

Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

Fourth Sunday of Easter - Year B
21st April 2024

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Exploring the Future with our Family of Parishes

As we work to becoming a family of Parishes with St Aloysius, St Dominic's, St Albert's and St. Agnes & St. Aidan, next Sunday, we will take time to answer the following questions during Mass. In preparation, we invite you to read them, think about them, pray about them, and consider your own responses. All the responses will be collated and used to support what happens next, as we move towards shaping the future of the church for our future generations.

Questions:

Consider the Catholic community across Huyton (and including Stockbridge Village and Knowsley Village)

1. What do you see?
2. What words, phrases, ideas, or images come to mind as you consider: how are things now?
3. What are your hopes?
4. What are your fears?
5. What is the future that you want to work to create together?
6. What is the story that you would like to tell those in the future about what you did now?

As well as this, we are all encouraged to attend a meeting facilitated by Fr. Matthew Nunes on 22nd May, 7-9 pm, *VENUE TBC*

If you are unable to attend the meeting with our parish, you are welcome to participate in any of the other meetings. Dates and venues below:

1st May, 7-9 pm, The Gate Community Centre, 600 Princess Drive, Huyton, L14 9QN

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

Safeguarding and DBS Checks

To continue processing the DBS checks, Jan will be at St John Fisher at 4.30 pm before Mass on Saturday 27th April and after Mass at St Columba on Sunday 28th April. If there are any queries, Jan can be contacted on mob 07851 550158 as there are currently problems with the land-line number given out.

Good Shepherd (Vocations) Sunday

Our synodal journey reinforced our commitment to becoming a Church that values the vocation of all the baptised, but today, we are reminded of the importance of praying in a special way for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This Good Shepherd Sunday we have much to celebrate because this year is a significant one for vocations to the priesthood within our Archdiocese. God willing, by the end of July 5 men will have been ordained to the priesthood for our Archdiocese. Fr Hugh Donleavy was ordained to the priesthood in December at St Alban's Church in Warrington and plans are underway for the ordination of Deacons James Finnegan, Martin Fyles, and Peter Ross and Lister Tonge, (a former Anglican Minister). If all goes to plan, they will be ordained together in the Cathedral on 13th July.

There are currently three other men in formation for our Archdiocese, and two candidates currently involved in the process of applying to begin seminary in September. Usually, on the first Saturday of each month a group of men gather together to reflect on the priesthood and to discern whether this is God's calling for them. The road to the priesthood is long and these men need your continued prayer and the support you give to the Priest Training Fund collection that takes place today.

There is no one type of man that God is calling and our seminarians and discerners come from different backgrounds, have had a wide range of life experiences and cover a range of ages. Perhaps God is calling you! If you think God might be calling you to serve as a priest within our Archdiocese and you are ready to explore this further and perhaps meet other men who are thinking about their vocation, please contact the Vocations' Director, Fr Ron Johnson on 0151 727 2493 or email vocations@rcaol.org.uk

Masses & Services This Week

Weekend 20th/21st April

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

Sunday 11.00am Mass at St C (Tucker Culley)

Tuesday 23rd April

9.15am Mass at St C (Fr. Martin Peyton)

Wednesday 24th April

9.15am Mass at St JF (St Martha for Prayers Answered)

Thursday 25th April

9.15am Mass at St C (Deceased Members of the Chapter)

Weekend 27th/28th April

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (James and Anne Donnelly)

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

Gift Aid

New envelopes are ready for collection for those who gift aid their parish donations. If your box is not there please speak to Jim and Mark at St Columba's or Fr Michael and Dave at St. John Fisher's and we will arrange for a box for you. As we come to the start of a new tax year can I ask if you can consider filling in a Gift Aid form if you regularly give to the parish and you pay tax. It is a simple form and your details will be kept confidential. Basically it means that we as the parish can claim from the government an extra 25p for every pound you donate at no extra cost to you. Forms are available at both churches or speak with the people above.

We also would encourage you to consider making your payments by standing order - it makes financial planning more simple and its also a more secure way of giving. Again forms are available at both churches



Forthcoming Elections - Election Focus on Business and Human Rights



Questions for candidates/parties

1. Many of the things we consume in the UK are produced via supply chains that span the world. Throughout these global supply chains, it is too often the case that workers are exploited, and/ or the environment is damaged. Would you support the introduction of legislation for greater oversight of business practices through these supply chains?
2. If elected, what steps would you take to ensure businesses are held responsible for their operations, both at home and abroad to ensure workers' rights are upheld, and the natural environment is protected?

More Information

The Business & Human Rights Resource Centre recorded 615 attacks in 2021 against human rights defenders after they raised concerns about business activities, 70 per cent of these were against climate, land and environmental rights defenders. Establishing a law to prevent human rights and environmental abuses was recommended by Parliament's Joint Committee on Human Rights.

12% of the 50 million people currently in forced labour worldwide are children.



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, 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.