



**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 25th FEBRUARY 2024
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL The Women's World Day of Prayer will be celebrated in the parish with a service in church on Friday at 2.30pm. The materials this year have been prepared by Christian women in Palestine on the theme, "I beg you, bear with one another in love." Please try to attend the service, which is also open to men.

Our Confirmation candidates will have a retreat day on Saturday led by the Diocesan Youth Mission Team. Please remember them in prayer as they look forward to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation from the Bishop on Tuesday 5th March.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 25th February 2024 – Sunday 3rd March 2024

Sunday	Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday) 2nd Sunday of Lent	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Norah McHugh RIP Samuel Minnis RIP People of the Parish
	Stations of the Cross	3.00pm	
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Fr Frank Rice RIP
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Oliver Clarke RIP
Wednesday	Ferial	9.30am	David Roche RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Stephen Aldcroft RIP
Friday	St David, B, Patron of Wales Women's World Day of Prayer	8.15am 2.30pm	In Harrytown Catholic HS Mary & John William Birch RIP
	Stations of the Cross via Live Stream	7.00pm	
Saturday	Ferial Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Personal Int. People of the Parish
Sunday	3rd Sunday of Lent	9.00am 11.00am	Jack & Ruth Tommony RIP Peter Mount RIP
	Stations of the Cross	3.00pm	

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, Carol 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: baby Rose, Winifred Flynn, Charles Marsland, Ellen Greener, Olive Skeer, Maureen Jenkins, Arhtur Catlow, Dorothy Cornelly, Shiela Davies, Carl Dunn, Reginald Potts, John Kelly, Austin Cartwright, Louis Gaskell.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for the repose of the soul of Marie O'Brien who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for Marie's family at this time.

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

SUNDAY READINGS for the 2nd Sunday of Lent: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Romans 8: 31-34; Mark 9: 2-10. **Mass Preface** Transfiguration page 58; **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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR LENT in church today (Sunday) at 3.00pm and live streamed on Friday at 7.00pm. Please go to: www.churchservices.tv/romiley

LENTEN SOUP LUNCH 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.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT DAY for the candidates being who are being confirmed on 5th March in the St Christopher Centre and the church on Saturday 2nd March from 10.30am – 2.00pm. All the Confirmation candidates should attend this, and lunch will also be provided. At 1.30pm there will be a practice for the Confirmation Mass and sponsors should be present for this part of the day.

FIRST SACRAMENTS 2024 The next meeting for parents and guardians of the children eligible to receive First Sacraments this year will be held in the St Christopher Centre on Wednesday 6th March from 7.00pm – 8.15pm. Parents and guardians should make every effort to attend.

ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS The tax year 2023/24 will be coming to an end on 5th April and the Parish will then undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please let Father Michael know or contact Dominic Berry (0161 494 1174) by 5th April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in the tax year. Thank you.

EVERGREEN GROUP Wednesdays in the St Christopher Centre from 1.30pm – 3.30pm.

28th February	Board Games
6th March	Talk by Brendan from 'The Wellspring'
13th March	Sit down exercises
20th March	'Spring' Anne from Pic a lily

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Donations of wool will be much appreciated by our hat knitters. They can be placed in the wool box at the back of church. Thank you. Karin Moore

UPHOLDING LIFE Support an amendment to reduce our abortion law from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks (see Harry & Harley born at 22 weeks and 5 days on the postcard at the back of church) are thriving and there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Please collect a postcard from the back of church and post it to your MP in support of this amendment. Our local MP is Mr William Wragg, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Thank you.

MISSIO The National Novena to St Joseph will take place from 10th – 18th March at St St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. The Mill Hill Missionaries will offer a novena of Masses and prayers for MISSIO'S work and for the intentions of all those who support their work. Masses at 10.00am during the novena can be followed by going to www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena Evening and the novena prayer at 6.00pm every day during the novena.

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.

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.

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.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £667.29; CAFOD £55.00. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOD BANK Many thanks for the continuing generous response to the request for foodbank donations: 4 trays and 2 carrier bags of donation were delivered to St Mark's last Tuesday plus cash donations amounting to £260 (£120, £40, £30, £20, £20, £10, £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. **Tins of rice pudding and fruit would be welcomed.**

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at www.cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

FOOTSTEPS Our programme of relaxed and inspiring talks continues with an event on **Thursday, 21 March at 7.30pm in the parish centre of St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA.** Fr Chris Thomas from the Irenaeus Centre in Liverpool will look at the Book of Jonah and share his thoughts and his humour with us. Do come and join us in our café-style setting.

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 – all with a closing date of Monday 26 February 2024 AND a Pastoral Manager (permanent), a Pastoral Manager (Maternity Cover) and a Teacher of MFL (Maternity Cover – all with a closing date of 04 March 2024.

ST PHILIP'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL is looking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Headteacher from September 2024. More information can be found on the following websites:

Greater Jobs: <https://www.greater.jobs>

TES: <https://www.tes.com/jobs/>

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.