



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
e-mail: stchris52@gmail.com

PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG
ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim

SUNDAY 18th MAY 2025 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL This week, we celebrate the feast of the dedication of the cathedral in Shrewsbury, the mother church of our diocese. It is a sign of our unity with the Bishop and a reminder that we are all part of the Church - the living body of Christ on earth - and the place where he dwells. We also celebrate the feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, the principal patron of our diocese, who guides and supports us through her prayers and example on our earthly pilgrimage.

Below, you will find details of Deacon Adam's priestly ordination at the cathedral on Saturday, 5th July, along with information on travel arrangements to enable parishioners to attend. I sincerely hope that a good number of parishioners will be able to join in this joyful occasion, to support him through their presence and prayers. The Ordination Mass will also be live streamed – details below.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 18th May 2025 – Sunday 25th May 2025

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| Sunday | Evening Mass of the following Sunday (Saturday) FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am | Christine Chappelow RIP People of the Parish Maurice & Glenis Keenan 55 th Wedding Anniversary |
| Monday | St Milburga, Ab, V Adoration & Morning Prayer | 8.30am 9.30am | In Thanksgiving for Baby Rose Florence |
| Tuesday | Ferial Adoration Day of Prayer for the Survivors of Sexual Abuse | 6.30pm 7.30pm | Mary Marsden RIP |
| Wednesday | The Dedication of the Cathedral Adoration & Morning Prayer | 8.30am 9.30am | Moira & Wilf Duddy RIP |
| Thursday | Ferial | 9.30am | Ints. of Richard & Lucy Saunders |
| Friday | Ferial | 8.15am 12.00pm | Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS Lloyd Hayes RIP |
| Saturday | Our Lady Help of Christians Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) | 9.30am 6.00pm | Timothy Ganley RIP |
| Sunday | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 9.00am 11.00am | People of the Parish James Singleton 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, Kath Bradley, Evleyn Richardson, Grace Watts. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Frank O'Malley, Albert Docx, Patrick Smith, Margaret Rowcroft, Susannah Mulligan, Gerard Caffrey, Olesha Bushdyhan, Patricia Furness, Bernard Miller, Peter Mulligan, James McDonnell.

Sunday Readings for 5th Sunday of Easter C: Acts 14:21b-27; Apocalypse 21:1-5a; John 13:31-33a, 34-35.
Preface: Easter 5, page 75; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

CONGRATULATIONS to the 31 children who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday. We pray that they will grow in their friendship with Jesus by receiving Him frequently in the Eucharist.

A heartfelt thank you to the staff at St Christopher's RC Primary School for preparing the children, to Deacon Adam for preparing those from other schools, and to the catechists for organizing the parents' meetings to help them support their children, not forgetting the ladies who kindly saw to the refreshments. Special thanks also to those who arranged the Communion Breakfast in the Parish Centre afterwards.

REV DEACON ADAM BAMBER Adam has received the date for his ordination to the priesthood, which will take place on **Saturday, 5th July, at 12:00 pm at Shrewsbury Cathedral**. The Ordination Mass is always a moving and prayerful celebration, and a coach has been booked for parishioners who wish to travel to Shrewsbury for the occasion.

If you are interested in going, please collect an orange form from the back of the church, which contains full booking details. Completed booking forms should be returned in the brown envelope provided as soon as possible so we can gauge the numbers.

The cost of the coach has been subsidised, making it £10 for adults and £5 for children under 12. The departure time for Shrewsbury is 9:00 am, with the return journey scheduled between 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm.

The Ordination Mass will also be live streamed from the cathedral. Please go to:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral/embed>

200 CLUB FOR MARY'S MEALS You can still buy numbers for £11 until the weekend of 24th May. The next draw will be on the 31st May. Thank you.

DEFIBRILLATOR FUNDRAISING Kathleen Walker is hosting a coffee morning and raffle at 10.30am on Thursday 22nd May at 16 St David's Ave Romiley SK6 3JT. All are welcome. There will be further fundraising events for this project over the coming months.

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.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE 2025 Tuesday 20th May 2025 is the Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse. It is an opportunity to reflect on the impact of abuse on individuals, their families and friends, and the communities of which they are part. The Prayer for 2025 can be found here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-of-prayer-for-survivors-of-abuse/>

EVERGREEN GROUP – WEDNESDAYS 1.30pm - 3.30pm

21st May Sit Down Exercises

28th May Film 'The Rochdale Pioneers'

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection: £659.66. CAFOD: £40.00. Standing orders and faster payments for April: £2,654.00. Contactless card donations for April: £725.50. Thank you for your great generosity to the parish.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE INITIATIVES A Retreat Day has been organised with the title 'Why Get Married' on Saturday 28th of June 2025 at Our Lady and the Apostles, Stockport. The retreat is aimed at anyone wondering about the marriage vocation, including young adults who may be dating but not living together, cohabitees and those who are unmarried and seeking baptism for their child.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS Three crates of groceries and two full carrier bags of groceries were donated to the foodbank last week along with cash donations amounting to £300 (£120, £50, £40, £30, £20, £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 rice pudding, tinned tomatoes & carrots as well as Crisp multipacks would be welcomed. Thank you.**

ST JOSEPH'S STOCKPORT FAMILY FAITH & FUN DAYS Our next event is on Sunday 18th May, as it is the month of May our theme will be The Rosary and the message of Our Lady of Fatima.

Our afternoon starts at 1.30pm - please bring a packed lunch, tea/coffee and juice will be provided.

At 2.00pm we will be showing a short film about the children of Fatima, the film is aimed at children, however adults are welcome to watch also, this will be followed by Eucharistic Adoration, the day will finish with Fun for children, adults too if they wish, and faith study. Please do come along and join in, all are very welcome. If you would like to know more, please contact Fr Sean via email at stockportshrine@gmail.com

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

JOB VACANCIES Castlerigg Manor is a Catholic retreat Centre in the Lake District run by the Diocese of Lancaster Youth Service. They are looking for a Programme Leader to help look after the residential team of young interns and to lead programmes both at Castlerigg and occasionally around the area. Competitive salary, as well as accommodation and food provided. Anyone interested can contact jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

RETRouvaille MARRIAGE MINISTRY Alone or bored in your marriage? Considering separation or are already divorced? If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get back on track. Call to find out more

www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

Retrouvaille is a marriage ministry, run by Catholics, to support marriages in trouble.

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
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