



## 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](http://www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk)  
e-mail: [stchris52@gmail.com](mailto:stchris52@gmail.com)

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG  
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim

### SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL:** As we journey through Eastertide, we hear in today's Gospel the words of Jesus about remaining in him as he remains in us. This reminds us of the importance of having a close personal relationship with Jesus as members of his Church, the Body of Christ on earth. Next weekend 25 children will make their First Holy Communion at Mass and we pray they will grow in their relationship with Jesus through receiving him frequently in Holy Communion at Sunday Mass. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

We look forward to welcoming the relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco two of the Fatima visionaries to the parish on 15<sup>th</sup> June together with the Centenary Pilgrim statue of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This is being widely advertised and we expect good numbers for the event. Please note the date and see below for further information including the timetable for the day.

#### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Sunday	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Saturday)</b>	6.00pm	Julie Wallace RIP
		9.00am	Frances Nicholls RIP
		11.00am	John Lennon RIP
Monday	<b>St Catherine of Siena, V, D</b>	9.30am	John William Birch RIP
Tuesday	Ferial Day of Special Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse	7.30pm	George Thornley RIP
Wednesday	<b>St Joseph the Worker</b> Day of Special Prayer for Human Work	9.30am	Nolan Family
Thursday	<b>St Athanasius, B, D</b>	9.30am	John Campbell RIP
Friday	<b>Ss Philip &amp; James, Ap</b> <b>Requiem Mass</b>	8.15am	In Harrytown Catholic HS
		11.00am	Marcele Riley RIP
Saturday	<b>The English Martyrs</b> <b>First Holy Communion Mass</b> Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.00am	Ints. Richard Ward & Family
		10.30am	
		6.00pm	Eilish Withers
Sunday	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	9.00am	People of the Parish
		11.00am	Christine Chappelow RIP

**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, Florrie Robison, Margaret Wooliscroft, Tony McKenna, Joan Marshall. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Joseph Carty, Christine Chappelow, John Lennon, James Storan, Clifford Bradshaw, George Owen, Lillian Owen, John W Birch, Lillian Chapman, Maureen Smith, George Harney, Sheila Crowley, Paul Schofield, Catherine Gaskell, Catherine Higgins, Christina Dawson, Thomas Mee.

**PARISH LIVE STREAM** Please go to [www.churchservices.tv/romiley](http://www.churchservices.tv/romiley)

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

**SUNDAY READINGS** for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter: Acts 9:26-31, 1 John 3:18-24, John 15:1-8. **Mass Preface: Easter 5**, page 61, **Eucharistic Prayer: 3**, page 28.

**PLEASE NOTE** changes to Mass times on Friday and Saturday. The Mass on Friday is at **11.00am** and will be a Requiem Mass for Marcele Riley who died recently. May she rest in peace. The parish Mass on Saturday morning is at **9.00am** due to the First Holy Communion Mass at 10.30am. Please remember the children who are making their First Holy Communion in your prayers on this important occasion in their faith journey.

**THE LADIES' GUILD** meeting is on Thursday May 2nd at 7.30pm. All welcome.

**DISABILITY INCLUSIVE MASS** at St Peter's, Hazel Grove, today at 2.30pm. Please see poster about this on our parish website.

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

**YEAR OF PRAYER 2024** Come and join our online webinar with Sycamore. Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be a 'Year of Prayer', as a preparatory year for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to get the most out of the prayer pathway on Sycamore! **On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May 7pm-8pm.** Email Natalie Orefice for the link to join: [Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Please see poster on parish website.

**CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal** Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at [cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal) Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. **There will be a retiring collection at the Masses next weekend for the appeal.**

**ST CHRISOTIPHER CENTRE TABLE TENNIS** A new table tennis table has been purchased and anyone interested in playing is asked to contact Kevin O'Reilly on 07950 149985 or call at the centre for more information.

**EVERGREEN GROUP - Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.30pm**

1st May Sit down exercises

8th May Return of Lesley Walker with her engaging poetry

**MASS FOR THE CHINESE COMMUNITY** Many faithful Catholics from Hong Kong have arrived in the Diocese, especially in the Greater Manchester area, and a significant number were baptised at Easter. On **Sunday 28th April**, Bishop Mark will be celebrating a Bi-lingual Mass for the Chinese community and to welcome the new Catholics with their Chaplain, Father Bruno, at Saint Hugh and Saint John's, Timperley, at 2.30 pm. The Mass will also be live streamed:

<https://www.sthughandstjohntimperley.co.uk/>

**VISIT OF FATIMA RELICS** On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June, from 10.00am-4pm, the World Apostolate of Fatima will visit our parish with the relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco and the Centenary Pilgrim Statute of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The statue was blessed at the Chapel of the Apparitions in Fatima. Pope St John Paul II invited us to receive the light of Fatima. The Fatima message of reparation, repentance and peace is still relevant to us today.

**10.00am** Welcome in church

**10.15-10.30** Procession

**10. 30-11.30** Mass with crowning of statue and veneration of relics

**11.30-12** Rosary for world peace

**12.10-1pm** Fatima film in hall

**1-2 pm** Packed lunch. Tea and coffee provided in hall.

**2- 2.30 pm** Fatima talk in hall.

**2.40-2.55pm** Investiture of Brown Scapular in church for those who wish to receive it.

**3- 3.50pm** Divine Mercy chaplet, Exposition, confessions

**3.50-4pm** Benediction and close.

**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 £705.86, CAFOD 35.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**FOOD BANK** Four green crates and one carrier bag of groceries plus cash donations amounting to £70 (£30, £30, £10) were delivered to St Mark's last Tuesday. Your generosity is much appreciated. 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 packets of cuppa-soup and packets of crisps would be appreciated. Thank you.**

**CAFOD - A Year of Encounter** With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. *A Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information, including an online session on 4 May to learn more.

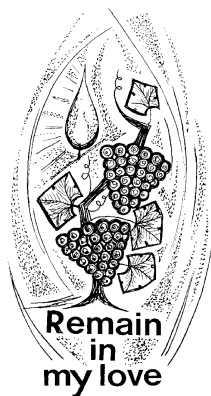
**FOOTSTEPS EVENT ON THURSDAY 2 MAY** The 2024 programme of inspiring talks on **Thursday 2 May at 7.30pm** when we'll welcome back a familiar face to Footsteps, **Anthony Delaney** from the Ivy Church in Didsbury. He suggests we consider **'The art of survival – how to get through whatever you have to go through.'** It's a message he has been speaking on in various settings including in the Middle East in recent months so it sounds like it will be very thought provoking. Anthony is a former police officer, now an ordained minister, an author, speaker and broadcaster – and a local chap too! We meet in the **parish centre of St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA** in an informal café-style setting with a large, free car park, a loop system, good disabled access and a warm welcome as we continue our Christian faith journey. See you there!

#### **JOB VACANCIES**

The Shrewsbury Diocese is seeking to recruit a Director of Schools and applications are now open. Details of the role and the application process can be found at

<https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/director-of-schools-birkenhead-2040730>

**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](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk)



**THE ST CHRISTOPHER CENTRE** Booking enquiries please to Ruth Craven: Tel 07423 682266 or email [ruthcraven@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](http://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.