



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 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

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

01244 624019

stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.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 September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 7TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Saturday 6th September

St Theresa's	5.00pm	Kathleen Baxter RIP
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St Columba's	6.30p.m	Mary Ible RIP (M&G C)
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Sunday 7th September

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

Monday 8th September – Nat. of the B V M

St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
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St Columba's	10.30a.m.	Mary Ible
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	12 noon	Requiem Mass Mary Ible
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Tuesday 9th September

St Theresa's		Winifred McGowan RIP
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St Columba's		Private Intention
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Wednesday 10th September

St Theresa's		Private Intention
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St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
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	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
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	10.30a.m.	Joseph Francis
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Thursday 11th September

St Theresa's		Special Intention
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St Columba's		Priests' Intentions
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Friday 12th September

St Theresa's	10.00a.m.	Fr. Jim Kennedy's Intention
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St Columba's		Priests' Intentions
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Saturday 13th September

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Malankara Jacobite Syriac Community Mass
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St Columba's	5.00p.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
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	6.30p.m.	Rosemary McRoberts Ann.
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Sunday 14th September – Exaltation of The Holy Cross

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Joan Woods RIP
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St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Tony Walsh RIP
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	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite
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CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

The Children's Liturgy normally happens at the 11a.m. at St Columba's on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. For further details, see the parish website under the Family tab.

ANNIVERSARIES:

James Donnelly, Brian Francis Kelly.

POPE'S SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTIONS:

FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL OF CREATION

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

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

TONY WALSH RIP:

I would like to thank Fr. Peter and all the Parishioners who attended Tony's Mass and for all the Mass cards and friends at the Church. They were a great comfort and helped me with the loss of Tony.

Ronnie Walsh.

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 7th September at 11.00 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

PRAYING TOGETHER:

- Pray for the residents of Daleside, Meadows Way, Queensway, Cleaveland Road, Stratford Road, Walton Place, and Downham Place.
- For our junior and Infant schools: Acresfield, Upton Heath, Mill View, Westlea, Dorin Park and St Werburgh's & St Columba's and St Theresa's. Also, schools in Newton, Guilden Sutton and Mickle Trafford.
- For the teachers and pupils that they will be open to the Christian teaching they receive.
- For our local clergy as they lead assemblies.

FR WILLIAM:

We welcome back Fr William who is due to return this weekend.

PARISH OFFERTORY:

Two Sunday collections: Loose Plate: £841.68; Planned Giving: £400.77; Average weekly SO £718.15; Candles £67.51.

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.

7 th September	volunteers please
14 th September	Sue McCarthy, SVP
21 st September	volunteers please

CHURCHES TOGETHER AGM:

Churches Together in Upton AGM will be held on next Wednesday 10th September at 2p.m. the United Reformed Church in Heath Road. This is an important meeting at which the Officers for the forthcoming year will be appointed. You are cordially invited to attend.

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 7p.m. 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.oreface@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.

THE MARTYR-SAINTS OF THE NORTH-WEST, 12TH-14TH SEPTEMBER:

Join us for this weekend studying some of the Reformation-era martyrs of England's recusant North-West region. Part-retreat, part-biographical, the weekend will be led by Mgr John Allen of Salford Diocese, who has recently published a history of the diocese with a foreword by Eamon Duffy.

Extend your stay at Stonyhurst with a discount on accommodation for extra nights.

For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-martyr-saints-of-the-north-west/>

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"Education is not the learning of many facts, but the training of the mind to think." – Albert Einstein

AT THE START OF A NEW EDUCATIONAL YEAR:

With schools, colleges and universities going back over the following weeks, we wish all our students the very best for the new term and the year ahead, and wish all staff involved in our education establishments all the very best.

Our prayers and support are with you all. Here's to a successful and fulfilling year ahead for you all.

URGENT – THE TERMINALLY ILL ADULTS (END OF LIFE) BILL

is being debated in the House of Lords on 12th September. Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop John Sherrington, Bishop Mark and others have written to us to highlight the serious concerns that this Bill raises, warning it risks the lives of vulnerable patients, threatens palliative care, and undermines the role of hospices and medical professionals. Please:

- Contact members of the House of Lords. For paper letters, the address is simply: [Name of Peer], House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW. A full list of Peers can be found at <https://members.parliament.uk/members/lords>
- Speak up for quality end-of-life care & Pray for the protection of life.

Further information can be found on our church noticeboards, and on our website.

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 9.00a.m. to 2.00p.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 14th September edition will be compiled by

Amy O'Donnell Phone: 07854 290897

Or email: amyod@hotmail.co.uk

by 9.00 a.m. on

WEDNESDAY 10th 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.

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY RETREAT DAY:

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 that help is needed. There will also be presentations from representatives of some of the apostolates already working in the diocese in support of marriage and family.

When: 11th October 2025 9.30a.m.- 4.00p.m.

Where: Parish Room Shrewsbury Cathedral - Entrance
Address: Town Walls Shrewsbury SY1 1UE (Above the Cafe). Parking is limited but public car parks are available nearby.

To Register and for More Information please contact:

Monika at
monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile
: 07549226794 or Jane at
jane.deegan@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Mobile: 07517 906435.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF ST COLUMBA'S RECRUITMENT:

If you like singing, learning something new, finding new friends, and using your talent to praise the Lord, you can join the little choir of St Columba. The Little Choir is looking for young children from year 3 and above. You do not need to know the music or be able to sing. We will help you to learn to sing and be a member of a choir. We also support young guitarists and percussionists to play for the choir and the Mass service.

We practise on Tuesday at 6.45p.m. for one hour (starting on the 9th of September) and we play for the community every second Sunday of the month (school term only). Mass and practice are in St Columba's Church (entrance at the back door).

Participation is free. If you or your parents/guardians want any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Giovanna or the director of the choir Mark, at the end of 11.00a.m. Mass on the left of the altar.

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

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'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.

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, Long-life 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 October.
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.