



## 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 23<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2025 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL** There was a good response to the recent Family Fast Day collection and the Friday Lenten soup lunches are also being well supported. There has also been a good response so far to the appeal for unused foreign currency and UK coins and notes that are no longer legal tender. The cut-off date for this appeal is Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March so if there is any more currency you wish to donate it will be gratefully received by this date. The appeal, as you know, is to support the work of Mary's Meals which provides nutritious school meals to children in some of the poorest countries in the world. Mary's Meals will let us know the total amount raised in due course.

#### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 - Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT (Saturday)	6.00pm	Fr Michael Murray RIP
		9.00am	Tony Delaney RIP
		11.00am	People of the Parish
	<b>Stations of the Cross in church</b>	3.00pm	
Monday	Ferial - <b>Adoration &amp; Morning Prayer</b>	8.30am	
		9.30am	Roseane Rafferty RIP
Tuesday	<b>The Annunciation of the Lord</b>		
	<b>Adoration</b>	6.30pm	
		7.30pm	Seamus Duddy RIP
Wednesday	Ferial - <b>Adoration &amp; Morning Prayer</b>	8.30am	
		9.30am	Noel Maguire RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Ints. of Henry & Alicya
Friday	Ferial	8.15am	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS
		12.00pm	The Holy Souls
	<b>Funeral service</b>	1.00pm	Anne Mulhearn RIP
	<b>Stations of the Cross (online)</b>	7.00pm	
Saturday	Ferial	9.30am	Tom Ward RIP
	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	6.00pm	Teresa Palmer RIP
Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT	9.00am	Kathleen Lennon RIP
		11.00am	People of the Parish
	<b>Stations of the Cross in church</b>	3.00pm	

PARISH LIVE STREAM Please go to [www.churchservices.tv/romiley](http://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, Kath Bradley, Evlyn Richardson. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Joan Cooper, Eduarda Sancrabay, Winifred Thomas, Emma Gilleney, Jack Burke, Ernest Chappelow, Christina Storan, Mary Collinge, Francis Maher, Colin Sinclair, Jessie Norman, Gerard Hickey, Kathlen Tracey, Thoms Ball, Christina Kennelly, Dr Anne Clarke, Alice Bradshaw, Jean Hattie, Mark Sorrell.

**WE WELCOME INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH** Oliver Daniel Barrett who was baptised recently.

**Sunday Readings** for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent C: Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9. **Preface:** Lent 2, page 70. **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 24.

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

**26th March** Board games/bowls

**ROTAS FOR READERS & MINISTERS** for the 6.00pm Saturday Mass are available to collect from the rack in the small Sacristy.

**SUNDAY 9 O' CLOCK MASS READERS' NEW ROTA (6th APR 25-28th SEPT 25)**

The rota is now available on the parish website, from the rack in the small sacristy & at the back of church. For those who provided email addresses you should have received a copy, if you have not, please let me know ASAP.

New readers are very welcome at any time and if you have not read before, training is available. Please contact Anne Granby 0161 494 2711.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROTA FOR 11 AM MASS.** Please find copies of the new rota starting 30<sup>th</sup> March in the paper rack in the small sacristy.

**PIETY STALL** We now have more stock of the new Sunday Missals priced £20 each. We also have packets of Easter cards for £3 and a variety of items for first holy communion. The piety stall will be open this weekend, please have a browse.

**THE GOVERNING BOARD** of Harrytown Catholic High School has vacancies for Foundation Governors, who must be practising Catholics. If you would like to find out more, please ring Philippa Bonorino on 0161 430 6750.

**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.

**200 CLUB 2025-2026** The last draw for the current year's 200 Club will take place on the weekend of 29th March. For the following 12 months, we will be raising money through the 200 Club for Mary's Meals. We look forward to your support for this very worthy charity. At the back of church, there is information about their work which feeds hungry children in some of the world's poorest countries. More details about how you can buy numbers for the coming year's draws will be available before the end of this month.

**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](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk) Fr Michael & Deacon Adam will be going.

**LENTEN SOUP LUNCH** on Friday 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.

**THANK YOU** "I would like to express my gratitude for all the prayers, cards, and well wishes I have received during my illness." *Christine Hamilton.*

**DIVINE MERCY & ST MICHAEL RETREAT** at the Carmelite Monastery, Grosvenor Place, Birkenhead, Prenton, CH43 1UA, on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May from 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm. Talks on The Miracle of Mary & St Michael the Archangel, the great warrior of Heaven plus veneration of the 1<sup>st</sup> class relic of St Faustina and blessing of scapular of St Michael and anointing with St Michael's oil.

**MARYS MEALS** Why not donate your leftover foreign currency to help feed hungry children with Mary's Meals? Simply take an envelope from the back of church, fill it with your leftover foreign currency and then place it in the container at the back of church and we will arrange for it to be returned to Mary's Meals. **You can also add coins and notes that are no longer legal tender.** Participating in this will help provide nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. " *Mary's Meals is a series of lots of little acts of love. If you put all those acts of sacrifice together, it creates a beautiful thing.*" Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, Founder of Mary's Meals. [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk) Thank you.

**ST JOSEPH'S EUCHARISTIC SHRINE** is hosting Family Faith and Fun Days, starting 23<sup>rd</sup> March. The days will start at 1.30pm, followed by adult and children faith study plus fun activities for the children, adults can join in, the day will end at 4pm after Guided Eucharistic Adoration. All are welcome. Fr Sean and all at St Joseph's look forward to meeting you. For more information, please contact Fr Sean via email [stockportshrine@gmail.com](mailto:stockportshrine@gmail.com)

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection £848.94, CAFOD Family Fast Day collection £321.80. Thank you for your generosity.

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS** Four green crates of various groceries and one carrier bags of tinned basics were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £350 (£120, £100, £60, £30, £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. **Donations of tinned rice pudding & multipack crisp would be welcomed. Thank you.**

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

**NEW STATIONS OF THE CROSS & BOOK LAUNCH** On March 28<sup>th</sup> at our Lady & the Apostles Church in Stockport (SK3 8BQ), the Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm will use a new set of reflections by local author Brenda Ackroyd: "Jesus Speaks on the Way of the Cross." Afterwards in the parish centre there will be a book launch and sale of the Stations as well as Brenda's other books (one of stories and one of poems on religious themes) along with tea, coffee and a chat. All welcome. Proceeds from the evening will be donated to Fr Martin's Outreach Project.

**FOOTSTEPS ON 3 APRIL – DON'T MISS IT!** The next event in the Footsteps programme of helpful talks will be on **Thursday 3 April at 7.30pm** in the **parish centre of St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA** when we'll have the privilege of hearing again the **Bishop of Stockport, +Sam Corley**. He's called his talk "**God's big picture**" and in his own inimitable style, he'll be taking us on a whirlwind tour of the entire Bible, helping us to meet some of its key characters and to understand the significance of key events. As he

walks us through the story, he promises to help us understand how the stories of old are actually the stories we and the world find ourselves in – now and in the future.

**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)  
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