



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



St Columba's:
Plas Newton Lane,
Chester, CH2 1SA
01244 624019

Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp
pp@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr James Mchamungu CSSp
app@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
General enquiries : admin@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Deacons:
Rev Lawrence Hordley 01244 342048, mobile 07960 517463
Rev Tom Coyle mobile 07986 089773

St Theresa's
128 Blacon Avenue
Chester CH1 5BU
01244 371660

Website: www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

Chester Hospitals' Chaplaincy: Tel 01244 364543, answer phone available

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Sue Hutcheson (07964 130982 or 01244 371070) and Jane Walsh (07506 768870 or 01244 378201)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

28th November 2021

Saturday 27th November

St. Theresa's 5.00 pm Jeffrey Parry RIP
St. Columba's 6.30 pm Frank & Gertrude Buddery

Sunday 28th November

St. Theresa's 9.30 am Parishioners' Intentions
St. Columba's 11.00 am Albert Hughes RIP

Monday 29th November

St. Theresa's Holy Souls
St. Columba's Priests' Intentions

Tuesday 30th November

St. Theresa's Deceased Bradshaw and Millington family
St. Columba's Holy Souls

Wednesday 1st December

St. Theresa's Priests' Intentions
St. Columba's 10.30 am Gerry Galvin B.

Thursday 2nd December

St. Theresa's Leavers' mass for Mrs. Kirkman
St. Columba's Bill Hughes RIP

Friday 3rd December

St. Theresa's 10.00 am Eddie Mapp RIP
St. Columba's Holy Souls

Saturday 4th December

St. Theresa's 5.00 pm George Becker RIP
St. Columba's 6.30 pm Peter Whitby

Sunday 5th December

St. Theresa's 9.30 am Parishioners' Intentions
St. Columba's 11.00 am Annie Keegan RIP

STREAMING OF MASS:

Mass will be streamed from St Theresa's this Sunday will be at 9.30am

www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresa

HOLY SOULS:

During the month of November there will be a basket near the altar for you to put any November Dead Lists. There are envelopes available at the back of the church.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS:

Please contact one of the Parish Offices to make your arrangements.

LATELY DEAD:

Please pray for Berta Barton, Steven Andrew Roberts and Thomas Gilfoyle who have died recently. May the Lord grant them Eternal Life and console their families and

friends. Berta's funeral will be at 10.30 on Monday 6th December at St Columba's. Steven's funeral will be at 11.00 on Tuesday 7th December at St Columba's.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Liliana Gittins, Jefferey Samuel Parry, Paolo Florio, Susan Mary Roberts, Peter Anthony Burton, Christian Mapp, Mary Taylor, Edwin Albert (Eddie) Mapp, Margery Evans.

ADVENT – Begins today 28 November

CONFESSION:

St Columba's : From 6pm before the 6.30pm Saturday evening Mass and after the 10.30am Mass on Wednesday.

St Theresa's: From 4.30pm before the 5pm Saturday evening and after the 10am Mass on Friday.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING:

From the 28th November, at Sunday morning Masses singing by the congregation is allowed, face coverings must be worn and hymn books can be used at these Masses only.

For Advent Conferences please see the newsletter.

Christmas Mass times to follow soon.

THE PRAYER OF THE SYNOD:

Adsumus Sancte Spiritus: We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

HEADTEACHER ST. THERESA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Nickie Kirkman will be retiring at the end of this term. There will be a leaving Mass for her on Thursday 2nd December. We would like to thank Nickie for her dedication and service and wish her a long and happy retirement.

PIETY STALL AT ST COLUMBA'S:

The piety stall is now fully open, and we have Christmas cards, calendars & a limited number of diaries ready for sale. If you require something else, please let us know. Please wear masks and keep a safe distance.

PIETY STALL AT ST THERESA'S:

If anyone would like to look in the piety stall, please see Carole Ingram on a Sunday morning or Elizabeth Mair or Eileen Irwin on a Saturday evening.

OFFERTORY:

St. Columba's: Loose plate; £181.10; Planned Giving £221.50 and Average weekly SOs £677.00 Holy Souls, £175.00

St Theresa's: Loose plate £165.97; Average weekly SOs £149.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

CHURCHES TOGETHER - PRAYING TOGETHER:

This week we pray for:

- The residents of Gatesheath Drive, Alpraham Crescent and St James Avenue, Cairns Crescent, Hobart Way, Auckland Road & Wyndham Road.
- For those who prepare couples for marriage.
- For those couples married in our churches this year and those who are about to be married.

ADVENT SUNDAY READINGS:

The talks on the readings for the Sundays of Advent continue on Thursday at 2.30 p.m. when we will be looking at the readings for the Second Sunday.

CARITAS AT CHRISTMAS APPEAL:

Bishop Mark has written to encourage us to take an extra collection *THIS WEEKEND* to support those who have experienced increased hardship and poverty during this difficult year.

BISHOP'S LETTER:

This will be read out at all Masses this weekend. Copies are available at the back of church if you wish to take one home.

SAFEGUARDING HOLY HOUR:

Bishop Mark will be leading us in prayer at the Cathedral for Holy Hour on Wednesday 1st December at 5pm. Once again this year, we will be praying for all those across society that have been effected by abuse. In our busy lives running up until Christmas, this Holy Hour provides us all with an opportunity to reflect and pray for the strength of God to aid those around us within our parishes and communities who may be facing challenges. We are evidently not clear of the pandemic yet and the journey has presented challenges for many in their daily lives. For those impacted by abuse that present themselves for help and those that still remain unseen, please remember them in your prayers. The Holy Hour will be live streamed via the Shrewsbury Cathedral Church Services link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/shrewsburycathedral> and of course the Cathedral doors will be open for those wishing to attend. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are aware of this Holy Hour and it would be greatly appreciated if you could mention this within your parishes this upcoming weekend.

28TH NOVEMBER - CRAFT SALES:

Myra Bowyer will be selling Christmas cards and crafts after 11:00 Mass in St Columba's Hall, proceeds to the Hospice of the Good Shepherd.

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA:

If you would like to volunteer to join the rota and raise money for your cause, please contact Margaret Curtis [01244 318424](tel:01244318424).

LIGHT UP THE DARK AT CHRISTMAS:

The children at St Werburgh's and St Columba's School are hoping to light up the windows of their classroom's at night. By paying a minimum donation of £1, a candle will be lit along with your special message, memory or prayer for a loved one. All proceeds will go to The Hospice of the Good Shepherd in Backford.

A poster will be on display in both churches with full details how to donate.

MINISTRY IN THE PARISH FORMS:

If you haven't already done so please return your form. It can be handed in to one of the stewards or put in the Offertory basket. Thank you.

WORLD GIFTS FROM CAFOD:

World gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight people you give them to and help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Gifts range from a "Keep Clean Kit" for £6.00, an "Energy Saving Stove" for £9.00, "Emergency Shelter" for £40.00 through to a "Marvellous Moo Cow" for £150. Catalogues are available in the church porches.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

Saturday 11th December Senior Parishoners Christmas in St Columba's Church Hall starting at 2 p.m.
Friday 17th December Carol Service at St Theresa's, starting at 6.30pm, with mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Centre afterwards. These are both subject to any Covid restrictions that might be in place at the time.

SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY:

12th December 2021 - Mass to Celebrate 70 years of the Lourdes pilgrimage - 3pm - St Vincent's, Tatton Street, Knutsford, WA16 6HR celebrated by Bishop Mark followed by refreshments in the parish centre. Please note there will be **Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality Meeting** before the Mass at 1.30pm. All details of events and how to join Zoom meeting can be found on the website: www.teamshrewsbury.co.uk

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

As we start our Advent journey: "The idea of waiting for something makes it more exciting" Andy Warhol

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER:

As we prepare for Christmas, some of us may well be making and or putting up a Christmas wreath. The wreath, made of evergreens, signifies continuous life, the circle of the wreath, with no beginning or end, symbolises the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The different types of evergreens used also have their own symbolism. The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; the pine, holly and yew signify immortality and the cedar strength and healing. Pinecones which often decorate the wreath, symbolize life and resurrection. The wreath is a reminder to us of God's promise of everlasting life through Christ. Happy wreath making and hanging! (ref Mercy Homes)

RESOURCES:

Chester Cathedral Christmas Tree Festival returns for its ninth shimmering and twinkling year - with over fifty trees decorated by local schools, businesses, and charities. Opens on Saturday 27 November until Tuesday 4 January 2022. Free entry, donations welcome.

CHESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR:

Christmas Concert in St Columba's Church, Friday 3rd December at 7.30pm. Tickets £12 each, available from Sue Carr (tel. 07553114531) or in Hall on Sunday morning after Mass, or from Nuala and Eileen in the church offices. Payment required when ordering.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS

To arrange meetings etc. in either the Church, Newman Room or the Iona Chapel, please book through Nuala Keegan, Church Office, 01244 624019,
Email: admin@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
Hall availability can be checked by looking at St Columba's Church website – section for Church Hall gives a calendar of events in the Hall. Then contact Sue Carr on 07553 114531 or email columbashallbookings@gmail.com to arrange booking.

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

This will be compiled by Eileen Irwin
Email: admin@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
Tel: 01244 371660

Please include a phone number in case of queries, and
Please ensure that items are emailed or phoned to the
compiler by 9.00 am on THURSDAY
Website: www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk