

**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 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026  
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL**

Last Thursday we celebrated the solemn feast of the Ascension of the Lord into Heaven, and next Sunday we celebrate the solemn feast of Pentecost, which marks the coming of the Holy Spirit and brings the Easter season to a close. This event is often described as the birthday of the Church and the beginning of her mission in the world. The word "Pentecost" comes from the Greek and refers to fifty days after the Resurrection. As we look forward to celebrating Pentecost, let us pray for a deeper appreciation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and ask that we may become more open to His influence in our lives.

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Sunday	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday) <b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	Marina O'Connor – sick
		<b>9.00am</b>	People of the Parish
		<b>11.00am</b>	Ints. of Anne Smith
Monday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Thomas Meek - ill
Tuesday	<b>St Milburga, Ab, V</b> Adoration	6.30pm 7.30pm	Grainne McGovern - ill
Wednesday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Kath Harvey RIP
Thursday	<b>The Dedication of the Cathedral</b>	9.30am	Kathy Sheehan RIP
Friday	Ferial	8.15am 12.00pm	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS Kathleen & Shirley Meehan RIP
Saturday	Ferial	9.30am	Sick & Housebound Parishioners People of the Parish
	Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	<b>6.00pm</b>	
Sunday	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	The Holy Souls
		<b>11.00am</b>	Pat Owen RIP

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, Kath Bradley, Evleyn Richardson, Beryl Edwards, David Robison, Frank Rose, Bridie Jordan, Michael Jordan. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Frank O'Malley, Albert Docx, Patrick Smith, Margart Rowcroft, Susannah Mulligan, Gerard Caffrey, Olesha (Alex) Bushdyhan, Patricia Furness (infant), Bernard Miller, Peter Mulligan.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please pray for Mary Whiting who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for her family at this time.

**WE WELCOME INTI THE FAMILY OF TH CHURCH** Jude Maximus Ashworth who was baptised recently.

**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** 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter A: Acts 1:12-14; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11. **Preface:** ascension 2, page 75. **Eucharistic Prayer:** 3 page 28.

**FR TONY MYERS** will celebrate the two Sunday morning Masses in the parish today. Fr Tony is one of our retired diocesan priests and served here for several months in 1986.

Fr Michael and Fr Humphrey are at St Alban's, Macclesfield, and St Margaret's, Holmes Chapel, respectively. Fr Michael has been invited to preach at the Parish Priest's Silver Jubilee Mass at St Alban's, while Fr Humphrey is concelebrating at a Mass where two children from a family from his home country of Nigeria are making their First Holy Communion.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS 2026** Congratulations to the 27 children who received Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time at a special Mass on Saturday morning. Let us support them by our prayers at this important stage in their faith journey.

**DEACON KEVIN HOGAN** I am delighted to say that Kevin has now been given a date for his priestly Ordination, which will take place at Shrewsbury Cathedral on **Saturday 4th July at 12 noon**. I am also pleased to say that he will celebrate his First Mass here in the parish on **Sunday 5th July at 11.00am**, followed by a celebration in the St Christopher Centre.

We have arranged a coach to take parishioners to Shrewsbury on 4th July. Further details will follow, along with sign-up sheets at the back of church for those who wish to travel. For now, please make a note of the date. Thank you.

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP** The next meeting will take place on Thursday 21 May 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.

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

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)

**200 CLUB FOR MARY'S MEALS** The next draw will take place on Saturday 30th May. If you would still like to buy a number for 2026-7, there are forms at the back of church. £11 will buy one number for the next 11 months. Forms and money should be returned to the presbytery by Wednesday 27th May. Thank you.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY VESPERS AND BENEDICTION** Sunday 24th May 7pm. Exposition from 6pm with Rosary at 6:40pm. All are welcome to join this celebration of Pentecost through music, scripture and prayer. **Our Lady and the Apostles Stockport SK3 8BD.**

**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.

**NEW CATHOLIC WEBSITE FOR CHILDREN**, which has an easy-to-follow channel and is a Catholic resource for parents and schools: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/>  
<https://youtube.com/@themark10mission?si=Vn2PzCNEUe1fgXVM>

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026** The Pilgrimage Team are very pleased to announce that bookings are now open for our 2026 75<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk) along with a link to the new online booking system. Fr Michael will be travelling on the pilgrimage this year.

**WOODLEY METHODIST CHURCH** is hosting the Plaza Theatre organist Michael Holmes who will be playing in concert remembering the late Nigel Ogden on 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 are available from Phil Taylor – 0161 989 9993. Please see poster in the porch.

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection £701.78; CAFOD £85.00; standing orders and faster payments for April £2,524.00; contactless card donations for April £927.00. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

**RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA** St Joseph's Church, Tatton Street, Stockport, is hosting the relics of St Gerard Majella on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm, on their tour of England and Wales. This is to mark St Gerard's 300th anniversary. He was a Redemptorist lay-brother from Southern Italy who died at 29. St Gerard is popularly invoked as the patron of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. The church will be open an hour before Mass and there will be individual or family blessing with the relic after Mass. Please see poster on parish website.

**FOODBANK DONATIONS** Last week, two full trays and two large carrier bags of donations were delivered to St Mark's, plus cash donations amounting to £150 (£120, £20, £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 multi packs of crisps, tinned peas and cup-a-soup would be particularly welcome. Thank you.**

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

**ST AMBROSE COLLEGE HALE BARNs** Open Day on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June from 9.30am-12.30pm. Please poster in porch.

**JOB VACANCIES** HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL currently has vacancies for a Lay Chaplain, a Nurture Teacher and Learning Mentors. Please visit the school website for further 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) Our Lady and St Christopher's is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, and a registered charity (No. 234025).