

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



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

**52 Barrack Hill, Romiley, Stockport, Cheshire. SK6 3BA**

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PARISH PRIEST: Canon Michael Gannon VG

ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr Humphrey Agbim

**SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL**

Congratulations to the 22 young people and 3 adults who were confirmed by the Bishop during his visit to the parish last Tuesday, the first Confirmation Mass in the Diocese this year. It was a beautiful and moving celebration, and we pray that those who were confirmed will give joyful witness to the faith in their lives. Please also remember in your prayers the children from St Christopher's RC Primary School who will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance for the first time on Saturday.

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	<b>6.00pm</b>	Eddie & Philip Palmer RIP
	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>11.00am</b>	Kidist Tesfay & Friends
	Stations of the Cross	<b>3.00pm</b>	
Monday	Ferial - Adoration and Morning Prayer	8.30am	
		9.30am	Sheila Hayes RIP
	<b>Funeral Service</b>	12.15pm	Michael Walsh RIP
Tuesday	Ferial		
	Adoration	6.30pm 7.30pm	Welfare of MJ
Wednesday	Ferial		
	Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Stella Walker RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Baby Paul Murphy
Friday	Feria	8.15am	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS
		12.00pm	Pat Sellers RIP
	Stations of the Cross	7.00pm	
Saturday	Ferial	9.30am	
	Evening Mass of the following Sunday	<b>6.00pm</b>	Elsie McHugh RIP
Sunday	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	Brian Rogers RIP
		<b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish
	Stations of the Cross	<b>3.00pm</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, 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, Christine Fox. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please pray for Stella Walker who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for Stella's husband, Frank, and the family at this time.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Harriet Powell, Muriel Kirkham, Harry Foster, Edward Maycock, Eileen Mitten, Robert McDowell, Kathleen Thompson, Tony Simms, Sarah Nolan, Elsie McHugh.

**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** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent A: Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2; John 4:5-42. **Preface:** The Samaritan Woman, page 72. **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

**PARISH IT SYSTEM UPDATE** The internet has now been reconnected, and we have been given a new temporary parish phone number, which you may wish to note. The number is **0161 222 9518**. We expect the original parish phone number to be restored in a few weeks' time.

The live stream and the Dona contactless card reader for donations are also up and running again.

**CHURCH REFURBISHMENT UPDATE** Last week, an electrical engineer came to assess the church's lighting and will now prepare a plan for its upgrade.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS 2026** Next Saturday we welcome the year 3 children from St Christopher's RC Primary School to celebrate their First Forgiveness (Confession). Please remember the children and their families in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate this wonderful sacrament of God's mercy and forgiveness. The children's parents and other adults present will also be offered the opportunity to celebrate the sacrament.

**CHRISM MASS – Shrewsbury Cathedral Wednesday 1st April 2026 at 12 noon** I have been asked to nominate two parishioners to attend this year's Chrism Mass at Shrewsbury Cathedral. Attendance is by ticket only.

Rather than selecting individuals myself, I invite anyone who would like to attend to submit their name to me by tomorrow, Monday 9th March. The first two names I receive will be forwarded to the Bishop's PA so that invitations can be issued.

This year's Chrism Mass will also mark the 175th anniversary of the founding of the Shrewsbury Diocese (1850 – 2025).

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR LENT** You are welcome to join us in church for this traditional Catholic devotion on Sundays at 3.00pm and Fridays at 7.00pm. The Stations last for approximately thirty minutes and invite us to unite ourselves spiritually with Our Lord's sorrowful journey to Calvary.

**EVERGREEN GROUP – St Christopher Centre, Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.30pm**

11th March Sit down exercises

18th March Board Games

25th March Film 'Waking Ned'

Easter Break Return 15th April

**ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS** The tax year 2025/26 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.

**SUNDAY 9 O' CLOCK MASS READERS NEW ROTA (APRIL - SEPTEMBER)**

(Please note this begins on Palm Sunday, which is still in March.

The rota is now available on the website and displayed on the notice boards by the 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. Requested paper copies are now available for pickup in the sacristy.

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.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS 2026** The next meeting for children in Year 3 who do not attend Catholic schools but are eligible to receive First Sacraments later this year, is on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March from 10.30am - 11.30am.

**THE LENTEN SOUP LUNCHEs** run by the Ladies' Guild continue on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 12:30 pm after the midday Mass and for the following three Fridays of Lent. So far £475.64 has been raised for MISSIO. Donations of cake are also required for the cake stall. Thank you.

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection: £802.80. CAFOD Family Fast retiring collection £687.40. Thank you for your generosity and support.

**FOODBANK DONATIONS** Last week, four very full trays of food were delivered to St Mark's, plus cash donations amounting to £300 (£120, £100, £30, £30, £10, £10). Thank you for your generosity. 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 multipack crisps, packets of instant noodles and tins of rice pudding would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.**

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

**JOIN US AT FOOTSTEPS ON THURSDAY 19 MARCH AT 7.30pm**

We welcome **Mary Hardiman** to share her thoughts on "**The Cross before the Crown**" - a presentation where she will be asking whether we are Good Friday people or Easter Sunday people. Mary is a counsellor, teacher, author and local lady, who is a speaker par excellence.

All are welcome to come to our informal, friendly event in a café-style setting in the parish centre of **St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA**.

**JOB VACANCIES** Harrytown Catholic High School currently has vacancies for a Lay Chaplain, a Subject Leader for MFL, a Teacher of MFL, a Learning Mentor and Exam Invigilators. Please visit the school website for more details – [www.harrytownschool.org](http://www.harrytownschool.org)

**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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