



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



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

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stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp
pp@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Peter Otuonkpaikhian
app@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk

Deacon:
Rev Lawrence Hordley Mobile 07960 517463
Website: www.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk
Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

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 month of August is dedicated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 31ST AUGUST 2025

Saturday 30th August

St Theresa's	5.00pm	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	6.30p.m	Mary Ible RIP

Sunday 31st August

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	John Albert Hodgkinson RIP
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Caroline Okolie
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

Monday 1st September – Day of Special Prayer for the Care of Creation

St Theresa's		Peter Lane RIP
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	Mary Ible

Tuesday 2nd September

St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's		Private Intention (CT)

Wednesday 3rd September – St Gregory the Great, Pp, D. Feast

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

Thursday 4th September

St Theresa's		Special Intention
St Columba's		Priests' Intentions

Friday 5th September

St Theresa's	10.00a.m.	Karen Reid RIP
St Columba's		The Parish

Saturday 6th September

St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Kathleen Baxter RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Mary Ible RIP (MGC)

Sunday 7th September – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

ANNIVERSARIES

John Albert Hodgkinson, Winifred McGlown, James Donnelly, Peter Lane, Julia Sheila Ring

POPE'S AUGUST PRAYER INTENTIONS

For mutual coexistence. Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please remember in your prayers: Mary Ible and Anthony Walsh. Mary Ible's Requiem Mass is on Monday 8th September at 12 noon at St Columba's. May the Lord console their families and friends.

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 31st August at 9.30 a.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: £442.12; Planned Giving: £356.60; Average weekly SO £718.15; Candles £42.60

PRAYING TOGETHER

- Pray for the residents of Lumley Road, Demage Lane, Willow Close, Hillside Road, Belvedere Drive, Furne, Road, and Morton Road.
- For our senior schools: Upton High School, The Catholic High School and Bishops High School. For all teachers especially those working in RE departments.
- For all young people attending these schools, especially those from our congregations.

ST COLUMBA'S OFFICE

From 14th July the office hours at St Columba's are: 8.00am to 2.15pm, Monday to Thursday.

Office will be closed on Bank Holiday Monday 25th August and on 1st September. Urgent matters will be dealt with through the kind services of Carol Galvin 9.00a.m to 12.00pm.

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA

The coffee rota is on the noticeboard in St Columba's all. 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.

31st Aug Sue McCarthy, SVP
7th Sept volunteers please
14th Sept volunteers please

CHURCHES TOGETHER FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE

The next CTU Service is TODAY, Sunday 31st August at 4.30 at the URC Church on Heath Road. The theme is "A Short History of hymns". It should be very enjoyable with a short social time afterwards. Please come to represent St Columba's.

FRIENDSHIP THURSDAY SEPTEMBER

Friendship Thursday begins again on Thursday September 4th from 2- 4pm in the parish hall. Come for an afternoon of friendship, chat and sometimes, a guest to listen to. Bring a friend or two- it's open to anyone. Refreshments, with suggested donation of £2. For information ring Lyn 07735574397

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy is normally on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. This month, that will be Sept 7th and Sept 21st at the 11.a.m. mass at St Columba's Church. See the parish website for further news.

YEAR OF THE JUBILEE 2025 MASS

Pope Francis gave this year's Jubilee the theme of 'Pilgrims of Hope' and invited Catholics everywhere to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". A special Mass to celebrate our faith and renew our hope for the future is to be held in St Columba's church on Thursday 18th September at 7pm followed by refreshments in the hall. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

In the words of Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster "May our prayer in this Jubilee Year be robust and heartfelt: that God will guide our poor efforts here, enabling us to contribute to the harmony of the world and all its people".

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION CLASSES

These classes are for children who come to either St Columba's or St Theresa's churches but do not attend one of the RC Primary Schools. They are held in the Newman Room at St Columba's on Wednesday evenings in term time from 5pm to 6pm. The classes will begin on Wednesday 24th Sept. If you have a child in Year 3 or above who would like to enrol to join these classes to prepare for First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion this school year, or if you would like any further information, please contact Pauline Payne by email pauline.payne4@btinternet.com

DIOCESAN JUBILEE EVENTS

Jubilee Evangelisation Event Sharing Hope with a Broken World with guest speaker Mark Saunders on Saturday 13th September 10.30am-2.15pm at St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine, Tatton St, Stockport SK1 1EJ. To book email: natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

Jubilee for Catechists with Bishop Mark Davies, the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph and Natalie Orefice, Diocesan Director of Evangelisation and Catechesis. On Saturday 15th November at St Joseph's Eucharistic Shrine, Tatton St, Stockport SK1 1EJ. Book a free place here: <https://bit.ly/Jubilee-for-Catechists>

FAITH EXPLORATION AND SHARING

For any parishioner not yet in full communion with the Church but interested in exploring a way to that, beginning in September the parish will be running the Sycamore course explaining the Catholic faith. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact deacon Lawrence for more details. If you know someone you think might be interested why not offer some words of encouragement.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - Nothing comes from doing nothing. William Shakespeare

FISH AND CHIP BABIES KNITTING PROJECT

If you have any double-knitting wool to spare, we now need more for the babies in NE Africa. Please arrange to hand it to Margaret Curtis, thank you.

PARISH YOUTUBE CHANNEL

The Pastoral Council would like to offer Mass live streamed on our YouTube channel. To do this, at no cost to us, we need a minimum of 50 subscribers. We would be very grateful if parishioners could subscribe to the channel which can be found on YouTube as: **St Columba and Theresa RC Church Chester**. Even if you are unlikely to use the service, please do subscribe to benefit others.

PARISH WEBSITE

If anyone has an item that they would like to have on the website, please contact Lyn Coyle, who is the parish liaison with the website manager. These items must be about parish-based events or information. marilyn.coyle44@gmail.com

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 Thursday 8a.m. to 2.15p.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 7th September edition will be compiled by Rebecca Vaughan Phone: 01244 318632
Or email: rebecca_vghn@yahoo.co.uk
by 9.00 a.m. on

WEDNESDAY 3rd September 2025

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.

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.

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"

ST WERBURGH AND ST COLUMBA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

St Werburgh's and St Columba's Catholic Primary School.

Our much-loved Headteacher is due to retire in December 2025, and we are looking to appoint a new Headteacher for our happy, vibrant, and successful Primary school.

The Governors are looking to appoint a committed and practicing Catholic, an ambitious, dynamic, and inspirational leader who has the vision to continue to drive the school forward.

If you are interested in this position, please click on the link below for more information and the application pack.

<https://ctgonline.co.uk/jobs/6870b6a9473dd8927720524a>

ST. WERBURGH'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

This will be celebrated in December this year. Details of events in the coming week are on the notice board in both churches.

MASS INTENTIONS (ST THERESA'S)

If you would like a Mass saying, please put the name of the person the Mass is for and the date you would like it in an envelope along with the donation. Please also put your name and a telephone number so that we can contact you if the date you requested is unavailable. Thank You.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS – MORE NEEDED

Donated food is taken to the West Cheshire Foodbank at Ellesmere Port every fortnight. The warehouse is usually fairly full but recently the crates have been half empty. The volunteers confirmed that they have had to buy in supplies out of their limited resources. The donation receipt book shows our parish donation weighing 20.6 kgs but another entry showed that 403kgs of food had to be purchased at Costco. If you can, please give as generously as possible, especially UHT milk, Longlife juice, curry sauce, tinned spaghetti and chocolate. A look at the Foodbank website (westcheshirefoodbank.org.uk) indicates where there is a need for particular items.

Thank you so much. Your generosity makes all the difference.

MARRIAGE HELP

Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

SUNSET CAFÉ PROJECT

Chester Townhouse, the Hospitality Hero and Soul Kitchen Chester have launched the Sunset Cafe inside the Chester Townhouse Hotel, Lower Bridge Street from 11a.m. to 3p.m. every Friday until the end of September. This is a live training cafe aiming to educate, train and support individuals stepping back into employment. We would be delighted if any parishioners or visitors in town on a Friday were able to visit the cafe to support this project.