



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

St Columba's
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 Chester, CH2 1SA

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stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

St Theresa's
 128 Blacon Avenue
 Chester CH1 5BU

01244 371660
st.theresas@btinternet.com

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)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

30th APRIL 2023

Saturday 29th April

St. Theresa's 5.00pm Vera Joyce RIP
 St. Columba's 6.30pm Frank Stone Jnr

Sunday 30th April- World Day of Prayer for Vocations

St. Theresa's 9.30am James Casey RIP
 St. Columba's 11.00am The Parish

St Columba's 4.30pm CTU Fifth Sunday Service

Monday 1st May- Special Day of Prayer for Human Work

St. Theresa's Parishioners' Intentions
 St. Columba's 10.30am David Walpole A

Tuesday 2nd May-St Anthanasius B,D

St. Theresa's Private Intention
 St. Columba's Priests' Ints

Wednesday 3rd May-SsPhilip & James, Ap

St Theresa's Mary Lally RIP
 St Columba's 9.30am Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
 10.15am Novena Prayers
 10.30am Claire Graham RIP

Thursday 4th May-The English Martyrs

St. Theresa's Private Intention
 St Columba's Private Intention

Friday 5th May

St. Theresa's 10.00am Sarah (Sally) Gordyk RIP
 St. Columba's Oscar & Lastenia Payne

Saturday 6th May

St. Theresa's 5.00pm Bart Bradshaw RIP
 St. Columba's 6.30pm Eileen Thornber RIP

Sunday 7th May

St. Theresa's 9.30am Parishioners' Ints
 St. Columba's 11.00a.m. The Parish

Please note if there is no time next to Mass it means there is no Mass for parishioners to attend that day but the Priests will say Mass privately.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Please remember in your prayers Claire Graham, Ron Wright, Margaret Collins and Gerald O'Hanlon. May the Lord console their families and friends.

CONFESSIONS:

There will be Confessions after every weekday Mass until 11.30am. at both churches.

St Columba's: From 6pm before the 6.30pm Saturday evening Mass.

St Theresa's: From 4.30pm before 5pm Saturday evening Mass.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS:

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

We welcome Elis Siobhan Bowl and her family to our community this weekend. May Our Lord bless and guide her always.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary Lally, John Bond, David John McGlown.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS:

Mass will be streamed from St Theresa's at 9.30am this Sunday 30th April 2023.

www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresa

YOUTH GROUP:

Next youth group will be on **Monday 15th May**, 7pm to 8.30pm, at St Theresa's. Last session we placed our hand painted 'peace' stones in the Peace Garden at St. Theresa's and took a look around the church. Watch this space for what we will be doing next month! All young parishioners from school year 5 and older are invited to join us.

PRAYING TOGETHER:

We pray for:

- The residents of Arley Close, Lincoln Drive, Grasmere Road, Imperial Avenue, Embassy Close, Bristol Close and Virginia Drive.
- For the Elderly and housebound
- For all who prepare the food and for those who come and enjoy the fellowship enjoyed at church meals.

OFFERTORY:

St Columba's: Loose plate: **£424.14**. Planned Giving: **£180.00**

Average Weekly SO - **£574.00**; Sunday Morning Coffee **£24.**

St Theresa's: Loose plate & Planned Giving: **£343.83**

; Average weekly SO - **£161.**

Thursday Badminton £140 --

Chester & E. Port Keralla Christian Community £150 --

THANK YOU for all your generous support.

THE WHITE FLOWER APPEAL on behalf of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will take place in

St Theresa's 6/7 May

St Columba's 13/14 May

Your prayers and generosity will be much appreciated.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting is on Thursday 4th May at 7pm in the Newman Room at St Columba's.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING WALK:

Every Monday 10:00a.m. for 10:30a.m. Health and Wellbeing Walk sponsored by St Theresa's and the URC. For more information ring Brendan Doyle on: 07484353841 or Ann Francis on 01244 959061.

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Highlight from the High: Last week, the CHS held the first 'Vintage Shop' event in the school Hall for all the Y11 students to find the dress/suit for Prom Night. A large number of students and their parents came along, and they had the chance to browse and try on a selection of stunning dresses and sleek suits, whilst they enjoyed drinks and delicious snacks. It was lovely to see their faces when they found the perfect outfit!

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON

St Columba's will be hosting the Fifth Sunday Service at **4.30pm TODAY Sunday 30 April**. The theme will be "Living the Way of Christ". As part of our commitment to closer engagement with other faith communities all parishioners are warmly invited to attend and welcome our neighbours. Thank you. LIVING THE SYNOD!

SAVE THE DATE – SATURDAY 24TH JUNE:

There is a day of reflection, prayer and discernment about your role and mission in the Church on **Saturday 24th June 2023** from 10am-5pm at St Columba's Church Hall. More details to follow.

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA

30th Apr - volunteers please

7th May - volunteers please

14th May - volunteers please

Why not donate a little time to make tea and coffee to refresh the parishioners after 11:00 Mass on Sunday? You can make some money for your favourite charity, too. Call Margaret Curtis 01244 3184234 to book your date(s).

LIVE SCREENING OF THE CORONATION, St Columba's Hall

King Charles III coronation will be screened live in St Columba's Hall on 6th May 2023. We will welcome parishioners who would like to watch this historic event communally, from late morning onwards on the big day. We will provide tea and coffee followed by sandwiches and cake for lunch. We need to know the approx. number, to cater accordingly, **so please put your name down on the sheet in the FRONT PORCH of either church.**

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Sat 6th May Screening of the Coronation on the big screen in St Columba's Church Hall

Sun 11th Jun Annual BBQ to celebrate the feast of St Columba

Thurs 27th July Coach trip to York

CONFIRMATIONS 2023:

The date is **Wednesday 10th May**, 7.00 pm, at St Francis.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND:

8th – 14th February 2024. For more information please see <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/diocesan-pilgrimage-to-the-holy-land-2024/>

Any questions regarding the pilgrimage should be directed to Father David Long: longdv1@aol.com

NHS AT ST THERESA'S:

The NHS will be in St Theresa's car park on Saturday 13 May, 23 May and 21 June for Covid booster vaccinations for anyone over 75 years of age or anyone who is immunosuppressed. Health checks are also available. This will be from 10.30am to 4pm on all dates.

Thought for the week "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." Martin Luther King Jr.

We're all in this together The Big Help Out is one of the official projects of the forthcoming Coronation Weekend and it is an initiative aiming to promote, champion and showcase volunteering. Building on the volunteer phenomenon seen during the pandemic, it aims to inspire a new generation of volunteers by making it easy for everyone to recognise opportunities and get involved.

Volunteering can take many forms, a little like a good amateur dramatics show, there is so much that goes on behind the scenes that make the whole; from scene painters, wardrobe, makeup, lighting, sound, script, programme sellers etc, all a bit like our church community, we have gardeners, newsletter editors, web site workers, tea & coffee makers, church openers, collection counters, cleaners, flower arrangers etc. the list goes on and we really need people to help out and keep the church and its community working. Volunteering is so important and we would encourage everyone to take part. The more hands we have to help, the lighter the load.

Resources If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more about the 'Big Help Out' visit the official website at: thebighelpout.org.uk or nearer to home, like all good organisations we are always on the look out for people to help us run the day to day work of our parish, speak to one of our priests, church secretaries or member of the Pastoral Council, we have a variety of opportunities, some taking less than an hour every few weeks, other a little longer. You decide how much you want to commit to and we will find you that opportunity!

PLANTS WANTED:

As we come into Spring if you are doing any gardening and find you have some spare bedding plants, the Peace Garden would love to give them a home. Please leave them in the Peace Garden at St Theresa's or outside of the garage. Thank you.

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:

30th April Edition will be compiled by

Muriel Green

Phone: 01244 383836

E-mail: st.theresas@btinternet.com

Please include a phone number in case of queries, and Please ensure that items are emailed or phoned to the

Compiler by **9.00a.m. on WEDNESDAY 3rd MAY**

Website: www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Please note that the electronic version of the newsletter on the website may contain additional items which it has not been possible to include in the printed copy this week.

THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY MASS:

You are warmly invited to join the CHS celebration Mass on Friday 9th of June, 11am at Chester Cathedral. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Mallon by email at mallonk@christofidelis.org.uk. There are a limited number of spaces available.

RED MISSION BOXES, ST COLUMBA'S

If you have a Red Mission box for collection, please leave it in the sacristy. When counted I can return your box to your home. Thank you, Margaret Curtis 01244 318424.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH REAR DOOR

This door is not opened on Saturday evening for security reasons. Last Sunday morning the door was found to be unlocked. The apparent explanation is that someone left via that door after Mass on Saturday (as it is an emergency exit door it opens simply by pushing from the inside) but it was not then closed properly so it remained open all night and left the church vulnerable to intruders. PLEASE may we ask that you do not leave the church by the rear exit on Saturday evenings unless there is an event in the hall such as a cake sale in which case arrangements will have been made for the door to be unlocked and then locked. Thank you.

RETRouvaille: a programme for Couples struggling in their marriages.

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk