



# The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



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*Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025*

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 Plas Newton Lane,  
 Chester, CH2 1SA

01244 624019

[stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com](mailto:stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com)

*St Theresa's*  
 128 Blacon Avenue  
 Chester CH1 5BU

01244 371660

[st.theresas@btinternet.com](mailto: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)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

### Saturday 17th February

St. Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Brian Hasslam RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Brian Haslam RIP

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February

St. Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Muriel Halligan RIP
St. Columba's	11.00a.m.	Felicity Hughes RIP

### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February

St Theresa's		Parishioners' Intentions
St. Columba's	10.00a.m.	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
	10.30a.m.	Mary Jeffes

### Tuesday 20th February

St. Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St. Columba		Don Jones

### Wednesday 21st February

St Theresa's		Cath Carter RIP
St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
	10.30a.m.	Ronnie Williams

### Thursday 22<sup>rd</sup> February

St. Theresa's		Philip Noble RIP
St Columba's		Priests' Intentions

### Friday 23rd February

St. Theresa's	9.30a.m.	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
	10.00a.m.	Joseph & Margaret Russell (WA)
St. Columba's.		Gerry Galvin. Anniv.

### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February

St. Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Peggy McHugh RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Anne McCarthy

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February

St. Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St. Columba's	11.00a.m.	Richard Murphy RIP

*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.*

**Pope's Prayer Intentions** For February - for the terminally ill - Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.

### LIVE STREAMING OF MASS:

Mass will be streamed from St Theresa's at 5.00a.m. **this Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

[www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresa](http://www.facebook.com/thecatholicparishofstcolumbaandsttheresa)

### 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.

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Eirlys Nolan, Margaret Parry, Annie Faulkner, Charles Edward Davis and George Thomas Noden.

### OFFERTORY:

**St Columba's:** Loose plate £376.50; Planned Giving £143.00; Average Weekly SO - £574.00; Candles £33.80;

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

THANK YOU for all your generous support.

### LENTEN MESSAGE

As we begin our Lenten Season with the sign of Ashes, we are called to redouble our efforts to prayer, alms giving and fasting and all works of corporal acts of mercy. Fr William and Fr Desmond wish everyone a happy Lenten season.

### ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA:

The 2024 coffee rota is on the noticeboard at St Columba's Hall.

Please enter your name and good cause against your preferred dates. You could make £30-£50 for your chosen cause.

18th Feb - Margaret Curtis, fish & chip babies

25th Feb - volunteers please

3rd Mar - volunteers please

More about Fish & Chip Babies' knitted clothing

Barbara Catstick, the local coordinator for the scheme, has kindly agreed to come to the hall during Sunday tea & coffee at St C. She will explain how your kind efforts are shipped from the Nottingham hub to Africa, who will receive the garments and the locations in the continent, particularly Swaziland, where they live.

### RED BOXES:

ST THERESA'S - Please leave your box in the sacristy to be counted.

ST COLUMBA'S - Please leave it in the sacristy. When counted I can return your box to your home. Thank you, Margaret Curtis 01244 318424.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

An Ecumenical service of prayer and praise will be held at St. Columba's at 10.30am on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. The service will be approximately 40 minutes long and followed by refreshments in the Newman room. All are welcome.

**Highlight from the High:** The Chester Catholic High school is kindly hosting an SVP Youth Mass for all Catholic schools in the Chester and Ellesmere Port area on Wednesday 20th March at 10.30am. Local parishioners are very welcome to join us in this special celebration but at this is a school day all guests will need to register their wish to attend in advance. Please contact GaspariniA@christofidelis.org.uk by Friday 23rd February 2024.

[shawk@christofidelis.org.uk](mailto:shawk@christofidelis.org.uk)

### **PRAYING TOGETHER**

We pray for:

- Pray for the residents of Rosewood Avenue, Whitby Avenue, Egerton Drive, Barnes, Morgan Close, Griffin Close and Blake Close.
- For those on the brass and flower rotas and those who distribute flowers.
- For those who clean our churches and halls.

### **LENT AND EASTER**

#### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross every week. Monday at 10am at St Columba's and Friday at 9.30am at St Theresa's.

Stations of the Cross will be in the Iona Chapel on Monday 19th February.

#### **SERVICE TIMES**

Leaflets are available with the service and Mass times for Lent and Easter. Please do take one with you.

#### **CAFOD LENT FAST DAY - 23rd Feb:**

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Use the envelope in the church porches or give online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

#### **CHRISTIAN AID LENT LUNCHESES:**

Starting on 22nd Feb in St Mary's, Handbridge, 12 noon - 1.30pm. See poster in church porches for further dates and venues.

#### **PASTORAL COUNCIL -**

#### **VOLUNTEERING IN THE LIFE OF YOUR PARISH:**

Pope Francis' Synodal Message:

"By growing together in Communion, the people of God deepen their Participation in the life of the Church and so become more effective Missionary disciples in the world". To carry out Pope Francis' message, your Pastoral Council has been considering how the parish can be even more inclusive, engaging and outgoing. Last October we had the first round of volunteer recruitment which was centred round physical activities - we are very grateful for those who came forward to volunteer. The next phase focuses on the more spiritual aspects of church life such as volunteering for children's liturgy, becoming an altar server or a reader at Mass.

On the weekend of 24th/25th Feb, co-chairs of the Pastoral Council, Pauline Rourke and Ann McCarthy, will be speaking at Masses with details of how you can get involved.

#### **LOURDES BY JUMBULANCE 2024:**

Wirral and Chester Across Groups are taking sick and disabled pilgrims to Lourdes on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> August. by Jumbulance.. For further information, contact Tony Murphy on 07881-656-974 or [tonymurphy2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonymurphy2002@yahoo.co.uk).

### **PROPOSED WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE 8th -11th APRIL**

Fr William has given his blessing to organising a pilgrimage to Our Lady's National Shrine. The cost (assuming 30 on pilgrimage) would be approximately £400 per person including coach travel, accommodation in en-suite single or double/twin rooms, with breakfast and evening meal, in Elmham House, Walsingham. To register your interest in joining the pilgrimage, please add your name and contact details to one of the lists in the church porches, or contact one of our parish secretaries.

#### **DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:**

Brochures and booking forms are now available on the pilgrimage website [www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk](http://www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk) or by ringing 07773 324264, or if you are aged 16 – 22 please email [youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) for an application form to join the youth section of our pilgrimage. This year our pilgrimage dates are: by air is from Friday 26 July to Thursday 1 August, by coach Thursday 25 July to Friday 2 August and for our young people Wednesday 24 July to Friday 2 August. If you are a first time pilgrim or a returning pilgrim we look forward to you joining us in Lourdes this year.

#### **SVP APPEAL - For Household Goods:**

We are currently supporting a family that have moved to Chester and are in need of beds (double and single), a desk (ideally a computer desk), curtains and curtain poles. If you can help with any of these items please ring Sue McCarthy 07515491251 or speak to a member of the SVP. Thank you.

**Thought for the week** - "During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference." Pope Francis

**We're all in this together** - In his message for Lent 2024, Pope Francis invites us to "pause" for prayer and to assist our brothers and sisters in need, in order to change our own lives and the lives of our communities. He asks us to slow down, pause, allow time to contemplate and hopefully release new energies into what we do as individuals and as a community. He says that we can make decisions that are "capable of altering the daily lives of individuals and entire neighbourhoods, such as the ways we acquire goods, care for creation, and strive to include those who go unseen or are looked down upon." Enjoy the pause and time for contemplation and see what we might do differently for the better good of all.

**Resources** - with half term upon us, take a look at the free activities at our local libraries, from crafting, board games, fun English and maths workshops, and more. <https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/libraries/library-events> Chooseday offer, every Tuesday in Chester Market. Offers from a number of the traders in the Market. Plenty of free groups also at the Storyhouse, Chester, chatter and natter, bereavement help point, crafty weekend every Saturday and Sunday from 12 pm; boardgames; story telling...<https://www.storyhouse.com/whats-on/genres/community-events/page/2/>

#### **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](mailto:stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com)

#### **Office hours Monday to Friday 8.30am to 12.30pm**

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](mailto:columbashallbookings@gmail.com) to arrange booking.

**NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:**

25th February edition will be compiled by Harry Sweeney  
Phone:01244 327462 ; or email: harrysweeney45@gmail.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 THURSDAY**

**22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

Website: [www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk](http://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.**

#### **DIOCESAN CHOIR FESTIVAL – ‘SING A NEW**

**SONG’:** You are invited to come along and sing as part of a diocesan choir. Learn music throughout the day and lead the singing for Mass at 5pm. At St Anthony’s, Dunkery Road, Woodhouse Park, Wythenshawe, M22 0WR. Refreshments and registration from 10.30am, rehearsals begin at 11am. Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring a packed lunch. The cost is £5 per person, payable on the day. Book by completing the form at

[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/DIOCESANCHOIRFESTIVAL](http://tinyurl.com/diocesanchoirfestival) The deadline for bookings is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February. For more information contact [reception@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:reception@dioceseofshrewsbury.org).

#### **CANTORES OEUMENICA:**

Presenting "Olivet to Calvary" on Palm Sunday 24th March at 4pm in Holy Angels RC Church, Wicker Lane, Hale Barns WA15 0HF. Entry is FREE with a retiring collection for charity. For further details, including directions to venue, follow this link <http://cantoresoec.org/>