



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 6th APRIL 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL There is a Joint Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, along with all the Bishops of England and Wales, regarding The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill which will be read at all Masses this weekend. The urgency of this matter cannot be overstated, as we now have less than four weeks to oppose medically assisted suicide. I will be writing to the local MP once again about this crucial issue, and I strongly encourage parishioners to do the same.

Cards are available at the back of church for this purpose. Previously, there was a good response from parishioners before the Bill's second reading in Parliament, and I hope there will be a similar response this time around. Let us also keep this matter at the forefront of our prayers.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 6th April 2025 - Sunday 13th April 2025

Sunday	5 th SUNDAY OF LENT (Saturday)	6.00pm	Anthony Gordon RIP
		9.00am	The Goto Family
		11.00am	People of the Parish
	Stations of the Cross in church	3.00pm	
Monday	Ferial - Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am	Ints. of Kidist Tesfay Gide
		9.30am	
Tuesday	Ferial	9.30am	Robert Mazzitelli RIP
	Passion Play (St Christopher's Primary School)	7.00pm	
Wednesday	Ferial - Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am	
		9.30am	Thomas Ryan RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Carole Hogan RIP
Friday	St Stanislaus, B, M	8.15am	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS
		12.00pm	Jeanette Baxter RIP
	Stations of the Cross (online)	7.00pm	
Saturday	Ferial	9.30am	Deceased of Murray Family
	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	6.00pm	Kieran Maloney RIP
Sunday	PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD	9.00am	People of the Parish
		11.00am	Geoffrey Hooley RIP
	Stations of the Cross in church	3.00pm	

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, Kath Bradley, Evlyn Richardson. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Elizabeth Claffey, Edith Marshall, Alice Smethurst, Brian Kane, Margaret Chatterton, Paul Murphy, James Hazel, Rita Pigram, Alice Meynell, Mary Brighthouse, AnnMarie Jackson, Mattie Lynch,

Sunday Readings for the 5th Sunday of Lent C: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11. **Preface:** Lent 2, page 70. **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

PLEASE NOTE the change of Mass time on Tuesday. Mass is at 9.30am as the children from St Christopher's RC Primary School will be performing the Passion Play at 7.00pm in church which parishioners are welcome to attend.

MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL Following the recent devastating earthquake in that country, there will be a retiring collection at all Masses next weekend to support families affected by the disaster. Please see the notice below for other options to support the appeal.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES New boxes of envelopes are now available for collection at the back of the church. They are arranged in alphabetical order. If you cannot locate your box with your name on it, please take one of the spare boxes instead. Thank you.

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE This Mass is for couples celebrating a significant anniversary this year and those who are newly married. The Mass will be celebrated at Holy Angels Church, Hale Barns, on Saturday 21st June at 12 noon. It will be followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Couples intending to come to the Mass should let Fr Michael have their names, address and details of the particular anniversary they are celebrating, so they can receive a personal invitation from the Bishop.

A HUGE THANK-YOU to the 52 parishioners who helped with preparations, working with the children or with prayers on the days for the Easter Experience event in church last week. It was a busy two days, but the children enjoyed hearing the Easter Story and doing the activities.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD I want to inform you that I will carry on with the annual OCC boxes so you can all start collecting toys, cuddly toys, pens, paper, as well as soap and toothbrushes. More knitters are required for hats, scarves and mittens. There is wool in the box at the back of church and you can ring me on 0161 494 9104. Thank you for all you do to make poor children happy at Christmas. Karin Moore.

EVERGREEN GROUP – WEDNESDAYS 1.30pm - 3.30pm

9th April Come and make an Easter card

16th April 'Riddles or Quiz!'

23rd April NO MEETING - Easter break

30th April NO MEETING - Easter break

READERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS' ROTAS The rota's for Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for all weekend Masses for the period April to June are now available through the links on the home page of the website: www.ourladyandstchristophersromiley.org.uk

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.

200 CLUB The last draw for 2024-25 has now taken place. From April we are running the 200 Club to raise money for Mary's Meals. This charity serves school meals to children living in some of the poorest countries in the world. There is more information about this at the back of church. There are 200 Club membership application forms at the back of church. The cost is £12 per number for 12 draws, £6 of which will be donated to the charity and £6 will go into the prize pot. The more numbers sold, the more we can donate to this very worthy cause. Please return forms and monies (details on the form) before Tuesday 22nd April to be entered for the first draw on the weekend of 26th April.

If you want to keep your lucky numbers from this year, please indicate this on your form and we will do our best to allow this.

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.

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.

CAFOD MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal in church or you can donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

SUPPORTING THE VOCATION TO MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

Calling all those interested in supporting the vocation of marriage and family to join Jane Deegan Director of Marriage and Family Life Vocation for a retreat day to find out more about this important work and the various different ways you can help.

When: 7th June 2025 9.30am-4.00pm

Where: Parish Hall, Holy Angels Church, Wicker Lane, Hale Barnes WA15 0HG

To Register and for More Information please contact:

Monika at monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07549226794 or Jane at jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435.

VISIT OF RELICS OF ST COLUMBA, ST ANDREW & ST MARGARET to St Anne's RC Church, Highfield Road, Rock Ferry, Wirral, CH42 2BY, from Friday 25th – Sunday 27th April. Please see poster on the parish website for further details.

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 Thank you.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £799.90, CAFOD £65.00, contactless card donations for March £977.00. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS Four crates of general groceries and one carrier bag of tinned food were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £280.00 (£120, £100, £30, £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. **Donations of tinned peas, sweetcorn, carrots – or tomatoes 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



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.