

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

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord - Year A  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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### **Jesus the Influencer!**

When I was growing up ,and people asked me or other children what we wanted to be when we grew up the answers were fairly traditional, doctors, nurses, police or teachers, oh and footballers! I can't remember anyone saying they wanted to be a Tik Tocker, content creator or internet influencer! It is a sign of the changing times that these might be current day answers with young people.

What the heck is an internet influencer some might ask? I put this into artificial intelligence on Google and this is what came back - an internet influencer is a person with a significant online following who uses their platform (like Instagram, TikTok, YouTube) to shape opinions, trends, and purchasing decisions, often by partnering with brands to promote products or lifestyles to their engaged audience. So there you have it.

I can't help but think that Jesus may have used the internet if he was around today. His first post might have been about his own baptism! Asking why he wanted to be baptised. It is actually a really good question! Jesus chose to be baptised, even though he had no sin. He did not need it, but wanted to set out an example for all of us to follow. Get baptised, become a disciple and live out your faith. It is the constant invitation of Jesus to each of us to follow. He wants to influence us, and encourage us. Today's feast may remind us to let that influence be present in our daily lives and choices. Our baptism is not a one off - possibly distant - event, it influences each and every day if only we allow it!



## **Deanery Reflection Day for Readers**

To all our Readers: The Knowsley Deanery is hosting a Day of Reflection for Readers on Saturday, January 31st, which will be led by Chris Higgins from the Pastoral Development department. It will take place at Our Lady of Help Church in Portico.

This day will offer you the opportunity to deepen your understanding of this important ministry in both the Church and in your own lives. If you are a reader or are interested in taking on this role, please make note of the date and let Fr Michel know you would like to attend and sign the lists at the back of the churches.

## **An Opportunity to Meet Our New Archbishop**

Archbishop John has been present in Archdiocese for over 6 months now and has visited a good number of parishes and schools. As part of his ongoing process of getting to know the diocese he is coming to our deanery for a chance to meet everyone. He will celebrate Mass for the Knowsley Deanery at 7.00pm on Friday 30th January at St Agnes Church in Huyton. Please do try and come along to greet Archbishop John. He will remain after Mass for tea/coffee and hopes to meet and chat to as many as possible.



## **Pope Leo Gathers Global Cardinals**

This past week Pope Leo gathered together the College of Cardinals for a consistory - or special meeting. Pope Leo told the around 170 members of the College of Cardinals who attended the consistory, 'I am here to listen.'

During their time together the cardinals chose to speak in depth about evangelisation and synodality indicating a commitment to themes previously set out by Pope Francis. Pope Leo also announced that he intended to meet with the cardinals each year or even more frequently as a practical sign of synodality.

## **Film Night**

Friday 23rd January at 7pm at St John Fisher. The announcement of the film is coming soon but we are organising drinks and refreshments to enjoy.

# Masses & Services This Week

## Weekend 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> January

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Joan and Caddy Fletcher)

## Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

9.15am Mass at St C (Elizabeth Heaton)

## Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January

9.15am Mass at St JF (Thanksgiving to Holy Family)



## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January

9.15am Mass at St C (Forgotten Souls)

## Next Weekend 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> January

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Darren Foreman)

**Confession** - available before and after Mass or by appointment

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## Collections:

Weeks 8th Dec - 4th Jan TOTAL £1,519.00

## Peace Sunday

Next weekend we will celebrate Peace Sunday and there will be a second collection to support the work of Pax Christi the official agency of the Church working for peace.

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

The next dates for Children's Liturgy at the 11am Mass will be

February 8th

March 8th

April 12th



We are also to hold a family faith and craft event during Lent on Sunday 29th March. More details to follow.

## Christmas Collections

Our Christmas Charity collections totalled £1000 so we have been able to send off £500 to CAFOD for their Winter Appeal to bring warmth, and firewood for cooking and heating to refugee families across the Middle East. We were also able to present £500 to Nugent to support their ongoing work with children, and vulnerable adults and communities, across the Archdiocese. A formal presentation was made to staff from Nugent who were visiting the Archdiocesan offices who expressed their sincere thanks for this wonderful generosity. Thank you to all from both CAFOD and Nugent.



## Parish Committee



The next parish committee will be on Thursday 15th January, meeting at 7pm at St John Fisher. We will be thinking about social events for the future plus early plans for Lent and Easter celebrations. We often also use our time together to share updates from the deanery, and family of parishes groups and generally consider the needs of our parish. We really do welcome people who may like to take part. If you would be interested in joining the parish committee please speak to Fr Michael, all are welcome.



### **Please pray for the sick of our parish:**

Joan Haigh, Norma Pritchard, M. Rivi, Loretta McDonnell, Thomas Hopkins, Amy Murphy, Joseph Cameron, Rowan Sanderson, Karen Duffy, James Murphy, Elizabeth Jones, John Dempsey, June Courtney, Gillian Kerwin, Margaret Donelly.

## **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.