



OUR LADY AND ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley

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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim

SUNDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2025 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL We welcome back the staff and children of St Christopher's RC Primary and Harrytown Catholic High Schools following the half-term break. On Wednesday we have the first of the parents' meetings for the children who are making their First Holy Communion this year. Please pray for the parents and the children at this important stage in their faith journey.

Please see the detailed information below about the parish pilgrimage to Shrewsbury Cathedral for the Jubilee Holy Year with the opportunity to gain a plenary indulgence. The Cathedral is the Mother Church of the Diocese, and I hope there will be a good response to this from parishioners.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 23rd February 2025 - Sunday 2nd March 2025

Sunday	7 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME(Saturday)	6.00pm	Pat Isaacs RIP
		9.00am	Mary & John William Birch RIP
		11.00am	People of the Parish
Monday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am	
		9.30am	Adele & Tony McCluskey RIP
Tuesday	Ferial Adoration	6.30pm	
		7.30pm	Robert Mazzitelli RIP
Wednesday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am	
		9.30am	Theresa Kane RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	In Thanksgiving
Friday	Ferial	8.15am	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS
		12.00pm	Lynn Maguire RIP
Saturday	St David, B, Patron of Wales	9.30am	Maureen Sheridan RIP
	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	8 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00am	Frances Molesdale RIP
		11.00am	Eileen Kelly RIP

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, 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, Kathleen Holland, Carole Roe, Helen Ibbotson. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES George Bagshaw, Gerald Hearne, Walter Tompson, Victor Legierski, Kay Bruce, Baby Rose, Winifred Flynn, Charles Marsland, Ellen Greener, Olive Skeer, Maureen Jenkins, Arthur Catlow, Dorothy Cornelly, Sheila Davies, Carl Dunn, Reginald Potts.

Sunday Readings for the Seventh Sunday C: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49; Luke 6:27-38. **Mass Preface:** Sunday 4, page 69; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

FIRST SACRAMENTS 2025 PARENTS' MEETING in the St Christopher Centre on Wednesday 26th February from 7.00pm 8.15pm. The parents of the children at St Christopher's Catholic Primary School and at other schools are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting. The second meeting for parents will be on Wednesday 12th March.

EVERGREEN GROUP – WEDNESDAYS 1.30pm - 3.30pm

26th February NO MEETING

5th March A talk by Ben Alexander from Stockport Hydro

12th March 'My Vocation Story' by Deacon Adam

19th March Paper Gift Boxes with Anne Marie

26th March Board games/bowls

ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS The tax year 2024/25 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 (07768 527735) 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.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

Book the date in your diary: On **Saturday 5th April**, we are marking the Jubilee Year with a pilgrimage to the historic market town of Shrewsbury to visit our Cathedral, and for those who wish, to gain the plenary indulgence at Pope Francis' behest, according to the usual conditions. **All are invited**; those with families, young and old, bring a friend, tell your neighbours – all those under 18 **must** be accompanied by an adult.

The itinerary: Mass at 12:15pm followed by lunch in the Orchard Café about 1pm. At 2pm there will be a 40 min tour of the Cathedral and at 3pm there will be a liturgy specifically dedicated for us pilgrims. Prior to Mass there will be the opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession from 11am in the Cathedral.

The transport will be of **two** kinds: by **train** or by your own **car**. For those coming by **train** from Stockport. Parking can be found at the NCP next to the station (Exchange Station, 11 Railway Road, **SK1 3SW**) We will convene at platform one at 9:30am and leave Stockport at 9:40am, arriving in Shrewsbury for 10:46am followed by a short 15 min walk to the Orchard Café for a pit stop before Mass.

For those coming by car, the journey from the church is one hour and fifty minutes. Parking can be found at St Julian Friars (SY1 1XL) the ticket machine takes card payments. From the car park there is a short 5 min walk up Town Walls to the Cathedral Café to meet the group. **Think about car sharing too.**

Mass - Please let us know if you need a low gluten host. (The Mass does **not** fulfil the Sunday obligation. Mass will be as usual on Sunday morning at 9am, [10am Whaley Bridge], and 11am.)

Cost - The price of a train ticket is around £31.30 [without a railcard] and price of lunch (TBC).

LOURDES DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE Bookings for the 2025 Jubilee Pilgrimage to Lourdes are now open: by air from Friday 25 July to Thursday 31 July 2025 and by coach from Thursday 24 July to Friday 01 August 2025 The brochure and booking forms are available to download from the Pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk Fr Michael & Deacon Adam will be going this year.

LENTEN SOUP FRIDAYS Once again Soup will be served every Friday during Lent after the 12 o'clock Mass. There will also be an opportunity to purchase cakes and 'good as new' fancy goods. All proceeds in aid of CAFOD.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER at Romiley Methodist Church, Stockport Road, on Friday 7th March at 2.00pm. All welcome. Please see poster in the porch.

THE ANIMALS HAVE ARRIVED! A brief sale of beautifully carved wooden animals will take place after the Masses this weekend in aid of St Ann's Hospice, with cakes also on sale.

CHURCH CLEANING The upcoming cleaning dates are as follows: 12th March, and 16th April. A small, dedicated team of cleaners does a great job; however, additional assistance is always appreciated. Please consider joining the team. And it's only once a month!

MARRIAGE CARE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS Are you looking for some rewarding voluntary work? Marriage Care, a national charity, assists parishes to prepare couples for marriage. We are looking for help in presenting our one-day marriage preparation courses and/ or providing marriage preparation online. We aim to provide the best possible opportunity for couples to prepare for a lifelong, loving marriage. We focus on topics such as: exploring expectations; communication; conflict management; sacrament of marriage, vows and promises; nurturing the relationship. Would you be able to help? We are looking for both male and female volunteers. We provide training and ongoing support to equip you to work as part of a team. For further information, go to <https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/get-involved/> or contact John Worth, Centre co-ordinator, Stockport Marriage Care, on 0161 494 6428.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £764.91, CAFOD £25.00., Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS Three green crates and one shopping bag of groceries and other items were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £320 (£120, £100, £30, £20, £20, £20 £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 has enough crisps at the moment but individually wrapped chocolate biscuits would be welcomed. Thank you.**

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

JOB VACANCIES

1. A recruitment process for the Deputy Director of Schools is now underway, further details of which can be found via the link below:

[Deputy Director of Schools Advert](#)

If you would like further information or candidate pack and application form please contact Liam Dowds, our Emmaus Advising Consultant, on 01737 652 043 or email him at ldowds@emmausleadership.me

2. The governors of St James' Catholic High School, Cheadle Hulme, wish to appoint an outstanding, dynamic and highly motivated Lay Chaplain to begin in April 2025 or sooner. For more information please visit: <https://www.stjamescheadle.co.uk/jobs>

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 & St Christopher's is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, which is a registered charity – No. 234025.