



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp

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Deacons:

Rev Lawrence Hordley 01244 342048, mobile 07960 517463

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Website: www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

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

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

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)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

23rd JANUARY 2022

Saturday 22nd January 2022

St. Theresa's 5.00pm Roman BoryStAwski RIP

St. Columba's 6.30pm Parishioners' Intentions

Sunday 23rd January – Sunday of the Word of God

St. Theresa's 9.30am Anthony Baker & Margaret Parry

St. Columba's 11.00am Ann Ryan RIP

Monday 24th January – St Francis de Sales, B, D

St. Theresa's 10.45am Mary West RIP

St. Columba's Michael Booth (A)

Tuesday 25th January – The Conversion of St Paul, Ap.

St. Theresa's Sheila Holland RIP

St. Columba's Private Intention (SB)

Wednesday 26th January -Ss Timothy & Titus, B

St. Theresa's James John McCafferty RIP

St. Columba's 10.30am Ruth O'Donnell

Thursday 27th January - St Angela Merici ,V

St. Theresa's Rita Lyons RIP

St. Columba's Priests' Intentions

Friday 28th January- St Thomas Aquinas, P, D

St. Theresa's 10.00am Mae Dunne's Intentions

St. Columba's Parishioners' Intentions

Saturday 29th January – Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Theresa's 5.00pm Parishioners' Intentions

St. Columba's 6.30pm Kathleen Maguire

Sunday 30th January

St. Theresa's 9.30am Alison Carbet RIP

St. Columba's 11.00am The Parish

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING:

Singing at Sunday morning Masses by the congregation is allowed, face coverings must be worn, and hymn books can be used at these Masses only.

CONFESSIONS:

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.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Michael Booth, John Francis McNeill, Anthony Keith Baker, Margaret Parry

LATELY DEAD:

Please pray for Christine Manley. May the Lord grant her Eternal Rest and console her family.

ST COLUMBA'S

COVID GUIDANCE UPDATE JANUARY 2022

In recent weeks it has been very pleasing to see increasing numbers of people who feel they are able to attend Mass. However that has made it necessary for a review of our 'Covid Security' arrangements to ensure that all feel comfortable.

In order to be able to welcome all who may wish to attend Mass:

- Please do not use benches which are taped off
- Maintain social distancing on the benches. The little notes 'Please pray here' indicate an appropriate spacing for individuals. Please use your own sound judgement to maintain proper spacing for your family group.
- There is now additional seating provided in the Iona Chapel, in the Baptistry area in church and some chairs in church.
- Please do not kneel during Mass as that makes social distancing difficult to maintain.
- We ask you to bear with the doors being open to maintain ventilation. Wrap up warm!
- Finally – and very importantly – please wait for the stewards to direct you to receive Holy Communion.

Many thanks for your forbearance. We are trying to ensure that everyone feels both welcomed and safe at Mass.

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.

PARISH ADMINISTRATION:

Please note that Fr James will be away until the beginning of February.

STREAMING OF MASS

Mass will be streamed from St Columba's this week and next at 11am. www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresa

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA:

If you would like to volunteer and join the rota to raise money for your cause, write your name on the rota in the hall, book online here: <https://forms.gle/4iFKLHxzPViEYvDQ6> or contact Margaret Curtis on 01244 318424.

The following coffee mornings are being provided by the following, please support these wonderful causes:

23rd Jan - Sue McCarthy for SVP

30th Jan - Sue McCarthy & Sue Carr for Meningitis UK

6th Feb - Jane Hickson for World Scout Jamboree

OFFERTORY:

St. Columba's: Loose plate: £143.94 Planned Giving: £158.50
Average weekly SOs £677.00

St Theresa's: Loose plate and Planned Giving - £253.51
Average weekly SOs £149.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

CHURCHES TOGETHER - PRAYING TOGETHER:

This week we pray for:

- the residents of Dunham Way, Chirk Close, Tintern Avenue, Cyman Close, Willan Road, Wemyss Road & Phillips Road.
- For the prayer groups and ecumenical prayer groups.
- For those who have nobody to pray for them.

PARISH OFFICES - EMAIL ADDRESSES

In October 2021 we introduced a single email address - admin@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk - for the two Parish Offices. However, after a three-month trial this has not been as useful as we had hoped. Consequently, it has been decided to no longer use this joint email address and instead to revert to the previous individual addresses for

St Columba's - stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

St Theresa's - st.theresas@btinternet.com.

For general parish matters please send email to both addresses. For matters specific to either St Columba's or St Theresa's please use the single relevant email address for Nuala or Eileen. Please continue to use the parish priest or app for Fr William and Fr James. Thank you very much.

RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND - SPECIAL COLLECTION

Today the annual Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund is being held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to help meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, please make your donation Online. To donate Online please go to www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund

An electronic version of a leaflet about the Fund is available at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund and this also explains how you can donate to the Fund by Standing Order or Cheque (please make payable to Retired Priests' Fund) and how to Gift Aid donations made using these methods.

CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Bi-annual Service of Prayer for Christian Unity in Chester's Anglican Cathedral on 22nd January has been postponed due to COVID concerns.

FISH AND CHIP SUPPER:

It is with great regret that we have had to cancel our fish and chip supper on 28th January for Meningitis, due to Covid restrictions. We hope to do something later in the year in

memory of Richard and Helen .If you have any queries please contact c.murphy900@btinternet.com

SAFEGUARDING DAY:

The day for safeguarding representatives due to take place on Saturday 29th January has been postponed due to Covid concerns.

BISHOP'S RETREAT DAY FOR RCIA CANDIDATES:

We are considering whether to move the planned Retreat Day for RCIA candidates from across the Diocese due to take place on Saturday 19th February to an online reflection with the Bishop.

FOODBANK APPEAL - COLLECTIONS HAVE RESUMED IN BOTH CHURCHES

Thanks for your continued support. There are donation points in the front porch of both Churches.

Items most needed at present are tinned meats and fish, UHT milk and juice, small jars of coffee, instant mash, tinned potatoes and vegetables, jams and spread and tinned desserts. There are plenty of baked beans and pasta in the warehouse at present.

For more info please visit the website http://www.west_cheshire_foodbank.org.uk

RED MISSION BOXES, ST COLUMBA'S

If you have a Red Mission box for collection, here's the ongoing Covid process:

DON'T TAKE IT TO CHURCH, ring me and leave a message on my answer machine. I'll call back and arrange to collect from your home when convenient. When counted I will return it to your house. Thank you, Margaret Curtis, [01244 318424](tel:01244318424).

CLERGY WELFARE OFFICER:

A vacancy for a Clergy Welfare Officer has arisen within the Diocese – The role of the clergy welfare officer is to work with and supervise the welfare assistant to support and assist priests who are approaching retirement and those already in retirement, or on sick leave. The clergy welfare officer will provide, advice, practical assistance, and support on a wide range of issues including health, finances and housing. Hours: 21 hours a week. Salary £38,000-£42,000 FTE pro-rata'd dependant on experience and qualifications. Closing date Friday 11 February. For further details please see <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies> completed applications to be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

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: stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

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

Alison Wrigglesworth

Email: a.wrigglesworth@outlook.com

Tel: 01244 382457

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

INDIVIDUAL GIVING AND LEGACY FUNDRAISER:

A vacancy for an Individual Giving and Legacy Fundraiser has arisen within the Diocese – The role of the Individual Giving and Legacy Fundraiser is to work with parishes in developing a Diocesan individual giving and legacy programme. This will include in person, offline and online activities promoting and developing regular giving in parishes, contactless giving, Gift Aid and legacy giving, as well as supporting giving to Diocesan appeals Hours: 25 hours per week. Salary £25K-£30K FTE pro-rata'd dependant on experience and qualifications. Closing date Friday 18 February. For further details please see <http://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/curia/vacancies> completed applications to be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Thought for the week Nothing ever goes away until it has taught us what we need to know. Pema Chödrön (American Tibetan Buddhist Nun)

We're all in this together: I was reminded recently of a humorous birthday card that had a penguin and a pigeon on the front, the pigeon says to the penguin, "They've named a biscuit after you". To which the penguin replies "What, Kevin?" Our life is full of people and situations where people see things differently and understand things differently to how we may perceive them. Life would be boring if we all felt the same, said the same and did the same. But walking in another person's shoes to get a greater understanding of where they are coming from is not always easy but reaps benefits. Happy chatting next time you meet your Kevin.

RETREAT HOUSE:

Would you like a retreat but don't have the time to go away? Retreat House Chester is running a three-week Retreat in Daily Life 30 January – 18 February, offering a chance to explore your experience of God through prayer, while living your 'ordinary life' and supported by two conversations a week with a retreat guide (probably online). To find out more and to book (as soon as you can!), see the 'What's On' page of www.retreathousechester.co.uk.