



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

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

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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG

**SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL**

We welcome two students currently in formation for the priesthood in our Shrewsbury Diocese on placement in the parish. Dominic McCann who is a third student year at the Beda College, Rome, will be with us for the month of September and Alec Davey, a fourth year student at Oscott College, Birmingham, will be with us until January 2022. This is an opportunity for them to experience the reality of parish life and I am sure you will make them feel very welcome and support them by your prayers. Three former students who were with us on placement in recent years are now ordained priests serving in our diocese.

We also welcome back the staff as well as new and returning pupils to St Christopher's Primary and Harrytown Catholic High Schools following the summer holidays. We pray that through living the Gospel our schools may be true Christian communities.

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

Sunday	<b>Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>6.00pm</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	Eddie & Philip Palmer RIP People of the Parish Pamela Birch RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Norah Hodson RIP
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Ints. of Geraldine Ryan
Wednesday	<b>Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	9.30am	Louise Hopkinson RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Jack Dobson RIP
Friday	<b>St Ambrose Barlow, P, M</b>	8.15am 12.00pm	<i>Mass at Harrytown Catholic HS</i> Janina Bieniasz
Saturday	Ferial <b>Evening Mass of following Sunday</b>	9.30am <b>6.00pm</b>	Fr John Wright RIP People of the Parish
Sunday	<b>24<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	Ruth O'Reilly RIP Sheila Smith – 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday

**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 Saed Iqbal, Simon Wright, Margaret Schofield, Barry Swarbrick, Margaret Wooliscroft. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of James (Jim) Byrom who died recently. May he rest in peace. Please also pray for his family at this time.

**PARISH LIVE STREAM** Masses and services are live streamed at [www.churchservices.tv/romiley](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 the 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday: Isaiah 35: 4-7; James 2: 1-5; Mark 7: 31-37.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** Saturday 5.15pm – 5.45pm, Sunday 10.20am – 10.45am. Please allow one minute after the previous penitent has left before entering the confessional. This is for ventilation purposes. Thank you.

**ST CHRISTOPHER CENTRE** Refreshments in the Centre after the 9.00am & 11.00am Masses today.

**REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE** You will be aware that over two-and-a-half years ago we welcomed a refugee family from war-torn Syria into our local community. They have settled in well and have good prospects for a much brighter future. I am grateful to our dedicated team of parishioners who continue to support the family. It was always our intention to resettle a second family and we think the time has now come to start planning for this. There will be regular updates in the newsletter about how things are progressing. I am sure you will keep this project in your prayers as well as remembering in prayer all those forced to flee their homeland, mindful of the current terribly sad situation in Afghanistan. *"I was a stranger and you made me welcome."* Mt: 25:35.

**CARITAS AFGHAN CRISIS APPEAL** Young Caritas is immensely grateful to all of you who managed to respond to this urgent emergency appeal over the past week. Your incredibly generous donations were sorted, packed and delivered safely by our young people (and a helpful grown-up to drive the van) on Wednesday. We have been asked by Greater Manchester Combined Authorities to thank you all. £175 was also received in cash donations. Thank you!

No more items are required at this present time. The focus is now on the medium to long term support needed for their integration into our local communities across the region: to be re-homed, children placed in school, to learn English, re-train, and to find jobs. if you still wish to help in some way - can make a donation online here: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/afghanistan-appeal-2021/>

God bless your kindness. Thank you.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** The Christmas shoe box campaign will take place this autumn. In October empty shoe boxes can be collected from the back of church and then returned full at a later date. For more information please contact Karin Moore on 494 9104. Thank you.

**EVERGREENS 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1.30pm – 3.30pm.**

**15<sup>th</sup> September** – Cakes & Chat

**22<sup>nd</sup> September** – no meeting

**29<sup>th</sup> September** – Quiz

**6<sup>th</sup> October** – Board Games

We look forward to seeing familiar faces again and perhaps some new ones too. Everyone is welcome. Just come along – please note the new time.

**MASS AT HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** Parishioners are welcome to attend the Friday morning Mass at Harrytown at 8.15am during term time. The school chapel can be easily accessed without having to enter school itself – just turn right at the school entrance and the chapel is directly in front of you.

**DAY FOR MEN** at St Joseph's Church, Tatton St., Stockport, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 9.00am – 4.00pm. Talks, testimonies, prayer, healing and Reconciliation. Breakfast and lunch provided. Suggested donation of £10. Please see poster in porch or on the parish website.

**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.

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection £706.70, CAFOD £98.00. Thank you for your continued generosity.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE** I would like to invite you to '40 days for life' vigil outside 136 Chester Road, Hazel Grove, NUPAS Abortion facility. 40 Days for life is a non denominational global organisation committed to ending abortion all over the world. It has been endorsed by Pope Francis and we have this autumn from the 22<sup>nd</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October an opportunity to join with our fellow Christians around the world to put an end to Abortion in Hazel Grove. If you are interested in helping Dan Chamberlin and myself in holding a prayerful vigil for 40 days can you contact me Steve Conlon on 07702 828984.

**"IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?"** Help friends and family who don't have the faith you do, to answer that question for themselves.

A course is to start in October that can draw people in to finding God for the first time in their lives or returning to a faith from which they have drifted away. A weekly Zoom session with video and short discussion will be run by a small team of parishioners and all are welcome to attend online from wherever they live. Further Info from the team - CONTACT: Tony and Judith at [judithone2@gmail.com](mailto:judithone2@gmail.com) or phone 0161 465 1368

**WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?** We all know someone who isn't a churchgoer or doesn't seem to have any faith, a neighbour a friend or relative. This Alpha course could be just what they need right now. INVITE them along. Uncertain whether a person would be interested, then TELL THEM about it and suggest that they give it a try by attending a couple of sessions.

*Finally, your prayer support gained many blessings for all those who attended the Prayer Course earlier this year and we ask again for your prayers for this upcoming course.*

**FOOD BANK** Many thanks for your most generous donations recently. Nine trays, nine bags and a box of food were taken to the Foodbank this week plus cash donations amounting to £70. (£20, £20, £20, £10). Demand was a little lower than recent weeks, but we are still short of tinned tomatoes, tooth brushes, toilet rolls, long life milk and long life orange juice.

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

**THE THREAT OF ASSISTED SUICIDE** A Second Reading of the Assisted Dying Bill is expected in the House of Lords. The Bishops’ Conference has made an urgent appeal for the faithful to write to peers, particularly if they have stories they are able to share, to give voice to the concerns and fears of disabled people and to offer personal stories of those with medical expertise in end of life care. Please see Miro Griffiths’ story which can be found on our own Diocesan website by following the link below: <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/news/wirraldisability-rights-expert-urges-catholics-to-heedbishops-call-to-urgently-oppose-assisted-suicide-bill>

**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 389380.

**JOB VACANCY Primary Deputy Headteacher Vacancy** St Peter’s RC Primary School, Stalybridge are looking for a new Deputy Head. Please contact [admin@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk) to arrange a visit. Salary: L5-L9 (**£46,566 - £51,402**) Group 2: NOR 207 & 22 Nursery. For application forms etc contact [Sue.Jenkinson@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:Sue.Jenkinson@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)



**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.