



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 1st DECEMBER 2024 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL From today, the First Sunday of Advent, we will be using a new edition of the Lectionary (book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass) in church. It uses the English Standard Version – Catholic edition. The content remains the same so the readings for each Sunday will remain the same, only the translation will be slightly different. The new parish Mass books that have been purchased contain the new translation and it is my hope that it will help us grow in our love for God's word and put it into practice in our daily lives.

The season of Advent invites us to look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ at Christmas as we await his coming again in glory at the end of time. Hence the call to watchfulness and preparedness in today's Gospel is very much at the heart of the Advent season. May this holy season be a blessed time filled with joyful hope and expectation as we prepare to welcome the coming of Christ.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 1st December 2024 - Sunday 8th December 2024

Sunday	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Saturday)	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Michelle & Marie O'Brien RIP John Warwick RIP People of the Parish
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Kieran Birch RIP
Tuesday	St Francis Xavier, P, R Day of Prayer for Migrants & Refugees	7.30pm	Seamus Duddy RIP
Wednesday	Ferial Mass in St Christopher's Primary School	9.30am	Nora O'Donoghue RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Patrick Chamberlain RIP
Friday	Ferial	8.15am 12.00pm	In Harrytown Catholic HS Mollie & Vincent Gough RIP
Saturday	St Ambrose, B, D Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Eileen Beck RIP Louise Hopkinson RIP
Sunday	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Sheila Jackson B'day Ints.

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, Karl Wood, Kevin Bradley, Mary Sainsbury, Rita Stevens, Margaret Maycock, Sr Margaret Mary Foley, Peter Taylor, James Smart, Nathalie Whitehead, Florrie Robison, Margaret Wooliscroft, Joan Marshall, Glenis Keenan, Michael Walsh. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES W. A. Lumsden, Bertram Laidlaw, John Burns, Eileen McSweeney, Olive Marsland, Margaret O'Driscoll, Jeffrey Follows, Francis Rider, Leslie Wyatt, Penny Cunningham, Florence Monk, Adele McCluskey, Ethel Bouch, John Tebb, Denis Meynell, Frederick Walker, Peter Oates, Francis Snutch, Winifred Scanlon, Mary Loftus, Debbie Sainsbury.

RECENTLY DECEASED Please pray for John Philip Nagle and John Alan Thomas who died recently. May they rest in peace. Please also pray for their families at this time.

SUNDAY READINGS for First Sunday of Advent C: Jeremiah 33: 14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3: 12-4:2; Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36. **Mass Preface:** Advent 1, page 65; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 3, page 25.

PLEASE NOTE that Mass on Wednesday will be celebrated in St Christopher's Primary School at 9.30am.

PARISH MASS READERS Now that we have a new Lectionary for the Sunday and weekday Mass readings, I would request our readers to please pay attention to the new translation when preparing to read at Mass. I hope to arrange a meeting about the new Lectionary after Christmas.

THE REQUIEM MASS FOR WARREN WALTON who died recently will be offered at St Peter's Church, Hazel Grove, on Wednesday 11th December at 12 noon. Please pray for Warren's happy repose and also for Clare and the family at this sad time. May he rest in peace.

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.

THE LADIES 'GUILD Christmas Party is on Thursday December 5th at 7.30pm .This will be the last meeting of the year, and we will meet again in January. New members are always welcome.

PIETY STALL

We have our Christmas stock in. Packets of Christmas cards £2 each, Diaries £3.50 each, Calendars £1 each, Boxed Christmas cards £4 each.

The piety stall will be open the weekend of

7 and 8 December 2024. **Please come and have a browse.**

A PRELUDE TO CHRISTMAS featuring Marple Band & the VariVocals Choir at Our Lady & St Christopher's Church on Friday 6th December at 6.45pm for 7.00pm. Tickets priced at £10.00 available after Mass. Includes mince pies and wine. Please see poster in porch. **Donations of raffle prizes for the event would be gratefully received. Thank you.**

EVERGREEN GROUP, WEDNESDAYS 1.30PM – 3.30PM

4th December Singalong with Pat

11th December Christmas Party

THE MEMORY TREE will be out very soon, the memory hearts are now at the back of church. We fill this tree with messages for our loved ones gone but never forgotten and the tree will be Blessed on Christmas Eve. All donations will go to church.

ACCESSIBLE MASS ST PETER'S HAZEL GROVE SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER AT 2.30PM This is the third Mass of the year, and the Inclusion Group invite everyone to our Advent Mass to prepare for the Nativity. This will be a relaxed Mass of about 30 minutes in length, allowing movement around church, sensory prayer activities, a breakout area and low stimulus music. We will be supported by a British Sign Language signer. Previous Masses have proven to be joyous celebrations, so please join us and spread the word that this is a Mass for everyone. There will be a welcome cup of tea at the end. Contact: inclusionstpeters@gmail.com

ADVENT SERIES OF TALKS You are invited to a series of talks in Advent to coincide with the launch of the New Lectionary at the Parish Hall, Holy Angels, Hale Barns, Altrincham, WA15 OHG. **At 7pm on Wednesday 4th December** we are delighted to welcome Fr Paul Denney who is a priest of the Diocese of Motherwell, Scotland. He has a Licentiate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical Biblical Institute. He has recently served on the editorial board for the new lectionary as the delegate of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland. He will speak to us about the new translation of the Lectionary that we will be using at Mass.

On Wednesday 11th December Fr Marco Egawhary a priest of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, he completed further studies at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome. His talk will be on why it is important to pray with the scriptures and how to pray with them.

Wednesday 18th December Fr David Irwin priest of the Diocese of Shrewsbury and Natalie Orefice, Director of Evangelisation and Catechesis for the Diocese of Shrewsbury will present Dei Verbum on Divine Revelation from the Second Vatican Council. After each talk we will go into the parish church for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction and Compline. All are welcome to attend.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £667.10; CAFOD £30.00. Thank you for your generosity.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS 3 carrier bags and 4 crates of food were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £250 (£120, £50, £30, £30, £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 tinned sweetcorn, peas and Advent calendars would be welcomed. Thank you.**

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

THE CAFOD WORLD GIFTS catalogue is available to collect at the back of church and by the side door. A good way to support the work of CAFOD in the developing world.

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



STAY
AWAKE

A hand-drawn graphic featuring the words "STAY AWAKE" in a bold, black, hand-drawn font. To the right of the text is a stylized profile of a human face, also drawn in black lines, with large, circular eyes and a simple nose and mouth.

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 Church is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, which is a registered charity - No 234025.