



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 14th DECEMBER 2025 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL

The third Sunday of Advent, referred to as Gaudete Sunday, is a day for expressing joy and celebration. The term "Gaudete" comes from the Latin and signifies "to rejoice." This highlights the sense of anticipation and happiness associated with the forthcoming celebration of Christ's birth.

As part of our preparation for Christmas there will be the opportunity to make a good confession on Tuesday during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6.30pm – 7.15pm. You are welcome to avail of this opportunity which reminds us that the Lord's mercy and forgiveness is always available to us in this wonderful sacrament that he has given to his Church.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 14th December 2025 – Sunday 21st December 2025

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Banikos Yiatrou RIP Liberato Raccio RIP People of the Parish
Monday	Ferial - Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Pat Owen RIP
Tuesday	Ferial - Adoration + Sacrament of Reconciliation For Advent	6.30pm 7.30pm	Edith Dove RIP
Wednesday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Deceased relatives and friends of the Hayes Family
Thursday	Ferial Requiem Mass	9.30am 12.00pm	Mary & Malcom Berry RIP John Cunningham RIP
Friday	Ferial	8.15am 12.00pm	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS John Cunningham RIP
Saturday	Ferial Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Maureen Sheridan RIP Bill Yates RIP
Sunday	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Natalie Whitehead 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, Mary Sainsbury, Rita Stevens, Margaret Maycock, Sr Margaret Mary Foley, James Smart, Margaret Wooliscroft, Joan Marshall, Glenis Keenan, Michael Walsh, Kathleen Holland, Kath Bradley, Evleyn Richardson, Grace Watts, Beryl Edwards. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES James O'Donnell, Gabrielle Chapman, Glendora Martin, Mary Hayward, Eric Shashoura, Albert Worth, Elizabeht Harrison, Kathleen McNamee, John Harrison, Francis Marshall, Margaret Gladwin, Elizabeth Pickford, Elizabeth Nolan, Bernard McDowell, Edward McHugh, Peter Gladwin, Catherine Booth, Mary Parker, Veronica Mannion, Liberato Raccio, Margaret Bennett, May McKeown, Elsie Laidlaw, Harry Leigh, Edith Grieves.

DIGITAL COLLECTION PLATE (CONTACTLESS) This is situated at the back of the church for parishioners who wish to use this method for their regular Offertory donations.

SUNDAY READINGS 3rd Sunday of Advent A: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew: 11:2-11. **Preface:** Advent 1, page 65. **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

WE WELCOME INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH Karlos Gene De Jesus who was baptised recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN ADVENT There will be the opportunity to celebrate this wonderful sacrament as part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas during Adoration on Tuesday 16th December from 6.30pm – 7.15pm. The usual 7.30pm Mass will then follow.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES Please collect the green sheet with the Mass times – on the table at the back of church. Thank you.

200 CLUB WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER Kathleen Walker, Sheila Hayes, Eva McLoughlin, Pauline Wilson. Congratulations to our winners and thanks to all who support the work of Marys's Meals through participating in the monthly draw.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE OF KEVIN HOGAN Kevin's ordination as deacon will take place in the chapel at St Mary's College, Oscott, on Saturday 20th December at 11.00am. Fr Michael will be attending this joyous occasion and is happy to say that Kevin will exercise his new ministry at the Christmas Masses in our parish this year. Let us keep him in our prayers as he now prepares for this next step on the journey towards priestly ordination in the summer of next year. The Ordination Mass will be livestreamed – please go to: <https://camstreamer.com/redirect/xaAPSOMEPHCdKrc8dbxenPatJUfl7eLWNGvZFk5d>

CONGRATULATIONS to Tomás Miller, currently on parish placement from St Mary's College, Oscott, on being granted his BA in Fundamental Catholic Theology from the University of Birmingham last week.

ROTA COLLECTION

1. Rotas for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers are available for collection from the rack in the small Sacristy.
2. Rotas for Counters may also be collected from the rack in the small Sacristy.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP The next meeting will take place on Thursday 18 December from 10:00am until 11.30am in the St Christopher Centre. The group is for anyone who has experienced a bereavement and is an opportunity to share your feelings, however if you don't want to chat you are welcome to come along just for the tea and coffee! This is not a counselling service but is a space to get support from others who have experienced bereavement. For more information, please contact Susan Carr on 07543 408551.

VARIVOCALS CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING Tuesday 16 December at 10.45am in the St Christopher Centre. Join us for a coffee (or tea) and mince pies and listen as VariVocals sing a selection of Christmas favourites. There will also be a raffle, and admission is by donation. Thank you.

Diocesan Yearbook 2026 Copies of the Diocesan Yearbook for 2026 are now available for purchase. This year is particularly significant as it marks the 175th anniversary of the Shrewsbury Diocese. The yearbook serves as a valuable resource, offering a wealth of information about our Diocese. Inside, you will find details about its history, the various parishes, schools, and diocesan organisations. It also includes clergy obituaries and other important information relevant to our Diocese. Each copy is priced at £5.00; money may be placed in the newspaper wall box located at the back of the church, or you may use the contactless card machine if you prefer.

FREE PRAYER BOOKLETS Please help yourself to the booklets on Christmas and other themes which are on the table at the back of the church.

THE MEMORY TREE This will be filled with messages for our loved ones gone but never forgotten. Please write the names of those you wish to be remembered on the memory hearts at the back of church – these will be placed on the tree which will be blessed on Christmas Eve. All donations go to the church. Thank you.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD This year a wonderful 104 boxes filled with lovely presents were sent to Moldova which lies between Romania and Ukraine. Poor Moldovan children plus Ukrainian refugee children were delighted to receive all their presents. Many thanks to you all for your great generosity. You created so much happiness. Also, many thanks for the many hats and bars of soap. These children will always remember your gesture of love to them. Thank you. *Karin Moore*.

CONFIRMATION 2026 Young people in Years 9 & 10 who are eligible for Confirmation should let Fr Michael know of their interest as soon as possible. The dates of the preparation meetings are: **14th, 21st, 28th January and 4th, 11th & 25th February. The meetings will take place in the St Christopher Centre between 4.00pm – 5.00pm.** The Confirmation Mass celebrated by the Bishop is on Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 7.00pm.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR PATIENTS IN STEPPING HILL HOSPITAL If you know of someone in hospital who might like to receive Holy Communion, or simply a visit from a chaplain, please contact the hospital chaplaincy on 0161 419 5889. Several people from our parish take Holy Communion regularly to patients.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection: £621.47; CAFOD £35.00; standing orders and faster payments for November £2,499.00; contactless card donations for November £906.00. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

FOODBANK DONATIONS Last week, four trays and three carrier bags of donations were delivered to St Mark's plus cash donations for two weeks amounting to £560.00 (£150, £120, £120, £30, £30, £20, £20, £20, £20, £10, £10, £10). Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The church is open for donations on **Sundays and Mondays from 2.00pm - 4.00pm.** Cash donations marked "Food Bank" may be posted through the presbytery letterbox. **Donations of jam and small tins of ham 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 and St Christopher's is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, and a registered charity (No. 234025).