

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

6th Sunday of Easter - Year B
5th May 2024

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May, Mary and Our Young People and Children

As we head into May, dedicated of course to Mary, I often start to think about the upcoming pilgrimage to Lourdes. It is almost three months away but I know it will come round very quickly. The Lourdes pilgrimage is a significant part of life in our Archdiocese. As you know I travel with our youth pilgrims who are so visible with their yellow t-shirts and hoodies. I have just received my order form to ask if I want any spare or new t-shirts or other clothes. I have plenty of course now having been with youth pilgrimage for many years but it is timely reminder that I need to start to think about and prepare some of our coach prayers and liturgies. I will be meeting our coach members a few more times and I know they will be pleased to take any prayer intentions to Lourdes. I will share more about this nearer the time.

Another significant part of May will be the celebration of our First Holy Communion Masses later this month. The joy and prayerfulness of our children are always inspiring but especially on these days as they have been working so hard and preparing in school and at home for their special days.

Please remember in May to pray for our children and our young people, and our teachers and youth leaders. These special times of receiving the sacraments, and living times of service in the church often stay with them for the whole of their lives and help keep faith alive and present for them.



Exploring the Future with our Family of Parishes

Thank you for all the contributions to our consultations last week. You may be wondering on what happens next. Well firstly all the sharing from every parish will be collated and brought together. The information from this will be used to help shape our next steps. Next we have the series of parish meetings facilitated by Fr Matthew Nunes and also the Exploring the Future Working Group made up of the priests, deacons and lay representatives from each of the parishes will use this information too.

So the very next stage for us is the parish meetings. The meeting for our parish with St. Alberts parish is 22nd May, 7-9 pm, at St Columba's Church.

If you are unable to attend the meeting with our parish, you are welcome to participate in the other meeting.

8th May, 7-9 pm, St. Aidan's Club, Adswold Road, Coppice Crescent, Huyton, L36 7XR.

I would strongly encourage you to consider coming to our meeting and if you are unable to make that date go to one of the other dates. All are welcome to attend any of the meetings.

Mass for Those Affected by Cancer

Our special Mass is on Wednesday 15th May at 7pm at St Columba's. This Mass is for anyone who has been affected by cancer - those who are receiving treatment, those who have survived and for anyone who lost someone to cancer - or anyone who simply wishes to pray for those whose lives have been touched. There will be light refreshments served after the Mass.



Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 4th/5th May

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Mathew Moore)

Tuesday 7th May

9.15am Mass at St C (Kathy C)

Wednesday 8th May

9.15am Mass at St JF (Maureen Valle)

Thursday 9th May - Ascension Thursday - Holy Day of Obligation

9.15am Mass at St C (Canon Vincent Burrows)

7.00pm Mass at St JF (LISCF)

Next Weekend 11th/12th May

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

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

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

Collections: Weeks 3rd Mar - 7th Apr TOTAL £1867.33

Ascension Thursday

This Thursday is Ascension Thursday and it is a Holy Day of Obligation. There is a morning Mass as usual at 9.15am at St Columba's and an additional evening Mass at St John Fisher at 7pm

Missionary Appeal Next Weekend

Next weekend there will be a missionary appeal by the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver to make an appeal on behalf of the Sisters Missions Committee of England and Wales. One of the sisters will be present at each Mass and they will tell us about their missionary work and will be very grateful for our support.

Forthcoming General Elections - Election Focus on Debt Cancellation



Questions for candidates/parties

1. Given that over 50 of the world's poorest nations are currently struggling with a debt crisis, are you supportive of the idea that the UK should champion debt cancellation for those low-income countries who need it so that they can properly fund their essential public services?
2. Many of the world's poorest countries are in debt crisis meaning money they could spend on health, education or tackling the climate crisis is instead going to big banks and wealthy nations. If you were elected, would you support a new legislation that could prevent private creditors such as Blackrock or HSBC from suing low-income countries in UK courts?

More information

Many of the world's poorest countries have been plunged into a new debt crisis. Despite facing significant poverty burdens, countries are having to make huge repayments on high-interest loans to wealthy banks, institutions and governments, leaving them unable to properly fund essential services like health and education. Almost half of the total external debt owed by lower income countries is to these 'private lenders', including BlackRock and HSBC, who often lend recklessly, and with no accountability, and as a result make huge profits. This is causing more and more countries to fall into debt crisis.



Please pray for the sick of our parish:

Les Orritt, Joan Haigh, Norma Pritchard, M. Rivi, Loretta McDonnell, Thomas Hopkins, Amy Murphy, Joseph Cameron, Sharon Whitting, Rowan Sanderson, Karen Duffy, James Murphy, Elizabeth Jones, Marie Shepherd.

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.