



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

Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley

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

**SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2024
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL: This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday when ashes will be blessed and distributed to mark the start of the holy season of Lent, a time of preparation for the celebration of the central mysteries of our faith during Holy Week and Easter. Please see the times of Masses below.

Congratulations to Bishop Mark who celebrates the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood today. He is currently in Lourdes – he was ordained on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes in 1984. Let us remember to pray for him on reaching this milestone and ask God's continued blessing on him as our Bishop.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 11th February 2024 – Sunday 18th February 2024

Sunday	Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday) 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Theresa Palmer RIP People of the Parish Valerie Maguire RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Margaret Maycock Ints.
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Fr Jack McLeish RIP
Wednesday	Ash Wednesday Day of fasting and abstinence	9.30am 7.00pm	David Roche RIP Fr John Marmion RIP
Thursday	Thursday after Ash Wednesday Requiem Mass	9.30am 12.30pm	Bernadette McCarthy RIP David Roche RIP
Friday	Friday after Ash Wednesday	12.00pm	Eileen & John Kelly RIP
Saturday	Saturday after Ash Wednesday Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Ken Eagon & Tony Carson RIP People of the Parish
Sunday	1st Sunday of Lent	9.00am 11.00am	Moira Smith RIP Nick Donovan RIP

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Christine Beswick, Kieran O'Brien, Lionel & Jenny Rawlings, Jadar Jones, Michael Christie, Mandy Keane, Joyce Osbourne, Michael O'Sullivan, 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, Kevin Bradley, Mary Sainsbury, Rita Stevens, Marian Burns, Margaret Maycock, Sr Margaret Mary Foley, Colette Lunt, Graham Seymour, Peter Taylor. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Please remember to pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Thomas Brady, Mary Tebb, Frank Dunford, Fred Sutton, Stephen Jackson, Kathleen Osbaldeston, Geoff Lomax, Winifred Hudson, John McGrath, June Farrell, Ingrid Kucak, Caroline Shaw, Alexes Cawley, Eileen Dunford, Joseph McGrath, Mary Nelson, Thomas Lynch, James Bilsborough, Margaret Fitzpatrick, Olive McAuley.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for Colette Lunt who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for her family at this time.

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

SUNDAY READINGS for 6th Sunday B: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10::31-11;1; Mark 1: 40-45.
Mass Preface 5, page 55; **Eucharistic Prayer** 3, page 28.

CONTACTLESS TERMINAL The terminal at the back of church can be used for credit and debit card donations to the parish. Thank you.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP The next meeting will be in the St Christopher Centre on Thursday 15 February from 10:00am until 11.30am. The group is for anyone who has experienced a bereavement and is an opportunity to share your feelings, however if you don't want to chat you are welcome to come along just for the tea and coffee! This is not a counselling service but is a space to get support from others who have experienced bereavement. For more information, please contact Susan Carr on 07543 408551.

FRIDAY LENTEN SOUP LUNCHESES The first of the soup lunches will be held in the St Christopher Centre following the 12.00pm Mass on Friday with the proceeds going to support the work of CAFOD. There will also be a cake stall. Thanks to the Ladies' Group for organising the soup lunches this year.

FIRST SACRAMENTS 2024 The parents of children in non-Catholic schools who are eligible to receive First Sacraments this year should let Fr Michael know as soon as possible so that they can receive the necessary preparation.

THREE DAYS OF HEALING 4th – 6th March, at St Joseph's, Tatton St., Stockport, SK1 1EJ. Talks, Mass, Confession – please take a leaflet from the back of church for more information. Registration essential.

FR CHARLES EGBON who made the recent appeal on behalf of the Missionary Society of St Paul has written to thank parishioners for their wonderful generosity in contributing the sum of £1,561.36 to the appeal (£1,150.00 cash & £411.36 contactless card machine & QR code).

EVERGREEN GROUP Wednesdays in the St Christopher Centre from 1.30pm – 3.30pm.
14th February 'Valentines' with Anne Marie

STAMPS FOR THE RNIB There is a box in the church porch for used stamps for the RNIB. Any used stamps you can donate to support the work of the RNIB (Royal National Institute of the Blind) will be gratefully received and appreciated. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION 2024 The next meeting for the young people in Year's 9 &10 will be in the St Christopher Centre on Wednesday 21st February from 4.00pm – 5.30pm. The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated by the Bishop on Tuesday 5th March at 7.00pm.

MARRIAGE WEEK 7th-14th FEBRUARY A Christian marriage is rooted in faith; that means faith in God, as the giver of life and the one who promises eternal life to those who believe in him. The Bishops' Conference has produced an eight-page PDF resource that you can download to pray through this special week and reflect on the vocation of marriage – a response from two people, by God's sustaining divine grace, who promise to build a lifelong, intimate and sacramental partnership of love and life.
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-2024/>

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2024 Brochures and booking forms are now available on the pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk or by ringing 07773 324264, or if you are aged 16 – 22 please email youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org for an application form to join the youth section of our pilgrimage. This year our pilgrimage dates are: by air is from Friday 26 July to Thursday 1 August, by coach Thursday 25 July to Friday 2 August and for our young people Wednesday 24 July to Friday 2 August. If you are a first-time pilgrim or a returning pilgrim, we look forward to you joining us in Lourdes this year.

DIOCESAN CHOIR FESTIVAL – 'Sing a New Song' You are invited to come along and sing as part of a diocesan choir. Learn music throughout the day and lead the singing for Mass at 5pm. We will learn Schutz: Praise to you Lord Jesus, Schubert: Mass in G and more, on Saturday 24 February, 10.30am-4.30pm with Mass beginning at 5pm. At St Anthony's, Dunkery Road, Woodhouse Park, Wythenshawe, M22 0WR. Refreshments and registration from 10.30am, rehearsals begin at 11am. Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring a packed lunch. The cost is £5 per person, payable on the day. Book by completing the form at [HTTP://TINYURL.COM/DIOCESANCHOIRFESTIVAL](http://tinyurl.com/diocesanchoirfestival) The deadline for bookings is Friday 16 February. For more information contact reception@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Please see the poster available on the parish website.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £713.00; CAFOD £30.00; faster payments and standing orders for January £2671.00; contactless payments for January £877.53. Thank you for your great generosity.

FOOD BANK Many thanks for the continuing generous response to the request for foodbank donations: five green crates of general groceries, three carrier bags of tinned groceries and one carrier bag of crisps were delivered to St Mark's last Tuesday plus cash donations of £190.00 (£120, £30, £20, £10, £10). The church is open on Sunday & Monday from 2.00pm – 4.00pm for donations. Cash donations marked "Food Bank" may be posted through the presbytery letterbox.

WALK 200KM IN 40 DAYS TO HELP FIGHT GLOBAL POVERTY Challenge yourself and take on **CAFOD's Big Lent Walk!** Walk when and where you choose over 40 days – Lent starts on February 14th - alone or with friends.

This year CAFOD's Lent Appeal is helping fishing communities feed their families in Liberia and CAFOD and SCIAF have a shared project in Ethiopia, working together to respond to the devastating food crisis there after years of drought caused by climate change.

Find out more - Sign up today! Go to <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

ST PETER'S PARISH HAZEL GROVE there will be a day with **David Wells** on **Saturday 2 March in the parish centre from 9.30am to 4pm**. You are invited to come along and hear this brilliant speaker, who has decided to base the day on the theme of **Pilgrims of hope – How to live our faith in a perplexed and broken world**. He is a delightful, engaging and entertaining speaker of international acclaim. Find out more here: <https://davidwellslive.com> Do come and share the day – and bring a packed lunch.

HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STAFF VACANCIES Please visit the school website (www.harrytownschool.org) to see the current job vacancies. We are currently advertising for a Deputy Head, a Learning Mentor and an Art & Design Technology Technician.

A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary at the parish of St Vincent's, Altrincham, working as a Job Share with the current Parish Secretary. Flexible working hours: approximately 12 hours per week over 3 days (Monday-Friday) 9am-1pm (days and times may vary). Hourly rate: £14.50. Please see the Diocesan Website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> Applications in the form of a CV and covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org **Closing date:** Friday 1st March 2024.

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



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