The Parishes of Ss. Albert the Great John Fisher & Columba Newsletter

Solemnity of All Saints Year (A)

A reflection on today's Gospel



The Beatitudes are among the most beautiful and challenging teachings of Jesus. Standing on the mountain, like a new Moses, Jesus reveals the values of the Kingdom of God. Yet these values are very different from those of the world. While the world often praises wealth, power, success, and self-interest, Jesus blesses the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful, and those who suffer for the sake of righteousness.

To be "poor in spirit" means to recognize our need for God. It is the humility that admits we cannot save ourselves and that all we have is a gift from Him. This openness allows God to fill our hearts with His grace and leads us into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus also blesses those who mourn. This includes those who carry the pain of loss, disappointment, or suffering. The Lord does not ignore their tears; He promises comfort and walks with them through every sorrow. Likewise, the meek and merciful reflect the very heart of Christ, choosing gentleness and forgiveness over anger and revenge.

The Beatitudes are not merely ideals; they are a portrait of Jesus Himself. He was poor, gentle, merciful, pure of heart, a peacemaker, and ultimately persecuted for proclaiming the truth. When we live the Beatitudes, we become more like Him.
In a world often marked by division and anxiety, Jesus calls us to a different way of life. The Beatitudes remind us that true happiness is found not in what we possess, but in our relationship with God and in loving others as Christ loves us. This is the path that leads to lasting joy and eternal life.

Parish Clergy

Parish Priest
Father David Gamble

Assistant Priest
Canon Michael Fitzsimons

Parish Deacon
Deacon Daniel Piwowar

Saint Albert the Great

31 Hollow Croft
Stockbridge Village
Liverpool L28 4EA
Tel: 0151 228 7308
Email: stalberts@rcaol.org.uk

Saint John Fisher & Saint Columba

37 Tithebarn Road
Knowsley Village
Prescot
L34 0EU
Tel 0151 936 7688
Email cjf@rcaol.org.uk
website:
www.columba-johnfisher.org.uk

Administration

Parish Administrator

To Be Arranged

Office Hours

To be confirmed

Until further notice please contact Fr. David or Fr. Mike

Mass Times & Intentions for the coming week

Sunday 31st October & 1st November
Solemnity of All Saints

5.30pm	People of the Parish	SJF
10.00am	Pat Fleming & Parishioners	SATG
11.15am	William & Bridget Earl & family	SC

Week 31 in Ordinary Time (Year II)

Monday 2nd November - All Souls' Day
Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed
NO MASSES

Tuesday 3rd November - Feria

9.15am	Gillian Kirwan	SC
10.00am	Pious Lists	SATG

Wednesday 4th November - St. Charles Borromeo

9.15am	Anita Moorcroft	SJF
10.00am	Fr. Eddie O'Toole	SATG
	In St. Brigid's School	
1.00pm	FUNERAL SERVICE Roy Jones	SATG

Thursday 5th November - Feria

9.15am	Eucharistic Servcie	SC
10.00am	Fr. Jim Daley MHM	SATG

Friday 6th November - Feria
NO MASSES

Sunday 7th & 8th November
32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

5.30pm	John Kemp & Parishioners	SJF
9.45am	For all who have died in conflict	SATG
11.15am	Thomas Keaton	SC

Please Remember in your Prayers

The Sick in our parishes

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, Margaret Donelly, Helen Donnelly,
Katie Westell, Bro John Smith MHM, Fr. Paul Mooney MHM, Maryanne Rathe

We bring before you all who are sick in our parishes of Saints Albert, Columba, and John Fisher. Hold them gently in your healing love, ease their pain, and strengthen their hearts with hope. Bless those who care for them with patience and compassion, and unite us as one family in supporting them through prayer. May your peace rest upon them today and always. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those who have died recently:

Revv. John Kirwan MHM, Jim Daley MHM, Fr. Frank Fearns

Eternal Rest, grant unto them O Lord,
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace, Amen.

Safeguarding of children and Vulnerable Adults

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult and feel they are in immediate danger, please call the police. If you wish to report any non-urgent concerns, please contact your local social services or our safeguarding team direct at or Mark Robson 0151 522 1013 / 07585761965 Claire Newton 0151 522 1043 / 07384643237 or safeguarding@rcaol.org.uk

From Father David.....



From the Compost Bin to New Life

On Wednesday, I attended a gathering of Archdiocesan priests at St. Mary's parish Birchley. It was a full and demanding day. After a pleasant lunch, despite there being no alcohol involved, I found myself more than once during the afternoon session with my eyes closed, doing my best to stay awake!
The theme of the day was Accompaniment Through Change and how we cope with the changes that life brings. Our facilitator, Louise Carter from the Archdiocese of Southwark, spent many years as a member of the L'Arche communities and shared some of her experiences of change, both joyful and painful. As she spoke, she showed a slide depicting rotting food turning into compost alongside a picture of a seed beginning to grow. The caption read: "Just as good compost helps plants grow, we will work together to help our communities flourish."

For me, it was a real Eureka moment.

I had forgotten that compost is made from waste, scraps, and food that has gone bad. Given time, however, that same compost becomes rich nourishment for seeds, helping to bring forth new life. The very things we throw away because they are unwanted, spoiled, or past their best can become the source of future growth and nourishment.

The same can be true in our lives.

Sometimes life brings experiences that cause pain, disappointment, grief, or loss. Our instinct is often to throw these memories into the bin of things we would rather forget. Yet, with God's grace, these difficult moments can become the compost that nourishes the seeds of new life within us. They can teach us wisdom, deepen our compassion, strengthen our faith, and help us become the people God is calling us to be.
As we reflect on the darker and sadder moments of our lives, and the changes that effect us, perhaps we should place them not in the bin of despair but in the compost heap of hope. There, through time, prayer, and God's loving care, they can be transformed into something life-giving. From them, new seeds can grow and flourish, helping both us and our communities to become stronger, more fruitful, and more alive in Christ.

Sacramental Preparation

Saint John Fisher & St. Columba

Application forms are now available from Church and for the 4 Sunday's in November.
All application forms MUST be returned to the Church be December 11th. Forms will only be given to parents or legal guardians, so please do not ask for a form for a grandchild for a mate as refusals can offend.

Saint Albert's

The second meeting in the Parish programme, takes place after Mass today Sunday 1st November and all parents and children are expected to attend.

Knitted Poppies



From today, hand-knitted poppies will be available in support of two wonderful causes: our young people hoping to travel to Lourdes as pilgrim helpers, and the Royal British Legion, supporting our veterans.
If you would like a poppy, a donation of £1 or more would be greatly appreciated. Every penny raised will be shared equally between these two worthy causes.
Thank you for your kindness and support.

November List of the Dead



November is the month when we remember those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. The pious lists are available at the back of the churches, please fill them in and return them to church and place them in the boxes reserved for your pious lists. Masses will be celebrated on a regular basis in November for all your pious lists

Eucharistic Minister Training –

Saturday 28 November 9:15am-4pm
The Irenaeus Centre (L22 1RD)



This course explores our baptismal calling, Vatican II's teaching on ministry and the role of the Eucharistic minister, while reflecting on our place in the Church's synodal life.
Parishes are encouraged to enable Communion to be received under both kinds and this is an ideal opportunity to involve new ministers.
The cost is £15 per attendee. Places must be booked and paid for in advance.
If you interested in becoming a Minister of the Eucharist, please let one of the clergy know, and we will book you on the course.

Lourdes Youth

Bingo & Movie Night Fundraiser



A huge thank you to everyone who joined us last Sunday, your support made the day truly unforgettable and we all had such a great time together. Even those who could not attend thank you for your suppor
We are thrilled to announce that we raised £750.31 for the cause, a fantastic result that wouldn't have been possible without your incredible generosity. We're already buzzing with ideas and can't wait to host another fundraising event for you all again very soon!

Offertory Envelopes



The new offertory envelopes for Saint Albert's are available at the back of the church. If you do not have a set already and would like a set, there is a list for your to sign up, and we will arrange for you to have them next week.

Gift Aid

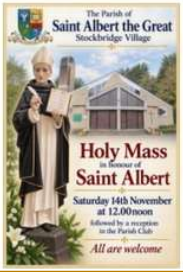
Are you a UK tax payer? If you are, you can gift aid any donations you make to the church and the Government will return 25% of your donation. So for every £1 you put on the offertory collection we can claim 25p back. So if you give £5 a week we can claim a further £65 off the Government on your donation. All you have to do is complete a form and have a box of offertory envelopes so we can record your donations.

Altar Servers



Would any of our younger parishioners like to become an altar server? If you would, please speak to any of the clergy and we will arrange some training for you and help you to serve the Lord as an altar server during Mass.

Saint Albert's Day 14th November

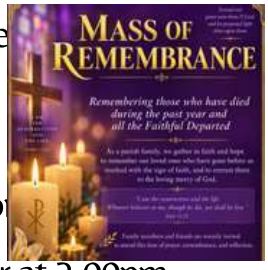


On Saturday 14th November, we will be celebrating the partonal feast day of St. Albert, with Mass at 12.00 noon and there will be a reception after in the Parish Club. All are invited to join us at this celebration.

Little Princess Trust

Ethan, from Saint Columba's has taken the decision to grow his hair! Not just for fashion but in order to support a young persons cancer charity. If you would like to know more about it or to support him please find out more at this link.

Masses of Remembrance



Each year our parishes have a Mass of Remembrance to celebrate the lives of our loved ones and parishioners who we have lost, especially over the last year.
Our Masses this year will be o

Sunday 15th November at 3.00pm
Saint Albert the Great
and
Wednesday 18th November at 7.00pm
Saint Columba

Please do come along and support our bereaved families and pray for those loved ones we have lost.
At Saint John Fisher & Columba's, Name tags for our memory prayer tree will be available from next week.

Marys Meals –

Christmas Wreath Making Workshops Saturday 28 November



Our Lady Help of Christians, St Helens, are hosting a festive wreath-making workshop in their church hall to help raise money for Mary's Meals, bringing hope and daily meals to children around the world.
There are two sessions available on the day: 10am-12pm or 2pm-4pm
The session, which includes tutor, all necessary material, and refreshments, costs £35 per person. Please bring your own scissors, secateurs, and/or apron if you wish. Tickets can be purchased by scanning the QR code or by calling 0800 698 1212.

Quote of the week

"The future begins today, not tomorrow."



Pope St. John Paul II: