



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

Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley

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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG

**SUNDAY 15th May 2022
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL I encourage you to read the statement from the Bishops of England and Wales following their spring conference on the return to Mass and the Sunday obligation. I hope you find the statement, which has been posted on the parish website, helpful as we look to the future while still remembering the need to exercise caution.

Please also read the encouraging news below about the second Syrian family that we hope to welcome to our local community. I am sure there will be a generous response to the request for the donation of various items to furnish the house we have acquired for the family.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS: *Sunday 15th May 2022 – Sunday 22nd May 2022*

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Ron Atherton RIP People of the Parish Molly & Vincent Gough RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Tony McCluskey RIP
Tuesday	Ferial Day of Special Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse	7.30pm	Special Intention
Wednesday	Ferial	9.30am	Ronnie Hamilton RIP
Thursday	St Milburga, Ab, V	9.30am	Desmond O'Connor B/day
Friday	Ferial	8.15am 12.00pm	<i>Harrytown Catholic HS Mass</i> Eileen Murphy RIP
Saturday	The Dedication of the Cathedral Nuptial Mass Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 11.00am 6.00pm	In Thanksgiving Peter Stephens & Maria Thu Mai George Thornley RIP
Sunday	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am 11.00am	George Fox RIP People of the Parish

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Christine Beswick, Hillary Rustage, Kieran O'Brien, 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, Howard Moore, Eileen Bush, Pat Stewart, Sheila Murphy, Kath Longden, Michael Sainsbury, Kathleen Zwierink, Moira McNeill, John Bardsley, Tricia Burke, Isaac Saed Iqbal, Simon Wright, Margaret Schofield, Margaret Wooliscroft, Winifred Corrigan, Mark Sorrell, Rory Ireland, Samuel Minnis, Brian Murphy, Helen Bridge. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Please remember to pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Agnes Sutcliffe, Dennis Travis, Ronnie Hamilton, Joan Kelly, Marjorie Elsworth, Louise Phelan, Margaret Booth, Frank O'Malley, Albert Docx, Patricia Smith, Margaret Rowcroft.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Geoffrey (Geoff) Hooley who died recently. May he rest in peace. Please also pray for his family at this sad time.

PARISH LIVE STREAM Please go to www.churchservices.tv/romiley

WE WELCOME INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH Liam Edward Skelton, Anna Sophia Skelton & Ivy James Rafferty who were baptised recently.

SUNDAY READINGS for Fifth Sunday of Easter: Acts 14: 21-27, Apocalypse 21: 1-5, John 13: 31-35.

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.

BISHOPS' STATEMENT ON RETURNING TO MASS Please see the statement concerning the return to Mass and the Sunday obligation as we emerge from the pandemic, which has been posted on the parish website.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE Many of the voluntary roles undertaken within the Parish require a regular DBS check which needs to be updated every 3 years. Several of our Parish volunteers are due an update and Stella Hulley will be contacting these volunteers over the next few weeks to support the re-application procedure.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP The next meeting will be in the St Christopher Centre on Thursday 19 May from 1.00pm until 2.30pm. For more information please contact Susan Carr on 07543 408551.

THE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION Sunday 5th June from 12 noon. All are welcome to come and celebrate this occasion in the St Christopher Centre.....drinks, strawberries, gateaux, etc. Please just tick the sheet at the back of church so that we have an idea of numbers. Names are not required. Thank you.

COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP We are moving ever closer to welcoming our second Refugee family into our Parish Community. Our application is complete and with the Home Office, which they are reviewing. We expect the family of 4 (mum, dad and 2 children) to be joining us within 8 to 10 weeks. We have now got the keys to the property the family will rent which thankfully is partially furnished with many items. However, there are still a number of things we still need for the home and I am once again calling on the generosity of parishioners to help if you can. On the table at the back of church we have listed the things still needed. If you are able to help can you please put your name against items you are able to provide. Other than bedding and towels we are not necessarily looking for new items and second hand good quality items will be great. If you are able to donate items they can be brought to the presbytery in a bag marked

'Family'. Also, if any of Parishioners are ESOL trained (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) that might be able to help with teaching the family and can spare a couple of hours each week please let me know. As always, I ask that you keep the success of this initiative in your prayers and thank you for your continuing support in making it a success.

CONTACTLESS GIVING IN THE PARISH A new **Digital Collection Plate** contactless terminal has been installed near the church entrance. All offertory donations made in this way go directly into Our Lady & St Christopher's parish bank account. If using this method for your offertory donations simply choose the amount and tap the reader with your card or insert it if instructed to do so. It will also be possible a little later to use this system to pay for Mass intentions, piety stall purchases, etc. The collection baskets will remain in use for those who prefer to use this method of giving.

Dominic Berry & Colette Lennon will be on hand at the Masses this weekend to assist and answer any questions people may have.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES Now that all Covid restrictions have been eased, it is wonderful that once again we can return to Lourdes. Our Diocesan Pilgrimage will take place from 29 July - 4 August by air and 28 July - 5 August overland. Prices start from as little as £440 which includes travel, full board accommodation and full pilgrimage programme. Further details and booking forms are available to download from the Pilgrimage Website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or from the Pilgrimage Office, Curial Offices, 2 Park Rd South, Prenton, Wirral, CH43 4 UX.

PARISH SPONSORED WALK....this has now successfully taken place and if you sponsored Father Michael (or gained sponsors for yourself) we'd be grateful if you could put your sponsor money in an envelope marked "Sponsored Walk" and leave it at the presbytery as soon as possible, and tick your name off on the list at the back of church. Many thanks.

FAMILY TREASURE HUNT WITH PRIZES!! Two described routes, with clues will be on sale from next week. These can be done as a family, on your own or in groups and are about 2 miles long around Woodley and Romiley. They can be done at any time before the closing date of Monday June 6th. There is a minimum donation of £1 per sheet...if you can provide the correct change this would be very welcome. Sheets will also be available through school. In the event of more than one correct sheet for each hunt, a draw will take place.

SAVE THE DATE! Our popular fundraising Parish Quiz will return to the St Christopher Centre on Friday 17th June. Tickets will go on sale soon, so start putting your teams together! More information next week.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA—28TH SEPTEMBER TO 5TH OCTOBER In the light of Pope Francis' re-consecration of Russia, Ukraine and the World to Our Lady of Fatima last month, Fr Martin from Our Lady's, Stockport will be leading a pilgrimage to Fatima with Joe Walsh Tours. Full details are on the attached poster and on the parish websites: www.ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk Deposits of £250 will be required by Sunday 31st May to secure your place, with the balance due in July. The cost will be £679 per person, to include a full pilgrimage programme, direct flights from Manchester to Lisbon, transfer to Fatima, a full Religious programme including tours and visits to key sites associated with the apparitions, and full board in a central hotel in Fatima for 7 nights. Brochures and forms are available on request. Please call Sheena on 07942 373728.

EVERGREENS - Wednesdays in the St Christopher Centre from 1.30pm - 3.30pm:

18th May Board Games
25th May NO MEETING
1st June Jubilee Afternoon Tea

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 Sunday's collection £734, CAFOD £93.50, White envelopes £145.00. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOTSTEPS Do come on **Thursday 19 May at 7.30pm** to **St Peter's parish centre, Green Lane, Hazel Grove** to hear **Mary Hardiman** present her thoughts on "What I want is mercy". Always a captivating and thought provoking speaker, Mary will be looking at what mercy means and how it reflects the heart of God.

FOOD BANK Thank you for your continued generous donations to the foodbank. Four crates and six full carrier bags were delivered to St Mark's last Tuesday. Thanks also for cash donations amounting to £145 (£40, £30, £30, £20, £20, £5).

The church will be open today, Sunday and on Monday between 2.00pm – 4.00pm for your donations. Cash donations marked "Food Bank" may be posted through the presbytery letterbox.

SIGNPOST STOCKPORT FOR CARERS Please see poster in porch or pick up a leaflet from the back of church if you look after a relative, friend or neighbour who cannot manage without your support.

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.



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
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