



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp

pp@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Peter Otuonkpaikhian

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 Hutcherson (07964 130982 or 01244 371070) and Jane Walsh (07506 768870 or 01244 378201)

The month of June is dedicated to
the Sacred Heart of Jesus

PENTECOST SUNDAY 8th JUNE 2025

Saturday 7th June

St Theresa's	9.30am	Malankara Jacobite Syriac Community Mass
	5.00p.m.	Paddy McHugh RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Parishioners' Ints

Sunday 8th June – Pentecost Sunday-Day of Special prayer for the Church

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Michelle Fisher
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro- Malabar Rite

Monday 9th June -Mary, Mother of the Church, Mem

St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	Elwell Family

Tuesday 10th June

St Theresa's		Private Int
St Columba's		Catherine Sims

Wednesday 11th June-St Barnabus, Ap, M

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 Stockley

Thursday 12th June – Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest

St Theresa's		Albert Hodkinson RIP
St Columba's		Priests' Intentions

Friday 13th June

St Theresa's	10.00a.m.	Joseph Russell RIP
St Columba's		The Parish

Saturday 14th June

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Malankara Jacobite Syriac Community Mass
	5.00p.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Parishioners' Intentions

Sunday 15th June – The Most Holy Trinity

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Linda Theresa Barlow RIP
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Adam, Martina, Eddie, Holly, Harry & Elwell Family
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community 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.

POPE'S JUNE PRAYER INTENTIONS:

That the world might grow in compassion. Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Patrick Joseph Casey, Stuart Joseph Bright, Eileen Waters, Min Gannon, Linda Theresa Barlow, Bernard Martin Walsh, Albert Hodkinson, Alan Crawford.

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 Theresa's on Sunday 8th June at 9.30a.m. Cover is needed at St Columba's for occasions when Tim is unavailable. (St Theresa's have a volunteer) 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

PARISH OFFERTORY:

Loose Plate: £443.19; Planned Giving £220.30; Average weekly SO £718.15. Candles: £33.06.

Thank you for your generosity.

SPIRITAN APPEAL- 8th JUNE

There will be a retiring collection TODAY 7/8 June which is Pentecost Sunday. The Congregation of the Holy Spirit came into being on Pentecost – the outpouring of the Holy Spirit with his gift. I would like to appeal to parishioners to generously support our mission to educate more younger ones in formation. William Sianyuka who is a student on Pastoral Year, will be making the appeal. Thank you.

FR WILLIAM:

Fr William will be away until the end of August. We hope he has a well earned rest.

PRAYING TOGETHER:

- Pray for the residents of Cambridge Road, Devon Road, Yerburch Street, Brisbane Road, Darwin Road, Chevron Hey and Chevron Close.
- For our local councillors and the work they do.
- For our Parish Council and those involved with the Arradon twinning.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION THANKSGIVING MASS - St Columba's:

All the children who received their First Holy Communion in May are coming together next Sunday, 8th June at 11.00am. It is Pentecost Sunday and it is also the Parish Thanksgiving Mass. The children will sit in the two central front benches. Please continue to pray for them at this special time.

HOLY REUNION MASS AT CHS: All the children who have recently done their FHC or are about to receive this sacrament are invited to celebrate Mass followed by light refreshments at the Catholic High School on Wednesday 25th June, 6pm. The children are welcome to wear their Communion outfits or the school uniform. Family and friends are welcome to join us. Please book your places by email to gasparinia@christofidelis.org.uk.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers, Kath Crogan, one of the St Columba's original parishioners. Her Funeral Service at the Chester Crematorium on Thursday 12th June at 2.00pm.

ANNUAL ST COLUMBA FEAST DAY BARBECUE 15TH JUNE

Come along and join us for a bacon butty, burger or sausage in a bun in this annual family get together. As it's Father's Day, there's a free beer included for every dad who buys a meal!

ANNUAL SUMMER PARISH COACH TRIP

On Thurs 24th July we have a coach booked to LEEDS, cost £15. Leaving 8:45 from St Columba's and 9am from St Theresa's. Read poster in your church porch for details. Sign-up sheets are in the front porches from this weekend.

CHURCH NEWS

On Friday, 30th May, the Pope spoke of the need for peace. He especially mentioned the need to expose young people to a culture of peace.

Lamenting the violence in our world and in our societies, Pope Leo said that young people need "to be able to experience the culture of life, dialogue, and mutual respect," especially through good examples. Those who "resist the temptation to seek revenge" after having suffered injustice and violence "become the most credible agents of non-violent peace-building processes."

Non-violence, he said, "as a method and a style, must distinguish our decisions, our relationships, and our actions."

The Holy Father said the Gospel and the Church's social doctrine are "a constant source of support for Christians in this effort," as well as a "compass for everyone" since peacebuilding is "a task entrusted to all."

Vatican News Website

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK- "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant." Robert Louis Stevenson.

ST. WERBURGH'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY:

This will be celebrated in December this year. During the year there will be several events to mark this Anniversary and parishioners from St. Columba and St. Theresa's are warmly invited to attend. Details of events in the coming week are on the notice board in both churches.

DAY PILGRIMAGE

The five Chester Parishes are organising a Day Pilgrimage to our Cathedral in Shrewsbury as part of this Jubilee Year 2025, travelling by train from Chester, a beautiful one-hour ride down the Welsh Marches and then a 15-minute stroll to our Cathedral. 09.24 from Chester and returning from Shrewsbury at 16.25. We have 25 places for all the five Parishes together and will allocate them on a first come, first served basis. Please email Fr Paul (werburgh465@btinternet.com) if you would like to come, and tell us your choice of lunch from the selection on the flyer at the back of Church.

CHURCHES TOGETHER - TWO SAINTS - TWO ISLANDS:

This is the theme of the next Churches Together Fifth Sunday Service to be held at Holy Ascension church on Sunday 29th June at 4.30 p.m. More info on notice boards.

BLACON FESTIVAL – SATURDAY 5th JULY

On Saturday 5th July the annual Blacon Festival will be taking place on the car park and field next to St Theresa's Church. Avenue Services have informed us that St Theresa's car park will be used, so for those attending the 5pm Mass at St Theresa's, they will be unable to park on the car park. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Vacancy at the Catholic High: We are looking to recruit a caretaker. Please check the school website for full details. www.christofidelis.org.uk Closing date: 3pm Friday 13th June 2025.

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

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 to arrange booking.

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER

Sunday 15th June 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 notices are also emailed to Fr William At st.theresas@btinternet.com Or phoned to the compiler by 9.00 a.m. on

WEDNESDAY 11th JUNE 2025

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.

OPEN CHURCH SATURDAY JUNE 21ST

We are looking forward to a friendly afternoon from 2-4 pm when parishioners of Holy Ascension, The United Reformed Church and St Columba's can meet informally. There will be a booklet which gives a guided tour of the building, which will help you see our church in a new light. For St Columba's parishioners, this might be the first time you have truly explored our unique building and learned a little of its amazing history. David Savage will be on hand for those who would like to hear more. Coffee, tea and cake are available all afternoon in the Newman Room. Put the date in your diary!

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.

8th June - Sue McCarthy, SVP

15th June - St Columba's Feast Day - Annual

BARBECUE - 22nd June - volunteers please

PARISH ART COMPETITION TO CELEBRATE THE JUBILEE YEAR:

As part of our Parish celebrations for the Jubilee Year, we are inviting parishioners and their families, along with students from our local Catholic schools, to enter our art competition by creating a piece of artwork which is inspired by the Jubilee themes.

We have several age groups (4-6 years, 7-11, 12-14, 15-18 and 18+), each with cash prizes. The deadline for entries is Friday 27th June. Winning entries will be displayed at our Parish Pastoral Council AGM on Saturday 19th July. There are information sheets which may provide some inspiration for your entries available at both churches. We look forward to seeing your creativity so please do join in and support us in our celebrations of the Jubilee Year.

If anyone would like more information or has any questions, please email Amy on amyod@hotmail.co.uk

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 under the "I'm New" tab. Thank you.

DAY OF FORMATION IN LITURGICAL PRAYER & SACRED MUSIC:

A day of study, prayer, music and reflection. Led by Fr Guy Nicholls, Director of the St John Henry Newman Institute of Liturgical Music. Saturday 28th June at St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine, Tatton Street, Stockport, SK1 1EJ. A practical day course on understanding the Liturgy and use of Sacred Music within Mass. Begins at 11am and ends with a sung Mass at 5pm. Cost £5 per person (suggested donation payable on the day). Bring a packed lunch. Tea/coffee and biscuits provided. To book or for more information, please email stockportshrine@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS: Are you able to offer Fr Peter a lift from St Columba's back to St Theresa's after the 6.30pm Saturday evening Mass and the 11am Sunday morning Mass? More volunteers are needed. The more volunteers we have the fewer times you would be called upon. Please consider this request seriously and if you can help out, contact the parish offices.

PEACE DOVES IS A LARGE-SCALE ARTWORK AT CHESTER CATHEDRAL which invites you to reflect on the values of peace, unity, and harmony. Each dove carries a unique message, written by visitors, schoolchildren, and community groups, and together they form a breathtaking installation that offers a serene space for contemplation and hope. Bathed in gentle, evocative lighting and at times accompanied by an original score by David Harper, the exhibit transforms the venue into a sanctuary of quiet reflection. From 2th May 2025 - 17th June 2025. No booking required.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

The Parish Council met on 1st May in St Theresa's Presbytery. Reports from the various constituent groups outlining their planned activities within the context of the Parish Development Plan had been received in advance and were commented on. The main discussion of the meeting centred around the proposals for the exciting AGM on July 19th (date for your diaries) and further ways to mark the Jubilee 25 year including a special Mass to be held on Thursday Sept 18th (another date for your diaries).

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL 2025:

Taking place in the grounds of Ampleforth College from Friday 22nd - Monday 25th August, the Youth 2000 Summer Festival provides young adults (aged 16-35) from across the UK the opportunity to come together and explore faith, build relationships and find hope. This four-day festival includes great speakers, social time, break-out sessions, Daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and much more! Register your place at:

<https://youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025>.