



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

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 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)

EASTER WEEK TWO

7TH APRIL 2024

Saturday 6th April

St. Theresa's 5.00p.m. Parishioners' Intentions
 St Columba's 7.000p.m. The Parish

Sunday 7th April – Divine Mercy Sunday

St. Theresa's 9.30a.m. Muriel Halligan RIP

2.00p.m. Divine Mercy Sunday

St. Columba's 11.00a.m. Private Intention

Monday 8th April – The Annunciation of The Lord

St Theresa's Private Intention
 St. Columba's 10.30a.m. Stuart Worrall B.D.

Tuesday 9th April

St. Theresa's Priests' Intentions
 St. Columba's Ray Harrington

Wednesday 10th April

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

Thursday 11th April – St Stanislaus, B. M

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

Friday 12th April

St. Theresa's 1.45pm Requiem Mass Chris Steele
 St. Columba's Private Intention

Saturday 13th April

St. Theresa's 5.00pm Margaret Collins RIP
 St Columba's 6.30pm Gladys Campbell RIP

Sunday 14th April

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

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 April -for the role of women - Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS:

Mass will be streamed from St Columba's at 11.00am. **this Sunday 7th April 2024**

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 11.30a.m.

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

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

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Please remember in your prayers Chris Steele who died recently, she was the pianist at St. Theresa's who played at Sunday Masses and other services for many years and will be greatly missed. May the Lord console her family and friends. Chris' Requiem Mass will take place at St Theresa's Church on Friday 12th April at 1.45 pm

ANNIVERSARIES:

John (Jack) George Cross, David Carty, Philomena Pellegrini, Margaret Mary Collins, Anne Hogan, Henry Arthur (Harry) Harrison, Lt. Stewart Harrison.

OFFERTORY:

Loose plate £tbc; Planned giving £tbc; Average weekly SO £; Candles £tbc;

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA:

The coffee rota is on the noticeboard in St Columba's Hall. Please enter your name and good cause against your preferred dates. You could make £30-£50 for your chosen cause.

7th April - volunteers please
 14th April - volunteers please
 21st April - volunteers please

A big thank you to those who purchased tea, coffee and cakes after the Easter service on Sunday, we managed to raise £45 for the Parish.

PRAYING TOGETHER

We pray for:

- Pray for the residents of Essex Road, Deva Lane, Walnut Close, Provan Way, Saughall Road, Westbourne Road and Cranleigh Crescent.
- For the Library, Pavilion and recreational areas in our community.
- For all adults and children that they will be safe as they enjoy leisure time.

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE MASS:

The Annual Diocesan Marriage Mass will take place here at St Columba's Church on Saturday 8th June 2024. If you have a special anniversary this year, please get in touch with the Diocese of Shrewsbury, Curial Offices, 2 Park Road South, Prenton, CH43 4UX or telephone 0151-652-9855. Many thanks."

EASTER THANK-YOU:

A big thank you to everyone who helped to get the churches ready for all of the Easter services, and for those who contributed to the services and its welcoming spirit. All your tireless work was very much appreciated.

ALTER SERVERS;

A big "THANK YOU" to our altar servers from both St Theresa's and St Columba's who did really well over Holy Week. A special thank you to those who served at all of the masses and those who served at St Columba's from St Theresa's.

Easter eggs are in the altar server sacristy if you haven't yet collected them.

Wishing you all a super Easter Holiday.

RIGHT TO LIFE (UK):

Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. **Take action:** Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment! – Our MP is Samantha Dixon.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 2024

ST THERESA'S 7TH APRIL:

Programme: 2.00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
2.15pm Recitation of the Chaplet
2.30pm Blessing and veneration of the Divine Mercy picture and Benediction
2.45pm Mass

The service on Divine Mercy Sunday is an opportunity to receive Our Lord's promises of specific, extraordinary graces on the Sunday after Easter. "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion (on this day) will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" (St Faustina). There is a novena which is said in the 9 days before Divine Mercy Sunday (<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena/>). You are invited to attend this service and receive the extraordinary graces from Our Lord.

ST. PIO PRAYER GROUP:

The next meeting is on Thursday, 11 April, starting at 2pm, in Flat 5, Abbots Court, Eversley Park, Chester CH2 2DY. Everyone is welcome.

CAFOD - Call for a ceasefire in the Holy Land:

Thousands of people have been killed across Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory as the region witnesses the deadliest days in recent history. CAFOD unequivocally condemns this shocking killing and kidnapping of civilians. But we know more violence is never the answer.

The scale of the Israeli government's violent retaliation is causing more civilian deaths and injuries. The decision to withhold food, water and fuel from reaching the two million inhabitants of Gaza – half of whom are children – will inevitably lead to a humanitarian catastrophe. Will you email the Foreign Secretary to urge the UK to play its part in upholding international law, ensuring humanitarian aid can reach people in need, and works with other world leaders to secure a lasting peace for the region? Go to cafod.org.uk for more details of what to email.

In addition we could all consider doing what we can personally to make our views known to those in authority, our MPs for instance.

Copies of a CAFOD's prayer for peace in Israel and Gaza are available in the church porches.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

The next Chester Parishes Sacrament of Confirmation will be on 8th November 2024. Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be led by St. Columba and St. Theresa's Confirmation team. Anyone who is currently at high school may be Confirmed, with no upper age limit. If you wish to be Confirmed please email stcolumbatheresaconfirmation@hotmail.co.uk to register and receive further information. Please say if you are over 18, as adults will be prepared separately.

THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL is looking for exam invigilators to support the exams from as soon as possible. If anyone is interested please visit the school website [Vacancies - The Chester Catholic High School \(christofidelis.org.uk\)](http://Vacancies - The Chester Catholic High School (christofidelis.org.uk)) or email Mr Kilcoyne School Business Manager kilcoynea@christofidelis.org.uk for more details.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday April 14th Afternoon tea at St Columba's to raise money towards a new sound system at St Theresa's

Sunday 9th Jun Annual BBQ to celebrate the feast of St Columba
Keep your eye on the newsletter and notice board for further information and any other dates of activities.

Thought for the week: "The most wasted of days is one without laughter." E E Cummings.

REQUEST FOR UNWANTED KNITTING WOOL:

If anyone has wool they don't need, please consider donating it to the makers of hats and jumpers for the Fish & Chip babies, please contact Margaret Curtis (318424) to arrange a handover. ALSO, if any knitters needs more wool, please contact me, too.

There are now photographs of the chicks and information about the fish & chip babies on the website.

CHESTER OPERATIC SOCIETY 'GET HAPPY':

There will be a performance of popular and enduring tunes from the Golden age of the 1920s to the 1950s from Broadway, musical theatre, and Hollywood musical film by Chester Operatic Society. The performance will be at Chester Town hall Fri 12th & Sat 13th April 2024. Tickets are £18 but for every table of 10 one ticket is free. If you would like tickets please contact Mark Traynor marktraynor96@gmail.com or www.ticketsource.co.uk/chesteroperatic.

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 8.30a.m. to 12.30p.m.

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:

14th April edition will be compiled by Rebecca Vaughan
Phone:01244 318632 ; or email: Rebecca_vghn@yahoo.co.uk

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 11TH APRIL 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.