

**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 PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim

**SUNDAY 31st MARCH 2024 – EASTER SUNDAY
CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL

The Easter season is the second-longest liturgical season. Only Ordinary Time is longer. The Church celebrates the Easter season, also known as “Eastertide”, for 50 days, culminating with the feast of Pentecost. It is a joyful season as we celebrate the new life won for us by Jesus Christ following his crucifixion and death on the cross for our salvation. It is also a season of hope pointing to our ultimate destiny when our earthly life is over. We share in the risen life of Christ here and now through Baptism (an Easter sacrament) which calls us to witness to the presence of the risen Lord in our daily lives. It was encouraging to see so many people attend the Easter services this year. A special word of thanks to all those who cleaned and decorated the church so beautifully for the celebrations.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 31st March 2024 – Sunday 7th April 2024

Sunday	EASTER VIGIL MASS (Saturday) <i>NB! Clocks go forward one hour tonight</i> EASTER SUNDAY	8.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Jim McLoughlin RIP People of the Parish Norah & Denis O’Neill RIP
Monday	of the Easter Octave	10.00am	Mark Parker
Tuesday	of the Easter Octave	10.00am	Michael Campbell RIP
Wednesday	of the Easter Octave	10.00am	Brendan Finn RIP
Thursday	of the Easter Octave	10.00am	Ciara & Aiveen Chamberlain RIP
Friday	of the Easter Octave	12.00pm	David Roche RIP
Saturday	of the Easter Octave Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	10.00am 6.00pm	Patrick Gannon RIP Adele & Tony McCluskey RIP
Sunday	EASTER SUNDAY DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY	9.00am 11.00am	Eileen & John Kelly RIP People of the Parish

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: Christine Beswick, Kieran O'Brien, Lionel & Jenny Rawlings, Jaar 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 Colicroot, Rory Ireland, Helen Bridge, Patricia Godfrey, Karl Wood, Kevin Bradley, Mary Sainsbury, Rita Stevens, Margaret Maycock, Sr Margaret Mary Foley, Graham Seymour, Carol Seymour, Peter Taylor, James Smart, Nathalie Whitehead. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Gertrude Lyne, Ivy Crump, Anthony Peacock, Anthony Delaney, George Crespin, Noreen Philpott, Marjorie Brady, Mary Heneghan, Francis Marshall, Ellen Sainsbury, Warren Bardsley, Denis O'Neill, Elixabeth Claffey, Edith Marshall.

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

BRITISH SUMMERTIME Please note that clocks go forward one hour on Saturday night (30th March).

PLEASE NOTE No public Adoration or Morning Prayer of the Church on Monday and Wednesday this week.

SUNDAY READINGS for Easter Sunday: Acts 10:34, 37-43; Colossians 3: 1-4; John 20: 1-9. **Mass Preface: Easter 1**, page 60; **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.

LENTEN SOUP LUNCHESES The Ladies 'Guild would like to thank all the soup makers, bakers, helpers and everyone who came to support our Lenten soup sessions. We had a wonderful response every week and the generosity has been outstanding. The grand total raised was £2581.16 and this will be forwarded to CAFOD the nominated charity. Thank you again.

THE LADIES' GUILD meeting is on Thursday April 4th at 7.30pm. There will be a demonstration given by our guest Stuart on Napkin folding and Table decorations. All welcome.

ROTAS FOR SATURDAY 6.00PM MASS The new rotas for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers are available from the rack in the small Sacristy. Thank you.

HOLY WEEK/EASTER POSTERS Please take a poster from the back of church and display it in a window at home to remind passers-by of the significance of the season. Thank you.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE Parishioners who are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year and would like to attend the annual Marriage Mass on Saturday June 8th at Saint Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester, CH2 1SA at 12 noon, should let Fr Michael have their names and contact details as soon as possible so they can receive a personal invitation to attend from the Bishop. Thank you

200 CLUB The new year for the 200 Club starts in April and the first draw will take place the weekend of 27th April. If you'd like to renew your number(s) or join for the first time, please could you fill in a form from the back of church and return it in an envelope to the presbytery with a cheque or cash for £12 per number for 12 months. Please mark the envelope 200 Club. The more numbers we sell, the bigger the prize pot!!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' ROTAS for the 11.00am Sunday Mass are available to collect from the rack in the small sacristy. Thank you.

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.

PIETY STALL We now have packets of Easter cards for £3 and a selection of cards and gifts for First Holy Communion. Please come and have a browse.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 7th April, 2024 at Our Lady and the Apostles, Stockport. The church will be open from 1.30pm onwards; Exposition and Confessions at 2pm and Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm. Mass at 3.30pm. All are welcome .

THE NEXT SHOWING OF "THE CHOSEN" will be after 7pm Mass at Our Lady's on 4 April 2024. This story of the life of Jesus, through the eyes of the Apostles has a massive following and watching it on the big screen is truly breathtaking. If you haven't seen it, you really are missing out. Bar will be open. We are watching Series One. episode 5 & 6. Come and see the Wedding at Cana, Jesus healing a leper and casting out demons. Venue - The Social Club at Our Lady's after Mass. Free entry, donation optional.

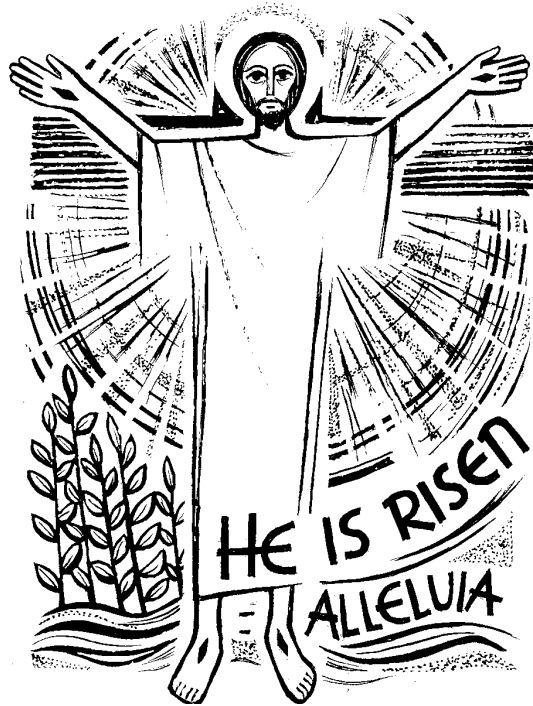
STAMPS FOR THE RNIB There is a box in the church porch for used stamps for the RNIB. Any used stamps you can donate to support the work of the RNIB (Royal National Institute of the Blind) will be gratefully received and appreciated. Thank you.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £857.87, CAFOD £45.00. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOD BANK Many thanks for your continuing generosity towards the local foodbank. There were 6 full crates and 2 carrier bags of donations this week which along with cash donations of £125 (£120, £5) were delivered to St Mark's last Tuesday. 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. **Donations of baked beans, tinned carrots and peas, as well cat and dog food are particularly welcome. Please could we ask that you check that all donations are in date as we are not allowed to give out food past its date stamp.**

JOB VACANCIES HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL: We are currently recruiting for two Assistant Headteachers. Please visit the school website for further information – www.harrytownschool.org
St Philip's Catholic Primary School is looking to appoint a highly motivated and inspirational Deputy Headteacher from September 2024. More information can be found at:
<https://www.stphilipsstockport.co.uk/page/vacancies/144123>

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



**FR MICHAEL & FR HUMPHREY WISH A
HAPPY
EASTER TO PARISHIONERS
AND VISITORS TO THE PARISH
CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

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.