

**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 26th APRIL 2026
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL This Sunday marks a special day dedicated to praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The Gospel portrays Jesus as the Good Shepherd, caring for and guiding his flock - one of the most tender images we find in the Gospels. Today, please pray for more men and women to respond to the Lord's call and serve in the priesthood and religious life. It's encouraging to know that 12 men are currently training for the priesthood in the Shrewsbury Diocese, including Deacon Kevin Hogan, whose ordination to the priesthood take place later this year.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 26th April 2026 – Sunday 3rd May 2026

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Michael Walsh RIP Pat Owen RIP
Monday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Christine Fox RIP
Tuesday	Ferial Adoration	6.30pm 7.30pm	Christine Chappelow RIP
Wednesday	St Catherine of Siena, V, D Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Sheila Hayes RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	George Thornley RIP
Friday	St Joseph the Worker Funeral service	8.15am 12.00pm 1.00pm	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS Angela McLoughlin RIP Dorothy (Dot) Hall RIP
Saturday	St Athanasius, B, D Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Deceased Benefactors of the Parish Banicos Yiatrou RIP
Sunday	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Lesley Anderson - sick

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, Mary Sainsbury, Rita Stevens, Margaret Maycock, Sr Margaret Mary Foley, James Smart, Margaret Wooliscroft, Joan Marshall, Glenis Keenan, Kathleen Holland, Kath Bradley, Evleyn Richardson, Beryl Edwards, David Robison, Frank Rose. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES John Gavan, Tom McDonald, Colin Moore, Sarah Flaherty, Robert (Bob) Standing, Jane James, Norman Timony, Ida Mary Ready, Hubert Holland, Joseph Carty, Christine Chappelow, John Lennon, James Storan, Clifford Bradshaw, George Owen, Lillian Owen, John William Birch, Lillian Chapmann, Maureen Smith, George Harney, Sheila Crowley, Paul Scholfield, catherine Gaskell, Catherine Higgins.

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 4th Sunday of Easter A: Acts 2:14, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10. **Preface:** Easter 4, page 74. **Eucharistic Prayer:** 3, page 28.

FR MICHAEL is having a short post-Easter break with his family in Ireland – leaving on Sunday afternoon and returning again on Friday.

WE WELCOME INTO THE FAMILY OF THE CHURCH Penelope Jane Liston who was baptised recently.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for the repose of the soul of Concetta (Connie) Raccio who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for her family at this time.

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

29th April Quiz Afternoon

6th May Gemma from Age UK (Stockport) will give a talk on the services and help they offer

13th May Board Games

20th May Sit down exercises

27th May Geoff Scargill returns with 'The Last Laugh of the Railway King' (Edwin Watkin from Northenden, helped found Canada, started the first Channel Tunnel, built the foundations of Wembley Stadium and much more)

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION Ministers who take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound are kindly asked to give Fr Michael an updated list of the people they visit. Please include names, addresses, and phone numbers. This will help Peter Jackson take over the coordination of the list, following the dedicated service of the late Angela McLoughlin, who fulfilled the role for many years. Thanks to Peter for volunteering to take on this role.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD A message has been received that SOAP is no longer to be included in the contents of Operation Christmas Child boxes. Any soap contributions already received will be donated to other charities. Thank you. *Karin Moore*

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY VOLUNTEER? From 7th June to 11th July the Chaplaincy Team at Stepping Hill hospital is offering a 6-week course (one afternoon per week) which will introduce people to the principles and practices of hospital chaplaincy for volunteers. If you are interested or would like more information, contact the Chaplaincy on 0161 419 5889, or email: chaplaincy.spiritualcareteam@stockport.nhs.uk

DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE 2026 This is always a very happy occasion for couples celebrating significant anniversaries and for their families. The Bishop will celebrate the Mass on Saturday 13th June at 12 noon at Saint Columba's, Chester, followed by a buffet lunch in the Parish Hall. Parishioners celebrating a significant anniversary this year should let Fr Michael have their names, contact details and the significant anniversary they are celebrating as soon as possible, so they can receive a personal invitation from the Bishop.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026 The Pilgrimage Team are very pleased to announce that bookings are now open for our 2026 75th Anniversary Pilgrimage to Lourdes. By coach 30 July to 7 August and by air 31 July to 6 August. Brochures can be found on the pilgrimage website www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk along with a link to the new online booking system. Fr Michael will be travelling on the pilgrimage this year.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £779.36; CAFOD £40.00. Thank you for your continuing generosity and support.

FOODBANK DONATIONS Last week, three very full crates of food were delivered to St Mark's, plus cash donations amounting to £280 (£240, £20, £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 Tins of carrots and KitKat/Penguin style treats would be particularly welcome. Thank you.**

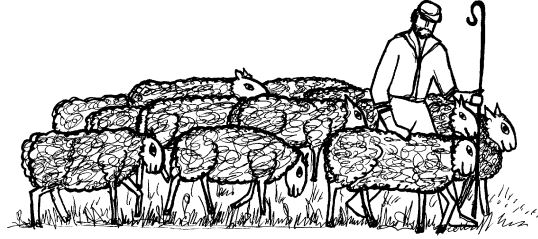
STAMPS FOR THE RNIB There is a box in the church porch for used stamps for the RNIB.

INTERESTED IN TRAINING AND VOLUNTEERING AS A RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLOR? Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support and we are currently looking for those who are **empathetic, understanding** and have an **enthusiasm for supporting adult relationships**, to train on our **Certificate in Relationship Counselling course (CRC)** and volunteer with us. This is a great opportunity to make a real difference to couples and families. To find out more please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

CATHOLIC FAMILY HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to www.castleriggmanor.com >> **stay with us** or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / **017687 72711**.

JOB VACANCIES Two vacancies have arisen within the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team for a **Programme Coordinator** and **Youth Mission Team Member**. Further details regarding both posts can be found on the Diocesan Website. <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> Interested parties should send their CV and covering letter to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org **Closing date Friday 29 April 2026.**

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).