



**OUR LADY AND ST. CHRISTOPHER'S  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

***Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley***

52 Barrack Hill, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire. SK6 3BA

Tel: 0161-430 2704

[www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk](http://www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk)

e-mail: [stchris52@gmail.com](mailto:stchris52@gmail.com)

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG

**SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL** On Friday we celebrate the feast of St George, the Patron Saint of England. From what we know of his life, he was martyred in 302 AD at Lydda in Israel after resigning his military post in protest against his pagan leader, the Roman Emperor Diocletian who persecuted Christians. We ask his intercession as we gradually emerge from lockdown, praying for all in our country especially those most in need at this time. As people of faith, the example of St George should also give us courage in our witness to Christ especially in view of the attacks on the Christian faith and the attempts to sideline people of faith in discussion of matters of public policy. The readings at Mass during these days of Eastertide remind us of the courage of the apostles and the early Christians in the face of opposition to the preaching of the Gospel.

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Sunday	<b>Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)</b> <b>3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish Margaret Kenney RIP Thomas O'Reilly RIP Malcolm & Mary Berry RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Mary Berry RIP
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Mattie Lynch RIP
Wednesday	<b>St Anselm of Canterbury, B, D</b>	9.30am	Margaret Sweeney RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	John Turner
Friday	<b>St George, M</b> <b>Patron of England</b>	12.00pm	Barbara Law RIP
Saturday	Ferial	9.30am	Maureen Dunn RIP
	<b>Evening Mass of following Sunday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Robert Standing RIP
Sunday	<b>4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	John Lennon RIP HRH Prince Philip RIP

**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, Isaac Seed Iqbal, Louise Hopkinson. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**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](http://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 18<sup>th</sup> April: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19; 1 John 2: 1-5; John 24: 35-48.

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

**LADIES GUILD** meeting on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 7.30pm. “A Volunteer at a Food Bank.” Journalist Jan Brierley will be giving a talk on her experiences of volunteering at a food bank in Manchester. All are welcome to this online meeting. Please contact Margaret Hughes for the Zoom link on (0161) 406 0833.

**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](http://www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk) to see the link.

**CAFOD LENT APPEAL – WATER – A Big Thank you** This Lent our parish has not been able to raise money for CAFOD in most of the usual ways but with your help and that of some energetic people who have gone the extra mile, an amazing amount of money is heading to vulnerable communities to give them access to the clean water for which they long. By 'Walking for Water' and with generous sponsorship and donations, **our parish total for the Lent 2021 Appeal is £1877.40.**

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection £519.10, CAFOD £13. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

**PIETY STALL** My thanks to Sarah Heaton and her team of helpers for running the stall and providing this service for those who wish to purchase cards and other religious items. The annual account has just been completed which shows that a profit of £227.53 was made for the year. Thanks too to all who support the stall by their purchases. The stall is open after the Masses this weekend.

**YOUNG CARITAS** A socially distanced outdoor meeting for members wearing face masks was held recently to discuss taking part in the Captain Tom 100 Challenge this May Day bank holiday weekend. As the newsletter went to print, the plan was for the young people to select a social issue affecting people on the margins of society. The activity of “doing 100 of something” will then be about drawing attention to the issue and advocating for change, rather than fundraising. More details to follow...

**FOOD BANK** Four trays and nine shopping bags of food, toiletries, etc. were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £190 (£90, £50, £20, £20, £10). Thank you. **Thanks to people's overwhelming generosity the Foodbank shelves are well stocked at the moment. There is only a shortage of crisps and similar snack like treats.**

The church will be open today (Sunday) and tomorrow between 2.00pm – 4.00pm to receive your donations. Cash donations marked “Food Bank” may be posted through the presbytery letterbox.

**THE DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY** is looking for suitably qualified practising Catholic to sit as a voluntary Foundation Director on the Multi Academy Trust within the Tameside area – namely the St Anselm’s Catholic Multi Academy Trust. Potential Directors should be practising Catholics with a commitment to Catholic education and a background in a relevant discipline including education, finance, business, law and human resources.

For more information about our Multi Academy Trusts visit our website at:

[www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/education/academies/multi-academy-trust](http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/education/academies/multi-academy-trust)

To register an interest please contact [sue.blackwell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:sue.blackwell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**FOUND** Child of Mary prayer book and pair of glasses in church. Please collect from the sacristy. Thank you.

**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. If you do not scan the QR code at the church entrance you will be directed to a steward and asked to fill in your name(s) and a contact number on a form at the back of church. Only 1 entry needs to be completed per household group. **Please bring your own pen if possible.** This is to comply with the Government’s “Track and Trace” initiative to stop the spread of infection. The lists 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](http://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.