

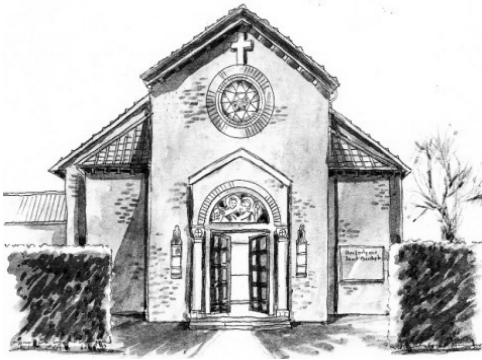
**OUR LADY AND ST. CHRISTOPHER'S  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

***Serving Romiley, Bredbury, and Woodley***

**52 Barrack Hill, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire. SK6 3BA  
Tel: 0161-430 2704**

**www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk  
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**PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG  
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim**



**SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025  
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL** The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday and is a short season in the Church's year during which we are called to repentance – to turn again to the Lord who is rich in mercy and ready to forgive and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the Paschal Mystery when Christ suffered and died on the Cross to take away our sins and rose again to bring us new life and fill us with Easter joy. Today's Gospel about the temptation of Christ in the desert should encourage and strengthen us in our own daily struggle to follow him faithfully. It was wonderful to see such good attendances in church at both Masses on Ash Wednesday.

Please remember in your prayers the children of our parish who are due to celebrate First Forgiveness on Saturday. The First Holy Communion Mass will be celebrated in May.

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025 - Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Sunday	<b>1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</b> (Saturday)	<b>6.00pm</b>	Russell Lawrence
		<b>9.00am</b>	Robert Mazzitelli RIP
		<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>3.00pm</b>	
<b>Stations of the Cross in church</b>			
Monday	Ferial - <b>Adoration &amp; Morning Prayer</b>	8.30am	
		9.30am	George Hughes RIP
Tuesday	Ferial - <b>Adoration</b>	6.30pm	
		7.30pm	Seamus Duddy RIP
Wednesday	Ferial - <b>Adoration &amp; Morning Prayer</b>	8.30am	
		9.30am	Brenda Rainbow RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	John William Birch & Trevor Baldwin RIP
Friday	Ferial <b>Family Fast Day</b> <b>Stations of the Cross (online)</b>	8.15am	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS
		12.00pm	Mary Gahan RIP
		<b>7.00pm</b>	
Saturday	Ferial Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am	SSCF
		<b>6.00pm</b>	Kieran Maloney RIP
Sunday	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>11.00am</b>	Welfare of Henry Synomi
		<b>3.00pm</b>	
<b>Stations of the Cross in church</b>			

**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. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Muriel Kirkham, Harry Foster, Eileen Mitten, Edward Maycock, Robet McDowell, Kathleen Thompson, Tony Simms, Sarah Nolan, Elsie McHugh, Annie Holden, Catherine Hearne, Celia McGlone, Brian Rogers.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please pray for Josephine Mulryan who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for her family at this time.

**Sunday Readings** for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent C: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13. **Mass Preface:** Lent 1, page 70; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 3, page 28.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS 2025 PARENTS' MEETING** in the St Christopher Centre on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 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.

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

**12th March** 'My Vocation Story' by Deacon Adam

**19th March** Paper Gift Boxes with Anne Marie

**26th March** Board games/bowls

**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.

**MISSIO** Would all MISSIO Red Box holders please collect their MISSIO magazine from the back of the church this weekend. *Thank you. J & B Edwards.*

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR**

Book the date in your diary: On **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 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. 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.** **Cost** - The price of a train ticket is around £31.30 [without a railcard].

**\*\* If you are going, please make sure to put your name, telephone number, mode of transport and whether you will be having lunch in the cathedral café (£13 pp), on the list at the back of the church. Thank you.**

**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.

**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.

**MISSIO** The National Novena to St Joseph will take place from 10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. This is a novena (nine) of Masses and prayers to support the work of MISSIO and for the intentions of all those who support the work. The Masses are at 10.00am every day (11.00am on Sunday) and are available to follow on Zoom, via the Mill Hill website: [www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena](http://www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena)

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection £655.60, CAFOD £35.00; standing orders and faster payments for February £3,004.00; contactless card donations for February £725.00. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS** Four green crates of various groceries and three carrier bags of (heavy) tinned basics were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £250 (£120, £30, £20, £20, £20, £10, £10, £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 and tinned fruit desserts would be welcomed.** Thank you.

**CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day Collection** Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

You can also use this QR code to go straight to CAFOD'S virtual envelope where you can make your donation.



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

**JOB VACANCY** Parish Secretary required at the parishes of St Vincent's, Knutsford and St Winefride, Lymm (Based at St Vincent's). Hours: 12 per week. Rate of pay: £13 per hour. More details can be found via the Diocesan website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> CV's with a covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch [recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Closing date: Monday 31 March 2025.

**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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