



**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 12<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025  
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL** Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which draws the Christmas season to a close. The Baptism of Jesus marked the beginning of His public life and ministry and also affirmed the relationship between the Son and the Father: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22). Jesus was always deeply conscious of His identity as the Son of the Father, and this underpinned every aspect of His ministry.

Through Baptism, we too share in God's own divine life – we too are the children of God. That is our identity, which we are called to live out in our daily lives as we strive to follow the example of Jesus. Like Him, we are empowered through the Holy Spirit to witness to His love and goodness in the world. Let us give thanks that we have been chosen to become members of God's family and pray that we will strive to live up to our baptismal calling.

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Sunday	<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> (Saturday)	<b>6.00pm</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	Michael & Jim Hayes RIP People of the Parish Tom & Ruth O'Reilly RIP
Monday	Ferial	9.30am	Angela Russell RIP
Tuesday	Ferial	7.30pm	Peter Taylor RIP
Wednesday	Ferial	9.30am	In Thanksgiving
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Eamonn Burke RIP
Friday	<b>St Anthony Ab</b>	8.15am 12.00pm	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS Eileen Murphy RIP
Saturday	Blessed Virgin Mary – Saturday Memorial Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am <b>6.00pm</b>	Deceased of Murray Family Ian Watson RIP
Sunday	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	People of the Parish Colin Burns

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

**ANNIVERSARIES** Hugh Thompson, Christina Young, Fred Ardern, Mary Dalton, Mary Kendrick, Winifred Ball, Annie Murphy, May Quinn, Raymond Cornelly, Vera Drummond, James McCumaskey, Eric Baigent, Kenneth Shaw, Paul Scanlon, Peter Gilleney, John Mullinder, Provost Henry Hazelhurst, Maura Nelson, Robert Oxford House, Caroline Flood.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Please pray for Theresa (Tess) Smith who died recently. May she rest in peace. Please also pray for her family at this time.

**SUNDAY READINGS** for the Baptism of the Lord C: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22.

**Mass Preface:** Baptism of the Lord, page 68; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

**MASS ON MONDAY** We welcome the Year 7 and Year 11 pupils and some members of staff from Harrytown Catholic High School to the 9:30 am Mass on Monday to celebrate the school's Foundation Day. The school opened on January 13, 1913. The Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Evron had arrived the previous year to set up a mission in Stockport after the success of their first English mission in the seaside town of Filey in North Yorkshire. We thank the school for its enormous contribution to Catholic education over the last 112 years and pray for its continued success. Fr. Humphrey will celebrate the Mass in church on Monday, and Fr Michael will also celebrate Mass simultaneously in the school itself for the Year 8, 9, and 10 pupils and staff.

**CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS** Please note that the Crib offerings this Christmas will be to support the work of Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury with children, families and refugees. We are blessed to have our own Diocesan welfare agency working in different parts of the Diocese and it is worthy of our support. Thank you.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS 2025** The parents of children in non-Catholic schools who are eligible to make their First Holy Communion later this year are asked to contact Fr Michael with names and contact details so they can be invited to a series of meetings to prepare them for these sacraments.

**200 CLUB WINNERS** Congratulations to the December winners of the 200 Club draw: Christine Fox, Christine Redfern, Sarah Smith, Joanne Coll. Please collect your envelopes from the small sacristy.

**EVERGREEN GROUP - Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.30pm**

15th January Sit down exercises

**DIOCESAN YEARBOOK** Copies of the 2025 yearbook are available at the back of church priced at £7.00 each. Contains various articles, parish and diocesan information, clergy obituaries, etc. Please put money in the newspaper wall box or use the Dona contactless card machine. Thank you.

**A YEAR OF HOPE 2025** is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? How will the Church be celebrating it? How can I get involved? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more in this lively start to the Jubilee. Hear

highlights of how we're celebrating as a church and how we can be tangible signs of hope and build a better world together throughout this holy year. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse. **Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online.** Register here for free: [cafod.org.uk/jubilee](https://cafod.org.uk/jubilee)

#### **PARISH LIVE STREAM – 2024 in numbers**

There were 39,187 viewers of our Live Stream service during the year watching a total of just over 22,000 hours. We had viewers from 64 countries over the course of the year including Spain, Slovakia, Malaysia, Gibraltar, Malawi, China and Sri Lanka. My thanks to Matthew Standing for providing these figures and also for managing the service throughout the course of the year.

**PARISH FINANCE** Last Sunday's collection £462.30; CAFOD £25.00; standing orders and faster payments for December £2,522.00; contactless card donations for December £784.00. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS** Two green crates of groceries were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £70.00 (£30, £20, £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 6-pack packets of crisps 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](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 Church is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, which is a registered charity - No 234025.