



**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 22nd DECEMBER 2024
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS**

**BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON
AND HIS NAME WILL BE CALLED EMMANUEL.**

(Communion antiphon for 4th Sunday of Advent)

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 22nd December 2024 - Sunday 29th December 2024

Sunday	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Saturday)	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Eileen Murphy RIP Peter Mount RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Peter Taylor RIP
Tuesday	Christmas Eve Christmas Carols Family Mass Christmas Carols Night Mass	9.30am 5.30pm 6.00pm 8.30pm 9.00pm	Kathleen Holland Ints. Vera Espley RIP Mary Thornley RIP
Wednesday	Christmas Day The Nativity of the Lord	9.00am 11.00am	Fr Anthony Cogliolo RIP People of the Parish
Thursday	St Stephen, M	10.00am	Mary Keenan RIP
Friday	St John, Ap, Ev	10.00am	Margaret Fleet RIP
Saturday	The Holy Innocents Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	10.00am 6.00pm	Patrick Gannon RIP Powell & Bradshaw Families
Sunday	THE HOLY FAMILY	9.00am 11.00am	Liberato Raccio RIP People of the Parish

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

THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: 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,, 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, James Smart, Nathalie Whitehead, Florrie Robison, Margaret Wooliscroft, Joan Marshall, Glenis Keenan, Michael Walsh, Carole Roe. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Eleanor Giles, Sheila Greenwood, James Castle, Mary Harrop, Philip Smith, Eileen Murphy, John Molony, Mary Hinsley, Veronica Espley, Thomas Connolly, James Espley, Mary Hazel, Patrick Killeen, Derek Parker, Adam McCluskey (infant) Sarah Adshead, Yvonne McCarrick.

DIGITAL COLLECTION PLATE (CONTACTLESS) This is situated at the back of the church for parishioners who wish to use this method for their regular Offertory donations.

WELCOME TO DEACON ADAM BAMBER & KEVIN HOGAN I am very happy to welcome back Deacon Adam on his second placement with us in the parish. He was ordained to the diaconate at St. Mary's College, Oscott, on Saturday, 14th December, and will serve in the parish until his ordination as a priest next summer. As an ordained deacon, he can preach at Mass, conduct baptism, funeral, and wedding services, as well as being involved in other pastoral activities: visiting the sick and housebound, going into the schools, preparing children and families for the sacraments, etc.

Kevin will be with us for the month of January before returning to St Mary's College, Oscott. During his placement, he will also be involved at the Eucharistic Shrine at St. Joseph's Church in Stockport town centre.

Please keep both Adam and Kevin in your prayers that their time with us may prove enriching for them and for the parish as they gain pastoral experience on their journey towards priesthood in the Shrewsbury Diocese.

SUNDAY READINGS for Fourth Sunday of Advent C Micah 5:2-5; Hebrews10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45. **Mass Preface:** Advent 2, page 66; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 3, page 28.

CHRISTMAS MASSES	Christmas Eve 6.00pm (preceded by carols at 5.30pm
	9.00pm (preceded by carols at 8.30pm)
Christmas Day	9.00am
	11.00am

PLEASE NOTE that the weekday morning Masses following Christmas Day are at **10.00am**.

READERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES Please put your name on the list at the back of church if you would like to read at the Christmas Masses. Just one reader is needed for each Mass. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS Please note that the Crib offerings this Christmas will be to support the work of Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury with children, families and refugees. We are blessed to have our own Diocesan welfare agency working in different parts of the Diocese and it is worthy of our support. Thank you.

READERS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS rotas for Saturday 6.00pm Mass are now available from the rack in the small Sacristy .

SUNDAY COUNTERS rotas are now available from the rack in the small Sacristy.

PRAYER BOOKLETS New prayer booklets suitable for this time of the year are available free of charge at the back of the church. Some lovely ones for children, Please help yourself.

NEW SUNDAY MISSAL We now have the new Sunday missal in stock at the Piety stall priced at £20. The missal contains the three-yearly cycle of readings for Sunday Mass. There are also leaflets at the back of church which explain what the Lectionary is about and how it differs from the previous one. Please take a leaflet home with you.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS Twenty-five substantial Christmas food hampers have been distributed to several families in the parish as well as some in Brinnington. Surplus money left over from the Christmas Day lunches we had in previous years which amounted to £270.00 was supplemented to provide the hampers. Thanks to Jane Wright who shopped for the hampers and wrapped them so beautifully, as well as to the staff at St Christopher's RC Primary School & Harrytown Catholic High School for distributing them to the families.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD On behalf of the 124 needy children in Eastern Europe and Africa, many thanks to you for having been so generous. They will be delighted to have received much-needed hats, scarves, mittens, soap, a toothbrush, as well as toys, pens, paper and a little soft animal friend. These children are very poor and quite a number are homeless. They will never forget that you reached out to them in warmth and friendship

Throughout the year 162 bars of soap were donated while our intrepid knitters indulged in their passion and produced 169 warm hats, 34 scarves and 11 pairs of mittens. A very warm thank you to all of you for creating so much happiness. You have been wonderful!" *Karin Moore*

PIETY STALL We have our Christmas stock in. Packets of Christmas cards £2 each, Diaries £3.50 each, Calendars £1 each, Boxed Christmas cards £4 each.

THE MEMORY TREE is now on display at the back of the sanctuary. We fill this tree with messages for our loved ones gone but never forgotten and the tree will be Blessed on Christmas Eve. All donations will go to church.

CHRISTMAS FUN RUN Friday 27th December in Bollington

Join CAFOD for the annual Christmas Fun Run in Bollington! Wear your festive fancy dress and take on this joyful run to support communities around the world to lift themselves out of poverty. Adult, child and family entrance fees are available. Whether you walk, run or jog, every step makes a difference. We are also in need of volunteers to help out on the day. If you can spare a few hours, please contact events@cafod.org.uk or kkeen@cafod.org.uk for more information.

Use the QR code to register or find out more info on our website: www.cafod.org.uk/Bollington



PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £737.70; CAFOD £65.00. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS 6 green crates of groceries, 2 full carrier bags of mainly tins & 1 bag of children's toys were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £200 (£120, £40, £20, £10, £10). 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. **The Foodbank will be open as usual on Tuesday (Christmas Eve). Donations of tinned rice pudding, carrots, peas and sweetcorn would be welcomed. Thank you.**

STAMPS FOR THE RNIB There is a box in the church porch for used stamps for the RNIB.

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 & DEACON ADAM
WISH PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS TO THE
PARISH A HAPPY CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR
FILLED WITH MANY BLESSINGS**

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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