



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
e-mail: stchris52@gmail.com

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG
ASSISTANT PRIESTS: Fr Humphrey Agbim
Fr John Paul Raj MSSCC

SUNDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2023 THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL Fathers John Paul & Humphrey will be looking after the parish this week while I'm at home in Ireland from Monday – Friday on a visit to see my mother and family.

Congratulations to St Christopher's RC Primary School on a successful OFSTED inspection outcome recently. I am pleased to say that St Christopher's is deemed to be a good school across the five major areas of inspection. The inspectors also noted that it is a "friendly and supportive school." This is a tribute to the hard work of the staff and governors and of course the children and their families.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 5th November 2023 – Sunday 12th November 2023

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Eileen & Bill Bradburn RIP Anthony Glynn RIP People of the Parish
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Madeleine Stephens RIP
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Holy Souls – November List
Wednesday	Ferial Requiem Mass	9.30am 11.45am	Ryan & Burton Families Jane Ruane RIP
Thursday	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	9.30am	Barney Kelly RIP
Friday	St Leo the Great, Pp, D	8.15am 12.00pm	In Harrytown Catholic High School Patricia O'Neill RIP
Saturday	St Martin of Tours, B Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Patrick Gannon RIP Eileen & Sandy Powell RIP
Sunday	Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	John Warwick RIP People of the Parish

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Christine Beswick, Kieran O'Brien, Lionel & Jenny Rawlings, Jadar Jones, Michael Christie, Mandy Keane, Joyce Osbourne, Michael O'Sullivan, Bob Parker, Katelyn Reilly, Margaret Smith, Amy Harris, Elizabeth Brown, Bridget Robertson, Valerie, Gahan, Marina Hernandez, Eamon Curran, Ruth Grace Crosby, Howard Moore, Pat Stewart, Sheila Murphy, Michael Sainsbury, Moira McNeill, John Bardsley, Isaac Saed Iqbal, Simon Wright, Margaret Wooliscroft, Rory Ireland, Helen Bridge, Patricia Godfrey, Karl Wood, Pat Owen, Kevin Bradley, Mary Sainsbury, Jeff Follows, Peter Stevens, Rita Stevens. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Please remember to pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Robert McLoughlin, Kevin Lynch, William Cody, Mary Williams, Mary Oakley, Caroline Ingoldsby, Kevin Faure, Julia Delaney, Brian Murphy, Pte Francis Farricker, Pte Michael Glynn DCM, Mary Kiki, Ernest Garratt.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for Maureen Mitchell, Terence Wild and James Clements who died recently. May they rest in peace. Please also pray for their families.

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

SUNDAY READINGS for the 31st Sunday A: Malachi 1:14-2:8-10, 1 Thessalonians 2: 7-9,13, Matthew 23:1-12. **Mass Preface 6**, page 67, **Eucharistic Prayer 2**, page 27.

CONTACTLESS TERMINAL The terminal has now been relocated back to its original position at the back of church and is fully functioning for credit and debit card donations. Thank you.

LADIES GUILD meeting on Thursday 9th Nov at 7.30pm. There will be a guest speaker from the Young Christian Workers. All welcome.

NOVEMBER LIST You are invited to pick up an envelope from the back of church and write the names of those you wish to be remembered during this month of the Holy Souls. Please place in the envelope and return to the church where they will be placed in a basket at the front of the altar. One Mass per week will be offered for all whose names are on the list. Please do not put any money in the envelope.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE SUNDAY 12th NOVEMBER This will take place at the War Memorial on George Lane at 3.00pm. People are asked to assemble at Green Lane outside the Duke of York Hotel at 2.30pm and parade from there to the War Memorial.

A JOINT CELEBRATION EVENING with Claire Sweeney and The VariVocals and The Roger Browne Jazz Trio on Friday 10 November 2023, 7-45pm in church. Admission on the door £8.

MEMORY TREE We will have our Christmas Memory tree on show this year to remember those we love and the ones we have lost. The hearts are at the back of church; you can take them home pop a photo or a message on them then return to the box on the table at the back of church. The Tree will be Blessed on Christmas Eve. Donations will be given to church funds.

OCTOBER 200 CLUB WINNERS Alison Pruce, Roger Pruce, Pauline Wilson, Eva McLoughlin. Please collect winnings from the small sacristy.

CONFIRMATION 2024 Young people in Years 9 & 10 who are eligible to be confirmed should let Fr Michael know of their interest as soon as possible. There will be a preparation programme starting in January for all who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The date of the Confirmation Mass has yet to be fixed.

THE PIETY STALL will be open the weekends of 11th & 12th November, 2nd & 3rd December, 16th & 17th December. Please come and have a browse – all welcome.

Christmas & 2024 stock now in: diaries £3, church art calendars £1, boxed Christmas cards £4, packets of Christmas cards £1.50.

EVERGREEN GROUP WEDNESDAYS 1.30pm – 3.30pm

8th November	Peter's Quiz
15th November	Pat Isaacs will sing for us
22nd November	Board Games
29th November	Winter Flowers with Anne from Pic a lily
6th December	Clare Clayton - Let go and grow
13th December	Christmas Party

CHRISTMAS FAIR - 3 weeks away Our biggest fundraising event of the year, the Christmas Fair takes place in just 3 weeks' time. Saturday 25th November is the date for your diaries.

We will have our usual stalls plus this year a children's area which will house the Chocolate & Sweets tombola, a number of Christmas themed games plus a visit from Father Christmas himself!

Raffle tickets are available from the back of church, costing £3 per book. Please take some books and sell amongst family & friends, returning money & counterfoils as soon as possible. A list of raffle prizes confirmed so far is below.

To help support the fair we still require donations of items - particularly any bottles, chocolates, sweets and cakes. Any small monetary donations towards any of these items would be gratefully received too. Thank you for donations received so far. Please continue to bring any suitable donations up to church.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE - Confirmed Prizes 1st Prize - B&B for Two at the Pullman Liverpool.

Other prizes - Three course dinner for Two at Trafford Hall Hotel, Stockport County signed shirt, M&S deluxe Hamper, £50 Experience Days voucher, Vouchers from Gullivers World, Dino Golf, The Italian, No 29 Coffee Shop, Samuel Oldknow Marple, Regent Cinema Marple, Altrincham Ice Rink, Bukharaa, Serenity Bookshop Romiley, Go Thai, Qurashi, Romiley Butchers, Tittertons Butchers, The Barnhouse, Stockport Eats, Breakout Rooms Manchester and Jake's Alehouse, Photo shoot at Icon Photography Studios, £30 gift card from The Joshua Bradley, Fruit Basket from Tunacliffes Fruit & Veg, Donation from Pic a Lily, Morrisons Hamper, Yankee Candles from Homebase, Jasper Conran sets from Tesco, bottle of Baileys from Jacksons News, 2 x Irish Hampers, plus more bottles and other prizes still to be confirmed.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S BOX COLLECTION 2023.... time again In order to simplify things and to help the collectors I will place a box labelled "CARITAS – Boxes" at the back of church. Please your box in it OR empty your monies into a plastic bag (keeping your box to continue saving). Please ensure your details are included to ensure Gift Aid. The collectors will pick up monies from this central box. If you cannot do this, your collector will arrange a "pick-up" for your box. If you cannot continue to hold a box, please let your collector or myself know. There are some spare boxes if anyone feels able to join in. *Many thanks.....Christine.*

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS Catalogues are available to collect at the back and side of the church. Choosing gifts from the catalogue supports those living in poverty and injustice in different parts of our world.

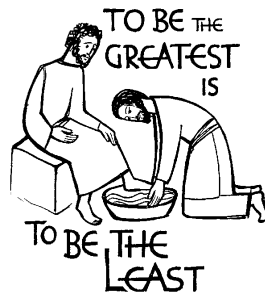
PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £681.20, CAFOD £30. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

BUY-A-BRICK As you will already know, the parish recently received a legacy which has cleared the parish debt. Therefore, the White envelopes and bank payments for this fund can now be stopped. Thank you so very much for supporting the parish and helping to pay off the debt through this scheme over the last number of years for which I am very grateful. *Fr Michael*

FOOD BANK Many thanks for the response to last week's request for foodbank donations: Three green crates of mixed groceries plus cash donations amounting to £300 (£120, £50, £50, £30, £30, £20) were delivered to St Mark's last Tuesday. The church is open on Sunday and Monday between 2.00pm - 4.00pm for donations. Cash donations marked "Food Bank" may be posted through the presbytery letterbox. **Small cordial drinks would be welcomed. Thank you.**

MARRIAGE CARE If you are going through difficulties in your relationship, Stockport Marriage Care can offer a confidential counselling service. You can contact them on 0800 3893801 or search www.marriagecare.org.uk

JOB VACANCY The Diocese is looking to recruit a **Director of Property** due to retirement. The role of the Director of Property within the Diocese is to provide leadership, vision, professional advice and strategic direction, to support the Bishop and Diocesan Trustees in their oversight and management of the Diocesan Property Portfolio. Further details can be found at <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> completed applications should be sent to recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. Closing date **10 November 2023**.



THE ST CHRISTOPHER CENTRE Booking enquiries please to Ruth Craven: Tel 07423 682266 or email ruthcraven@hotmail.co.uk

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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