



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

Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley

**52 Barrack Hill, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire. SK6 3BA
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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim

**SUNDAY 5th MAY 2024
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL: Please keep the children who are making their First Holy Communion at Mass this weekend in your prayers at this important stage in their faith journey. We also look forward to welcoming the children from St Christopher's Primary School to the morning Mass on Thursday to celebrate the feast of the Lord's Ascension into heaven. Ascension Thursday is a Holyday of Obligation and is celebrated 40 days after the Resurrection of Our Lord from the dead. The feast is a reminder to us of the hope that sustains us on our earthly journey as we look forward to entering the joy of our heavenly home.

I hope you and your families all enjoy the May bank holiday weekend and let's hope the weather is kind to us!

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 5th May – Sunday 12th May 2024

Sunday	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Saturday)	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Eilish Withers People of the Parish Christine Chappelow RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Alison Bates
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Shaun Pike RIP
Wednesday	Ferial	9.30am	Kitty Nulty RIP
Thursday	The Ascension of the Lord Holyday of Obligation	9.30am 7.00pm	Nathalie Whitehead – sick People of the Parish
Friday	Ferial	8.15am 12.00pm 2.00pm	In Harrytown Catholic HS Michelle O'Brien RIP Ryan Mason & Leah Gregory
Saturday	Ferial Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Personal Intention People of the Parish
Sunday	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am 11.00am	Roger Burns RIP George Fox 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, Amy Harris, Elizabeth Brown, Bridget Robertson, Valerie, Gahan, Marina Hernandez, Eamon Curran, 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 Pauline Metcalfe, James Ready, Cathleen Jones, Rt Rev Joseph Gray, Geoffrey Hooley, Madeline Brown, James Cahill, Frank Tipping, John Atherton, Audrey Nelson, William Walton, Barbara Herod, Jacqueline Murphy, Ronald Atherton, George Bouch, Agnes Sharkey, Patricia Woollam.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for Catherine Potterton 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

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 6th Sunday of Easter: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17.
Mass Preface: Easter 5, page 61, **Eucharistic Prayer: 3**, page 28.

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.

INTRICATELY WOVEN BY THE LORD There is an excellent summary of a pastoral reflection on Gender by the Bishops of England and Wales which is well worth reading in light of so much discussion and controversy surrounding this subject today. This important pastoral document is offered to accompany all Catholics, especially parents and families, seeking to guide their children and pass on the truth regarding the human person; to accompany those who struggle with their identity as male and female and to accompany fellow Christians, people of other religions and all people of good will, who often question the diverse and confusing views that are being put forward about the human person, gender and sex, in the educational, medical, legal and political fields.. Please go to:
<https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Intricately-Woven-by-the-Lord-Executive-Summary.pdf> If you would like to receive the full 10-page document electronically please let Fr Michael know by emailing stchris52@gmail.com

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 15th May 7pm-8pm. Email Natalie Orefice for the link to join:
Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Please see poster on parish website.

PARISH FINANCE UPDATE I have now received the latest parish Central Fund statement from the Diocese. The number 1 CF account = £913,549 & the number 2 CF account = £84,380. Money held in the Central Fund account belongs to and is for the use of the parish.

200 CLUB WINNERS FOR APRIL Mark Cannon, Christine Hodson, Vanessa Connolly, Bernie Shaw. Please collect winnings from the small sacristy. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who support the monthly draw. z

FOODBANK I have received a letter from the Stockport Foodbank stating that for the last financial year (6th April 2023 – 5th April 2024) cash donations of £12,830 were given by parishioners to the Foodbank. I wish to thank all those who so generously donate cash and food as well as household items, toiletries, etc week after week to support those in need in our community. *Fr Michael*

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 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 all the Masses this weekend for the appeal.**

ST CHRIS TOPHER 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

8th May Return of Lesley Walker with her engaging poetry.

VISIT OF FATIMA RELICS On Saturday 15th 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 £739.40, CAFOD £25.00, 200 Club subscriptions for the year £1,154. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOD BANK 5 Green crates of groceries, 3 carrier bags of groceries and 2 x 6 bottles milk packs plus cash donations amounting to £570 (£120, £120, £120, £100, £40, £30, £20, £10, £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.

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



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
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