next Weekend 23rd/24th March

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Craig Lyons)

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

Collections: Weeks 5th Feb - 3rd Mar TOTAL £1502.15

Second Collection for Nugent

Apologies I asked for the second collection for Nugent a week early so we will keep it open this Sunday too. A further chance for Lenten almsgiving, but please do not feel you have to give if you donated last week.

Safeguarding DBS checks

It is the turn for our deanery to renew all volunteers who are required to have a DBS check. This includes Eucharistic ministers, sacristans and those working with children on a regular basis. For those who have an email address and are willingly to complete their renewal online you can collect a form this weekend. If that is not possible or you are being checked for the first time, you will receive further information. Jan Box our Safeguarding representative is tasked with doing all the necessary identity checks she will be available initially next weekend before Mass at St John Fisher from 4.30 pm and after the 11am Mass at St Columba.

If you are able to bring your identification documents then it would be helpful. Please contact Jan on **0151 548 5268** if you need any more information or clarification.

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.