



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 4th FEBRUARY 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL: Marriage Week is from 7th – 14th February this year and resources have been produced to help support those who are married including steps that can be taken to nurture the marriage relationship. You can find more information about this in the newsletter below as well as a link to the online resources. During Marriage Week we pray for all who embrace the vocation of marriage which is one of the seven sacraments of the Church through which married people are called to holiness of life. We should also remember to pray for those in difficult marriages and for those who are separated and divorced that they too may know they are loved by God

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 4th February 2024 – Sunday 11th February 2024

Sunday	Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday) 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Catherine Ruth Frost RIP People of the Parish Pat Owen RIP
Monday	St Agatha, V, M	9.30am	James Cunningham
Tuesday	St Paul Miki & Companions, Mm	7.30pm	John O'Sullivan RIP
Wednesday	Ferial Funeral service	9.30am 12.30pm	Madeleine Corbett RIP Ellen Williams RIP
Thursday	St Josphine Bakhita, V Requiem Mass	9.30am 12.00pm	Ronald Swainbank RIP Jean Grieves RIP
Friday	Ferial	8.15am 12.00pm	Mass In Harrytown Catholic HS Peter Stevens RIP
Saturday	St Scholastica, V Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Personal Intention Theresa Palmer RIP
Sunday	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Valerie Maguire 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: Kathleen McSweeney, Florence Sherwood, Gertrude Pope, Doreen Moran, Ray Nelson, George Colley, Neil Elsworth, Veronica Rose, Anthony Monk, Bryan Pennington, Ellen Dugdale, Alfred Davies, Ronald Swainbank, Sarah Boyle, Stephen Pope, Mary Bottomley, Margaret Gavan, Vincent Flood.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for David Roche, Colette Lunt and Bob Parker who died recently. May they rest in peace. Please also pray for their families at this time.

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

SUNDAY READINGS for 5th Sunday B: Job 7:1-4, 67; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mrk 1:29-39. **Mass Preface** 4, 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.

200 CLUB WINNERS - JANUARY K Moore-Bouquet, C Connolly, J Reddy, M Arthur. Please collect winnings from the small sacristy. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who support the monthly draw.

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

7th February Quiz afternoon

14th February 'Valentines' with Anne Marie

THE LADIES' GUILD meeting on Thursday February 8th will not be in the St Christopher's Centre. The ladies are visiting St Peter's Hazel Grove for a 'Footsteps' talk at 7.30pm. Anyone needing transport please contact Sue Latham.

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 7th 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.

PARISH MEMORIAL BOOK From 1994 -1999 Fr John MacLeish was our Parish Priest. In his time here his Mother visited him and asked, “Why have you no way of remembering deceased members of the Parish?” Members of the Parish had been asking the same question, and so the idea was born. As a result, the books you now see at the back of church were created and a cabinet was made to hold them..... and we had our Book of Remembrance. From the beginning it was welcomed and needed. And continues to be so. It means a great deal to many parishioners and is kept up to date by parishioners.

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.

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN (20s & 30s) Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life. Dates: 16-18 February 2024. Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday’s collection £662.05; CAFOD £30.00; Priests’ Retirement Fund £990.00. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOD BANK Many thanks for the continuing generous response to the request for foodbank donations: five green crates, primarily groceries, four carrier bags of crisps & the equivalent of six carrier bags of toilet rolls were delivered to St Mark’s last Tuesday plus cash donations of £490 for the last 2 weeks (£120, £120, £100, £30, £30, £20, £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.

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. Raise money to help people as they overcome poverty. Your sponsorship can and will change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan.

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/>

FOOTSTEPS BEGINS ON Thursday 8 February The 2024 programme of informal talks starts in the **parish centre of St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA** on **Thursday, 8 February at 7.30pm** and we're delighted to welcome again **James Gallogly**, the Managing Chaplain at HM Prison Manchester. His topic will be: **Looking for light and faith inside prison**. Do come and hear him share some insight into the nature of his work and how he walks alongside the men in prison.

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.