

## Ss COLUMBA & JOHN FISHER HUYTON & KNOWSLEY VILLAGE

28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year B  
13<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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### A Synod on Synods?

I suspect a few years ago, very few of you had heard the word ‘synod’ but by now anyone following news in the Archdiocese or even reading this newsletter for the past few years will be more than familiar with the term. The Church has held synods for many years but this has usually been a gathering of bishops from certain regions, or from the wider global Church, to help the Pope focus on certain areas of church life.

Just at present, Pope Francis has gathered cardinals, bishops, and priests, religious, theologians and importantly, lay women and men to take part in the final session of the Synod on Synodality in Rome. Some people are hoping or even expecting big changes to be announced, such as allowing married men to be ordained, or women permitted to become deacons, but that is not likely, and in fact it is not what the synod is all about. It is far more about **how** we make decisions, or **how** we are church rather than **what** we teach or believe.

Here in the Archdiocese we had our own Synod 2020 which over three years led us to the pastoral plan that is now being implemented. Synods are not usually very rapid in making decisions or revealing results. Quick decisions do sometimes have to be made, but synods and synodality allow for a greater participation in our decision-making, and possibly deeper reflection guided by the Holy Spirit.

Even more locally synodality finds expression in our Family of Parish projects and even in our parish committee; all are places where plans, activities, and decisions are discussed and shared. Being a synodal church is not easy. It means genuine listening, genuine openness to each other, and the Holy Spirit. I am sure it is worth all the effort to enable us to become the Church we are called to be.

## Huyton Family of Parishes

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October we came together with all the parishes within the Huyton Family of Parishes. This was to offer an opportunity to express thoughts, hopes and concerns regarding the proposals that have been in the newsletter over the last few weeks.



We are aware that not everyone was able to attend the meeting but may still like to share their views. Feedback forms are available at the back of the church. Due to time constraints on collating the data, please only fill in a form if you were unable to attend the meeting. All forms will need to be returned by Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2024. If you wish to complete a form please get them to Fr Michael and we can then ensure they will be passed in.

## A Message from Fr Anthony

“ Dear Friends at St John Fisher & St Columba,  
Now that I have begun my new mission at Holy Name and St Philomena in Fazakerley, I want to take a moment to express my deep gratitude to all of you. Over the years, your welcoming spirit, friendship, and kindness have truly made me feel at home whenever I came to serve. I am profoundly thankful for the bond we have shared. In a special way, I extend my heartfelt thanks to Fr. Michael for his unfailing support and generosity, and to all the wonderful people of the parish. Your warmth will always be remembered, and I am forever grateful for the time spent with you.

With sincere thanks and prayers,  
Fr Anthony”

## Parish Harvest Feast

Our Parish Harvest Feast is on this Friday 18th October at 7pm at St Columba's. Our hope is that this is an event simply to gather us together and bring food to share and have a time of friendship and fun. Tea and coffee and soft drinks will be provided and we hope that there will be plenty of food to share - we have had some good offers - so hopefully this will be a time to feast and more importantly be together as a parish community.

We hope to see you there!



# Masses & Services This Week

## Weekend 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> October

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (Maureen Valle)

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

## Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St C

## Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October

9.15am Eucharistic Service at St JF

## Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October

9.15am Mass at St C (Thomas Dudley)



## Next Weekend 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> October

Saturday 5.30pm Mass at St JF (Eileen and Marie Cullen)

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

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

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**Collections:** Weeks 11th Aug - 8th Sept TOTAL £1791.01

## Second Collections

After receiving a few comments about missing second collections after Mass, or people unsure about where to place donations, it has been decided that when we have second collections the collection plates and bags will be passed around after Holy Communion. This will enable all to contribute if they wish. Can I stress that all our second collections are totally voluntary, so there is no pressure to donate and remember these collections are often taken on a national basis, so even small donations can add up to significant support for the appeals.

There will be a second collection this weekend for CAFOD.

There will be a second collection next weekend for World Missions.

## Parish Committee

The parish committee met last week to review recent activities, and plan for events and services until next year including plans for Advent and Christmas. We also reflected on the recent Family of Parishes meeting. The next parish committee meeting will be on Tuesday 12th October at St Columba's. All are very welcome to join the committee.

## CAFOD Family Fast Day

We are having a second collection today for CAFOD's October Family Fast Day.

Family Fast Day is a time for praying and sharing, where we donate to help another family with support, like training so they can carve their way to a better future. If you have not done so recently, you may wish to fast for a day or have a more simple meal – whether it's breakfast, lunch, or dinner. By fasting today, you are standing in solidarity with those facing incredible hardships, as part of one global family, and your donation helps CAFOD's work all around the world with our most vulnerable sisters and brothers.



## Children's Liturgy of the Word and Children's Activities

The future dates for Children's Liturgy at the 11am Mass are

13th October

10th November

8th December



We are also planning a Children and Family Advent and Christmas Craft afternoon on Sunday 15th December 3pm - 5pm with crafts and a Christingle Service.



### **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.