



**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 9th FEBRUARY 2025
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

MESSAGE FROM FR MICHAEL On Tuesday we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, and it is also World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Lourdes, as a centre of Marian pilgrimage welcomes many sick pilgrims every year and indeed the sick have a privileged place there. This is the result of a long tradition of welcoming the sick to the sanctuary. In fact, as early as 1858, the year of the first apparitions, the sick or the parents of sick children flocked to Lourdes. I hope to travel to Lourdes on the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage at the end of July. Let us remember the sick in our prayers and especially the sick and housebound of our own parish that they may be helped by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Our Lady of Lourdes.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: Sunday 9th February 2025 - Sunday 16th February 2025

Sunday	5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Saturday)	6.00pm 9.00am 11.00am	Richard Mitchell RIP Ronald Swainbank RIP People of the Parish
Monday	St Scholastica, V Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Greg Lomax Ints.
Tuesday	Our Lady of Lourdes Adoration	6.30pm 7.30pm	Deceased of Loran Family
Wednesday	Ferial Adoration & Morning Prayer	8.30am 9.30am	Robert Mazzitelli RIP
Thursday	Ferial	9.30am	Donor's Ints.
Friday	Ss Cyril & Methodius, B	8.15am 12.00pm	Mass in Harrytown Catholic HS Saunder's Family Ints.
Saturday	Ferial Evening Mass of following Sunday (Saturday)	9.30am 6.00pm	Bernadette McCarthy RIP Eddie & Philip Palmer RIP
Sunday	6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Sylvia Donovan RIP

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, 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, Kathleen Holland, Carole Roe, Helen Ibbotson. We commend them to the prayers of Our Lady & St Christopher.

ANNIVERSARIES Sarah Boyle. Stephen Pope, Donald Loftus, Mary Bottomley, Margaret Gahan, Vincent Flood, Thomas Brady, Mary Tebb, Frank Dunford, Fred Sutton, Stephen Jackson, Kathleen Osbaldeston, Geoff Lomax, Winifred Hudson, John McGrath, June Farrell, Ingrid Kucak, Caroline Shaw, Alexes Cawley, Eileen Dunford, Joseph McGrath, Mary Nelson.

Sunday Readings for the fifth Sunday C: Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11. **Mass Preface:** Sunday 2, page 68; **Eucharistic Prayer:** 2, page 25.

FIRST SACRAMENTS 2025 The preparation classes for the children not at St Christopher's Catholic Primary School who wish to receive the sacraments this year, will begin in the St Chrisotpher Centre on Saturday 15th February from 10.30am – 11.30am. The children will need to be accompanied by a parent throughout.

FIRST SACRAMENTS 2025 PARENTS' MEETING in the St Christpher Centre on Wednesday 26th February from 7.00pm 8.15pm. The parents of the children at St Christopher's Catholic Primary School and at other schools are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting. The second meeting for parents will be on Wednesday 12th March.

EVERGREEN GROUP – WEDNESDAYS 1.30pm - 3.30pm

12th February Virtual Tour Round Romiley

19th February Sit down exercises

200 CLUB WINNERS Congratulations to Christine Hodson, Angela McLoughlin, Margret Howarth & Owen McNeill. Please collect your envelopes from the small sacristy. Thank you.

ATTENTION ALL GIFT AID DONORS The tax year 2024/25 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.

FOODBANK DONATIONS FOR 2024 I am pleased to say that last year, parishioners donated the tremendous sum of £11,015, plus 210 large green crates and 112 shopping bags of groceries and other items to the local food bank that operates out of St. Mark's C/E Church in Bredbury. Such wonderful generosity has helped to feed many people in need in our local community, regardless of race, creed, or colour, and further demonstrates the importance of putting faith into action. Thanks again for such a generous response, and thanks also to those who devote their time and energy to transporting the donations to St. Mark's each week. *Fr Michael*

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER at Romiley Methodist Church, Stockport Road, on Friday 7th March at 2.00pm. All welcome. Please see poster in the porch.

A POLITE REQUEST We are without a sacristan at present, so it would be a tremendous help if, at the end of the Sunday Masses, parish Mass books could be returned and stacked neatly in the book racks at the front and back of the church, hymn books neatly arranged at the end of the benches, and newsletters either taken home or returned to the table at the back of the church. Thank you.

ALL MISSION RED BOX HOLDERS Could you please bring your boxes to the church for the weekend Masses of Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February. Please leave them on the table at the back of church. They will be emptied and ready to collect again the following weekend 15th & 16th February. Thank you. *John & Barbara Edwards.*

THE LADIES' GUILD is an integral part of the parish community and has been for many years. **President:** Susan Latham, **Secretary:** Tonia Williams, **Treasurer:** Barbara Edwards. There are 26 members at present We meet fortnightly on a Thursday evening at 7.30pm in the St Christopher Centre. We have a cup of tea or coffee with cake or biscuits. We provide friendship especially to anyone living alone. During the year we have a number of guest speakers on various topics, films, games, discussions, and demonstrations. We also have meals and trips out.

Some of the ladies are involved with the cleaning of the church and all the ladies play an important part in the Xmas Fair and the Lenten Soup Fridays.

The group has been part of the parish for many years and to preserve it for the future it is important that we encourage new members to join, in order that the good work the existing members have achieved over the years can continue. There is no age limit to become a member.

Anyone interested in finding out more please contact Mrs Tonia Williams (secretary) on 07768 921136. Thank you.

CHURCH CLEANING The upcoming cleaning dates are as follows: 12th February, 12th March, and 16th April. A small, dedicated team of cleaners does a great job; however, additional assistance is always appreciated. Please consider joining the team. And it's only once a month!

LOURDES ROADSHOW In this Jubilee Year of 2025, Bishop Mark has asked that our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes be our Jubilee Pilgrimage. To help raise the profile of the pilgrimage and to answer any questions you might have, we have organised a roadshow for those who are interested in joining our annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes on 15th February, 2pm-4pm at St Anthony's, Wythenshawe. Information and register of interest cards will be available, and members of the Lourdes Management Team will be present to answer any questions.

PARISH FINANCE Last Sunday's collection £696.65, CAFOD £30.00, retired priests' collection £499.50, standing orders and faster payments for January £2,534.00, contactless card donations for January £669.50. Thank you for your generous support of the parish.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS Four crates of groceries and a large shopping bag full of 6-packs of crisps were delivered to St Mark's last week plus cash donations amounting to £180 (£120, £30, £20, £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.

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

TUNE IN TO RADIO MARIA ENGLAND on **Wednesday, 12th February at 10am** for an inspiring broadcast with **Fr Ed Tomlinson**, a Catholic priest of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. Fr Ed, a married father, rugby player, Norwich City fan, and lover of beer, will share his unique journey and experiences. Listen online at www.RadioMariaEngland.uk, on the **Radio Maria Play App**, or ask your smart speaker to "**Play Radio Maria England**". Be encouraged by his story and join us for this uplifting conversation!

FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING...!

The first event in the Footsteps programme of inspiring talks this year will be on **Thursday 13 February at 7.30pm** in the **parish centre of St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA** when **Will Wilson** will be coming to share with us "**Life lessons from the Book of Ruth.**" Will is a Methodist lay preacher and a retired teacher in special needs education. He will be asking - and answering! - what encouragement for our walk through life can be derived from the characters in the Book of Ruth? And how does our own life story reflect the biblical truths referred to there? We'd love to welcome you again to our informal, café-style setting; there's a large free car park, good disabled access, loop system, drinks and nibbles and no charge.

JOB VACANCY An exciting opportunity has arisen within the Diocese with the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team. Further details can be found on the Diocesan website [Latest Vacancies - Diocese](#) Completed applications to be sent to Pauline McCulloch at recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org. Closing date 21 February 2025.

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 & St Christopher's is a parish of the RC Diocese of Shrewsbury, which is a registered charity – No. 234025.