

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

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year B
28th January 2024

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It's Not the Same Anymore

That was a comment made to me by a friend who had recently gone to see a production of the musical Oklahoma! They were dismayed to find it was not a classic performance but rather a more contemporary setting. I asked if it was all the same songs and storyline and they said yes, but it was not the same as it was all modern and country style singing. They showed me some videos on the shows website and I thought it looked really good but I didn't say anything to keep the peace. None of us like it when we have read a book and then its made into a film but it all gets changed and the ending is completely different, but of course for the most part the changes are often not that major but the new film is not maybe what we had imagined when we first read the book.

I wonder sometimes if this is not sometimes the case with the church as well. Sometimes people tell me that we have changed and its all gone too far, other say its very different now compared with the past, but they welcome this. The reality is we are changing, adapting and reimagining all the time. Some of you will remember Mass in Latin, we all experienced change when the new translation of the Mass came back in 2010. Remember the response to 'Peace be with You' became 'And with Your Spirit' rather than 'And Also with You'. Its hard to believe that was 14 years ago! Later this year the translation of the readings we use at Mass are also changing - I will share more about this later nearer the time. So we will have to deal with yet more change. Is it new? Is it all the same? At its heart is faith and love and God. And this never changes.

Children's Liturgy and Activities

Our Children's Liturgy and other activities for children and families have gone from strength to strength and are now fully part of our parish programme of services and activities. The focus is for children aged 3-8 years old but other children are welcome too, but younger ones do have to be accompanied by a parent. Parents are welcome to go with children especially with those who may be nervous at first or need extra help.

Children's Liturgy will be on the following dates

Sunday 11th February

Sunday 10th March

Sunday 14th April

Sunday 12th May



We will hold an Easter Family Craft afternoon on Sunday 24th March, Palm Sunday

Quiz Night

By popular demand it's back! Put your thinking caps on once again for our social Quiz Night on Friday 2nd February 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!



Eucharistic Ministers

After our recent parish meetings a number of people have considered becoming Eucharistic Ministers to help with the distribution of Holy Communion during Mass or to take Holy Communion to the sick. I am looking at arranging training so if you feel you might wish to undertake these ministries please speak to Fr Michael so I can be sure of the numbers.



Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 27th/28th January

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Margaret Purcell)

Tuesday 30th January

9.15am Mass at St C Chris (Pearson and Family)

Wednesday 31st January

9.15am Mass at St JF (Tony and Natalie Kemp)

Thursday 1st February

9.15am Mass at St C (Mary Mills)



Next Weekend 3rd/4th February

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Culley Family)

Confession - available before and after Mass or by appointment

Collections: Weeks 3rd Dec - 6th Jan TOTAL £1802.55



Parish Film Night

Advance notice for 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.

Some Advance Dates for Easter and Lent

Ash Wednesday - 14th February

Chrism Mass - Wednesday 27th March at the Cathedral - we will book a coach for those wishing to go.

Easter Sunday - 31st March

We will be having various events and services during Lent - details will be shared in the coming weeks.

Re Gifting for Nugent

At Christmas we sometimes receive a gift that was given with love but it is something we will never use or just don't want, or we get two of the same thing. It may be a toiletry set that we don't use, two separate gifts of a pair of slippers, or just a gift that we know we will never use. A great way of continuing the spirit of the Christmas gifts is to pass them on to Nugent where they will be sold in the charity shop or used directly in their services. I think it's a great way of honouring the original gift giver and continues the joy of Christmas.

Also at this time we have received new gifts and sometimes are sorting out space in our cupboards and shelves and now have donations of clothes, books, bric-a-brac etc. So once again please bring in your unwanted gifts and good quality spare items and we will donate them to Nugent. Just hand them in at the back of either church and we will arrange for a general central collection by Nugent. Please note Nugent are not able to accept donations of furniture or electrical goods or children's toys.



The staff from Nugent will be collecting the donations next week.

So please bring any donations by next weekend, thank you.

Catholic Pic

The latest edition of the Catholic Pic is available at the back of the churches this weekend. Feel free to take one home to read.



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, Eileen Hayden

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.