



OUR LADY AND ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley

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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG

14th FEBRUARY 2021 – SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Day of Special Prayer for the Unemployed

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL The holy season of Lent begins on Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at two Masses – 9.30am & 7.00pm. Instead of receiving the usual cross on the forehead with the blessed ashes parishioners will be invited to come forward at the end of Mass to receive a light sprinkling of ashes on the head prior to leaving the church. Stewards will be on hand to ensure that all goes smoothly.

The Stations of the Cross will be live streamed from the church at 7.00pm on the Fridays and at 3.00pm on the Sundays of Lent. Please join in this devotion if you can.

As Lent is a season of conversion let us strive to become more conformed to Jesus through the Lenten practices of fasting, charitable giving and prayer. I pray you all have a good Lent.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS – *Sunday 14th February 2021 - Sunday 21st February 2021*

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Jim Ryan RIP Caroline Shaw RIP People of the Parish
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Tony McCluskey RIP
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Marilyn Walker RIP
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Day of Fasting & Abstinence	9.30am 7.00pm	Mary Dolan SSCF
Thursday	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	9.30am	Ellen Dugdale RIP
Friday	Friday after Ash Wednesday Stations of the Cross (live stream only)	12.00pm 7.00pm	Mary Marshall RIP
Saturday	Saturday after Ash Wednesday Evening Mass of following Sunday	9.30am 6.00pm	Mary Morris RIP Eileen Murphy RIP
Sunday	1st Sunday of Lent	9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	People of the Parish Nick Donovan RIP
	Stations of the Cross (live stream only)		

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Christine Beswick, Hillary Rustage, Kieran O'Brien, Debbie Sainsbury, Lionel & Jenny Rawlings, Matthew Norman, Jadar Jones, Michael Christie, Sonia Faure, Wilfred Hartley, Mandy Keane, Joyce Osbourne, Michael O'Sullivan, Bob Parker, Katelyn Reilly, Margaret Smith, Amy Harris, Elizabeth Brown, Bridget Robertson, Valerie Gahan, Marina Hernandez. Joshua Goddard, Eamon Curran, Pat Duggan, Ruth Grace Crosby, Mary Ready, Avril McCormack, Howard Moore, Eileen Bush, Ann Standing, Pat Stewart, Sheila Murphy, Kath Longden, Michael Sainsbury, Kathleen Zwierink, Moira McNeill, John Bardsley, Tricia Burke. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for Kathleen Smith who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for Kathleen's family at this sad time.

LIVE STREAM Masses and other services may be viewed by clicking on the 'Live Stream' button on the home page of our Parish Website, or directly through <http://www.churchservices.tv/romiley>

SUNDAY & WEEKDAY MASS READINGS You can find the readings at:

www.universalis.com/20200802/masshtm The Prayer of the Church (Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Night prayer, etc.) is also on the website. Readings for Sunday 14th February: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT Kevin Hogan who is in formation for the Permanent Diaconate will lead the Stations each Friday in Lent at 7.00pm and Fr Michael will lead them on the Sunday afternoons of Lent at 3.00pm. You are welcome to join in this traditional Catholic devotion during the Lenten season via the live stream.

CONFESSION - RECONCILIATION Fr Michael is available to hear Confessions – please get in touch to arrange a suitable time to visit.

CHURCH SEATING PLAN We are making a small change to the card system we use at Mass for the COVID Track and Trace. In future, when you enter church, please can you either scan the QR code in the front porch OR take a card from one of the stewards, fill it in with your contact details (only 1 card per household is required) and leave it on your seat at the end of Mass. The stewards will collect up the cards from the seats after Mass. Thank you.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP The next bereavement support group will take place from 1.00PM until 2:30PM on Thursday 18 February 2021. If you would like to join us for this virtual meeting then please contact Susan Carr on 07543 408551 or by email: susancarr10@hotmail.com so that you can be sent the link. Support with the technical aspects is also available if anyone is unsure of what is involved.

ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS The tax year 2020/'21 will be coming to an end on 5th April 2021 and the parish will then undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid scheme) please let Fr Michael know or contact Dominic Berry (0161 494 1174) by 5th April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in the tax year.

CAFOD-Take the 'Walk for Water' challenge

This year CAFOD is asking us to do our bit to help end water poverty across the world. Could you WALK FOR WATER as a personal Lenten challenge by walking 10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days? If you can find out more at cafod.org.uk/walk and sign up for this individual challenge.

If 10,000 steps a day is too much but you still want to be involved by walking and/or helping to raise funds to provide communities with clean water you, or your family can sign up to take part in a parish-wide

effort to raise funds for this important CAFOD project. You can join us by simply emailing your total daily/weekly steps to stchristophersw4w@gmail.com and sharing our Just Giving page. We are aiming to raise £750, enough to give a community a clean and safe water supply and help to end water poverty. You can donate on our Just Giving page <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/our-lady-and-st-christophers-walk-for-water>

For further details contact the above email or call Kevin Hogan on 07762 091388.

MISSIO There will be Lenten Reflections, beginning 19th February, each Friday in Lent at 10.30am on YouTube. Each time of prayer and reflection will last about 20mins, with the Mill Hill Missionaries and other speakers from the Missio family. Please join us on the Missio YouTube channel.

PRAYER COURSE This week we reached the midpoint of our Prayer Course on Zoom, which has been a blessed experience for all involved – thank you for your prayers. If you particularly wish to join us for the Sessions on Contemplation or Listening, please **contact Judith and Tony 0161 465 1368, judithone2@gmail.com** as you cannot get into the Zoom session unless we let you in!

The sessions are available for you to take part in from home, **on Zoom, every Wednesday evening between 20 January and 3 March, at 7.30 and last around an hour.**

The sessions include videos and small discussion groups on topics including why and when you pray, different ways of praying, unanswered prayer and help for personal prayer. Please pass on this open invitation to anyone you think might be interested. We are very happy to welcome anyone regardless of faith background, home location or any other factors. **And finally to all parishioners - we need your support in prayer** throughout January and February that for all of us, course organisers and participants, it may be a blessed and transforming experience.

ONLINE GIVING TO THE PARISH For those Parishioners who normally give in the collection (Planned Giving envelopes & cash) at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish has been added to the Parish website. Please go to: www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk to see the link.

PARISH FINANCE Last week's collection £403; CAFOD £23; white envelopes £194; Society for the Protection of Unborn Children retiring collection £470. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOD BANK Seven crates and seven shopping bags of food, toiletries, etc. were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £160.00. Thank you. The church will be open today (Sunday) and tomorrow between 2.00pm – 4.00pm to receive your donations. **There is currently a shortage of milk and orange juice.** Cash donations marked "Food Bank" may be posted through the presbytery letterbox.

MARRIAGE CARE If you are going through difficulties in your relationship, Stockport Marriage Care can offer a confidential counselling service. Marriage Care is still here for you and is at the end of the phone if you need help. You can contact them on 0800 3893801.

Celebration of Mass – guidance for parishioners

Please follow this simple guidance to ensure we are all kept safe:

1. Please do not come to church if you feel unwell in any way or you have a temperature.
2. In line with Government guidance a face covering must be worn at all times inside the Church building.
3. We are using 1m+ guidance in church. This means that you can expect to be seated at least 1m away from someone who is not in your family or household “bubble”. We will maintain 2m distance between rows of seats.
4. As we may still need to limit the number of people in the church at any one time, please take advice from the steward at the door as to whether you can enter. It may be necessary to queue for a short time
5. Use the hand sanitiser at the front door as you enter church
6. A steward will direct you to a seat.
7. The wooden benches can now be used for 2 people from the same household at each end (with a minimum of 1m in between), or 3 people at one end and 1 person at the other (with a minimum of 1m in between) or for more than 3 people from the same household alone.
8. At each seat you will find a card, please fill in your name(s) and a contact number if possible. Only 1 card need be completed per household group. **Please bring your own pen.** This is to comply with the Government’s “Track and Trace” initiative to stop the spread of infection. The cards will be stored in church and discarded after 14 days. The details will only be shared if we are notified that someone who attended church has tested positive for the virus.
9. Mass will last around 35 minutes and you will be able to receive Holy Communion in your hands. Father will say “The Body of Christ” once to the whole congregation from the altar, and the congregation will respond with “Amen” before distribution of Holy Communion begins. There will not be any need for the Priest or recipient to speak as they receive the Host.
10. Stewards will direct people forward to receive Holy Communion.
11. If you wish to light a candle before or after Mass please use one of the candles placed in the holder for you and light it from the already lit candle.
12. On leaving the church please take all of your belongings and any papers you have used with you.
13. Please leave church via the side door where hand sanitiser is also available.



Data Protection Privacy Notice The parish of Our Lady & St Christopher sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed & stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary & used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish & for legitimate reasons such as admin. & religious purposes. Read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

Our Lady and St Christopher’s Church is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, which is a registered charity No 234025