



# The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp

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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

St Columba's  
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)

|   |                 |  |
|---|-----------------|--|
| The month of April is dedicated to The Holy Spirit                      |                 |  |
| <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>  |                 |  |
| <b>20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025</b>                                       |                 |  |
| <b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Holy Saturday Easter Vigil</b>      |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  |                 | NO EVENING MASS  |
| St Columba's  | <b>8.00p.m.</b> | <b>Easter Vigil Mass</b><br>Michael Craven RIP         |
| <b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April – EASTER SUNDAY</b>                     |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  | 9.30a.m.        | Parishioners' Intentions                               |
| St Columba's  | 11.00a.m.       | Children's Liturgy<br>Private Intention (NK)           |
|   | 2.00p.m.        | Kerala Catholic Community<br>Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite |
| <b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Monday of the Easter Octave</b>       |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  |                 | Priests' Intentions                                    |
| St Columba's  | 10.30a.m.       | Parishioners' Intentions                               |
| <b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Tuesday of the Easter Octave</b>     |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  |                 | Private Intention                                      |
| St Columba's  |                 | Parishioners' Intentions                               |
| <b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Wednesday of the Easter Octave</b> |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  |                 | Special Intention                                      |
| St Columba's  | 9.30a.m.        | Exposition of the Blessed<br>Sacrament                 |
|   | 10.15a.m.       | Novena Prayers   |
|   | 10.30a.m.       | Phillip G Francis                                      |
| <b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Thursday of the Easter Octave</b>   |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  |                 | Tony & Robin Walsh                                     |
| St Columba's  |                 | <b>Priests' Intentions</b>                             |
| <b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Friday of the Easter Octave</b>       |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  | 10.00a.m.       | Mary Scalley RIP                                       |
| St Columba's  |                 | The Parish   |
| <b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April – Saturday of the Easter Octave</b>   |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  | 5.00p.m.        | Parishioners' Intentions                               |
| St Columba's  | 6.30p.m.        | David Innes RIP  |
| <b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April – Divine Mercy Sunday</b>               |                 |  |
| St Theresa's  | 9.30a.m.        | Colette Johnson RIP                                    |
| St Columba's  | 11.00a.m.       | Frans O'Leary  |
|   | 2.00p.m.        | Kerala Catholic Community<br>Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite |

*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.*

## EASTER WISHES:

Fr William and Fr Peter would like to wish all parishioners a Happy Easter. The Lord has risen. Hallelujah!

## PARISH OFFICES:

Will be closed from Thursday 17th April until Tuesday 22nd April.

## ANNIVERSARIES:

James Rogerson, Sheila Ann Gilfoyle, William James Hinde, Gerald O'Hanlon, John Bernard Douggie, Michael Thornber.

## POPE'S APRIL PRAYER INTENTIONS:

For the use of the new technologies. Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

## CONFESSIONS:

There will be Confessions after each weekday Mass until 11.30a.m.

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

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

## WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS:

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

## LIVE STREAMING OF MASS:

Mass will be streamed at St Columba's on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00a.m.

Cover is needed at both churches for occasions when Tim is unavailable. The only requirement is you need to have an Iphone. If you would be willing to help with this please contact one of the church offices. Thank you.

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

## PARISH OFFERTORY:

St Columba's: Loose Plate: TBC; Planned Giving TBC; Average weekly SO £718.15. Candles: TBC.

St Theresa's: Loose £171.04, Envelopes £155.20, Society of African £829.94. Thank you for your generosity.

## PRAYING TOGETHER:

- Pray for the residents of Ethelda Drive, Dorfold Way, Sussex Road, Onslow Road, Springwood Close, Overwood Lane and Melverley Drive.
- For all who serve through the Anglican Diocese of Chester, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury and the United Reformed Church Mersey Synod.
- For our churches that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit.

## SUNDAY MESSAGE:

This week the readings cover only Mass on Easter Day, they do not cover the Vigil Mass. For the Vigil, please pick up one of the Triduum Booklets available in Church which will include the appropriate Readings. Thank you.

### THE EASTER VIGIL

The Easter Vigil is the heart of the Church's liturgical year. It is full of symbolism, the most vivid being the image of Christ the Light of the World conquering the darkness of sin and death. It begins in the dark, outside the church, where it might be hard to see or hear. For those lighting the fire, there may be some nerves should the weather be windy. But out of this, there is a certain wonder as the procession begins into a darkened church with the Deacon or Priest carrying the Paschal Candle, singing Lumen Christi – the Light of Christ. Gradually the people enter, and their candles are lit from the Paschal Candle. The Light of Christ spreads throughout the church, Christ's light shattering the darkness.

The Easter Candle will now burn at all Masses up to and including Pentecost. It will burn during Baptisms and from it the Baptismal candles will be lit. It will stand beside the coffin during the funeral liturgy: a reminder of the Baptism of the deceased person.

### TERMINALLY ILL ADULTS (END OF LIFE) BILL:

Following the recent Pastoral letter relating to this Bill, to find out more and write to your MP visit [www.livesworthliving.org.uk](http://www.livesworthliving.org.uk), and or pick up a leaflet from the back of church. Postcards can also be found at the back of church addressed to SPUC relating to a request to the PM to commit to long term reform of hospice and palliative care.

Should you wish to contact your MP Samantha Dixon, her address is, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, her email address is [Samantha.dixon.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:Samantha.dixon.mp@parliament.uk). Her constituency office address is The Bluecoat, Upper Northgate St, Chester CH1 4EE. The Health Secretary, Wes Streeting can also be contacted at the above House of Commons address and email [wes.streeting.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:wes.streeting.mp@parliament.uk).

### CAFOD, FAMILY EASTER PRAYER:

Risen Jesus,

We rejoice that you are alive and with us.

Make us messengers of Easter joy and hope for all the world.

Amen

### ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA:

The coffee rota is on the noticeboard in St Columba's Hall. Just write your name, charity and phone number on the calendar. But if you can't access the hall, leave a message on Margaret Curtis's answerphone on 01244 318424 with your name and date(s) and she will add you to the rota.

20<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Sunday, volunteers please

27<sup>th</sup> April - volunteers please

4<sup>th</sup> May - volunteers please

### CAFOD LENT FAST DAY:

The total amount from envelope donations was £429. Many thanks for your continued generosity.

### CHORAL MUSIC FOR EASTER – 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL AT 7PM:

On the afternoon of Good Friday, April 18th, the professional group Manchester Baroque will be playing at Manchester Cathedral to perform Bach's St. John Passion with Manchester Cathedral Choir, one of the most moving pieces of music ever written, performed for the occasion in the Church calendar for which it was originally written. Manchester Cathedral has disabled facilities including disabled toilets and seating with extra legroom. During the interval, a bar will also be available to purchase drinks. Tickets for all budgets start from £10 to book for the St. John Passion head to: <https://shorturl.at/kowtW>. You can find out more about us at [www.manchesterbaroque.co.uk](http://www.manchesterbaroque.co.uk). If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you very much for your assistance. Mike Emmerich.

### ST THERESA'S SCHOOL KNITTED CHICK APPEAL:

A huge thank you to everyone who knitted chicks for the school's Easter appeal. The sale of knitted chicks with their chocolate egg inserts raises a whopping £200.00. THANK YOU!

### NEEDLES & PINS - WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL:

Everyone is invited to this friendly and welcoming needlecraft group in the Newman Room, between 2:00-4:00pm every fourth Wednesday of the month. Hope to see you.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Bloom where you are planted", St Francis De Sales

### CAFOD MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL:

Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. You can donate online at [cafod.org.uk/myanmar](http://cafod.org.uk/myanmar) or by calling 0300 999 0030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

Prayer for the people of Myanmar. Please join us in praying for the people of Myanmar and other affected areas. God, our strength and our help in times of trouble, be with your people now, in the aftermath of this earthquake. Move us to come together offering shelter for the homeless, rest to the weary comfort to the injured and distressed.

### SVP APPEAL FOR WHITE GOODS:

The SVP are currently supporting a person who has been rehoused. Do you have a washing machine, fridge/freezer or a free standing electric cooker that you could donate? Please contact Sue McCarthy, Mark Traynor or any member of the SVP. 07515491251. Many thanks

### ZUMBA MASTERCLASS IN AID OF "HOPEFUL UGANDAN HEARTS:

On Saturday 17th May from 11am-1pm. £10 Adults and £5 Children 6+ **PAY AT THE DOOR.**

We are raising funds to support two Orphanages in Uganda. Children need to remain in school and we are helping to pay for school fees, food and rent. Come and join me Zumba with LiNA for two hours of Zumba fitness and FUN!!! As always, we'll have a Raffle, expect great prizes. Any enquiries contact Lina Greig 07837512544.

### ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS

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

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

**Office hours Monday to Friday 9a.m. to 2p.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 Magdalena Bukowska on 01244 624019 for enquires within the office hours stated above or email [columbashallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:columbashallbookings@gmail.com) to arrange booking.

### NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April edition will be compiled by

Amy O'Donnell. Phone: 07854 290897

Or email: [amyod@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amyod@hotmail.co.uk)

Please include a phone number in case of queries, and please ensure that notices *are also emailed* to Fr William

Or phoned to the compiler by 9.00 a.m. on

**TUESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2025**

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.*

**BRAZILIAN COMMUNITY:**

Hi all, we are part of the Brazilian community in Chester and would like to invite you to pray the rosary with us. We meet on line on Thursdays at 8p.m. The rosary is prayed in Portuguese, so if you'd like to join us you are more than welcome. Please send us an email and we can send you the link for the meeting. Luciana [lucianaalsina@yahoo.com](mailto:lucianaalsina@yahoo.com)

**THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:**

**Teaching Assistant Vacancy:** For information, please visit [www.christofidelis.org.uk](http://www.christofidelis.org.uk) **Closing date: 12pm Wednesday 23rd April 2025** Applications should be returned via email to: Andrew Kilcoyne, [kilcoynea@christofidelis.org.uk](mailto:kilcoynea@christofidelis.org.uk)

**Prom Dresses and Suits Wanted:** The Catholic High School is welcoming donations of dresses and suits for the upcoming 'Prom Shop' sale. Donations may be dropped off at the school reception - Old Wrexham Road, CH4 7HS. Thank you.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2025/2026:**

The planned giving envelopes for the next financial year are now available at the back of the church.

There are also a number of blank boxes of envelopes and should you wish to use one please contact Kevin Keegan on 07790 758008 or email at [k1bfb@hotmail.com](mailto:k1bfb@hotmail.com) so that your details can be added to the planned giving system.

**WELCOME TO OUR PARISH:**

If you are NEW TO THE PARISH, please complete a Parish Registration Form and send (or bring) it to either parish office to let us know that you are here and enable us to welcome you. Forms can be found in the front porches of both churches and on the website [www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk](http://www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk) under the "I'm New" tab. Thank you.

**SUPPORTING THE VOCATION TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE:**

Calling all those interested in supporting the vocation of marriage and family to join Jane Deegan Director of Marriage and Family Life Vocation for a retreat day to find out more about this important work and the various different ways you can help.

**When:** 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025 9.30am-4.00pm

**Where:** Parish Hall, Holy Angels Church, Wicker Lane, Hale Barnes WA15 0HG

**To Register and for More Information please contact:**

Monika

at [monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Mobile:

07549226794 or

Jane

at [jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org) Mobile:

07517

906435.