



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp
pp@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
 Assistant Priest: Fr Desmond Wilson CSSp
app@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Deacon:

Rev Lawrence Hordley 01244 342048, mobile 07960 517463

Website: www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

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

01244 624019
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)

**THE HOLY FAMILY
 31st DECEMBER 2023**

Saturday 30th December

St. Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Frank & Gertrude Buddery

Sunday 31st December -The Holy Family

St. Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Keith Evans RIP
St. Columba's	11.00a.m.	The Parish

Monday 1st January -Mary The Mother of God

Mass at St Columba's only

St Theresa's		Priests' Int
St. Columba's	10.30a.m.	Priests' Intentions

Tuesday 2nd January-Basil The Great. Mem

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

Wed 3rd January -Wednesday of the Christmas Season

St Theresa's		Private Intention
St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
	10.30a.m.	Margaret Haughney

Thursday 4th January -Thursday of the Christmas Season

St. Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's		Mr Scott & Family

Friday 5th January – Friday of the Christmas Season

St. Theresa's	10.00a.m.	Baker Family Ints
St. Columba's.		Cath Carter RIP

Saturday 6th January

St. Theresa's	5.00p.m	Kath Lawlor RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m	Kevin Campbell

Sunday 7th January -The Epiphany

St. Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Jessica Baker RIP
St. Columba's	11.00a.m.	Lily & Keith

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.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS:

Mass will be streamed from St Theresa's at 9.30a.m. **this Sunday 31st December 2023.**

www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresa

Pope's Prayer Intentions for January - For the gift of diversity in the church-Let us pray that the Spirit help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fr William and Fr Desmond wish you all a very Happy and Holy New Year and thank you for your support throughout the year.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS:

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

CONFESSIONS:

There will be Confessions after each weekday Mass until 11.30am.

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

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Please remember in your prayers Joyce Backhouse and Terence Smith who died recently. May the Lord console their families and friends.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary Patricia Dee, Jean Barbara May Blake, Kathleen Lawlor, Patricia Hainey, Genevieve Suzanne M Jones.

OFFERTORY:

St Columba's: Loose plate £ TBC; Planned Giving £TBC; Average Weekly SO - £574.00;

St Theresa's: Loose plate & Planned Giving £TBC; Average weekly SO - £161.00.

THANK YOU for all your generous support.

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA

Why not donate a little time to make tea and coffee after 11:00 Mass on Sunday? You can make some money for your favourite charity, too. Call Margaret Curtis 01244 318424 to book your date(s).

PRAYING TOGETHER

We pray for:

- the residents of Newhall Road, Winston Court, Arradon Court, Breton Close, Wealstone Lane, Well Lane, Bank Close, Newton Halol Drive, Willow Drive, Naomi Close, Dentith Drive & Egerton Road.
- For the Care Homes in our parish and for all those who live and work in them.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:

Thank you to all who donated towards the Christmas flowers, and to those who arranged them so beautifully.

ADVENT JOURNEY - HOSTING OUR KNITTED MARY, JOSEPH & DONKEY FIGURES

Thank you to all who gave lodgings to the Nativity figures on the lead up to Christmas. They have given you all a five star rating on Trip Advisor. They have now safely arrived at St Theresa's Church.

ST COLUMBA'S CAR PARK

The contractors have informed me that the re-surfacing of the car park is due to commence in the week beginning 8th January. I will provide further information as it becomes available.

Pauline Rourke.

HIGHLIGHT FROM THE HIGH:

Thank you to everyone who supported our school in every initiative taking place during this year. The Catholic High School would like to wish you all a blessed and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous new year 2024.

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.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families experiencing poverty. Catalogues available in the church porches along with Advent prayer cards.

"Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one!". Brad Paisley

WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER:

Imagine a world where differences are embraced, not feared, where dialogue takes precedence over aggression, where love reigns supreme. As we enter a new year, let us carry the torch of peace, illuminating the path towards a world where tolerance and harmony reign supreme. Together, we

can foster a world where compassion and understanding flourish. Let peace be our guiding light, leading us towards a brighter future. A Happy and peaceful New Year to all.

New year fun facts

- From the 12th century until Britain adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1752, the official new year was not on January 1 but on March 25.
- Officially in England, 1751 was the shortest year ever, lasting only from March 25 to December 31.
- January is derived from the two-headed god Janus, who could look backward and forward, to the old year and the new, at the same time.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS

To arrange meetings etc. in either the Church, Newman Room or the Iona Chapel, please book through Carol Galvin, St. Columba's Church Office
Phone: 01244 624019

Email: stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

Office hours Monday to Friday 9.00am to 1.00pm

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:

7th December edition will be compiled by Alison Wrigglesworth

Phone: 07708 304246 or Email: a.wrigglesworth@outlook.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 JANUARY
2024**

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.