



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa

Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp

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Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Peter Otuonkpaikhian

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Deacon:

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

The month of October is dedicated to The Holy Rosary		
TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 12TH OCTOBER 2025		
Saturday 11th October		
St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Margaret Nash RIP
Sunday 12th October – 28th Sunday in Ord. Time. Day of Special Prayer for prisoners and their defenders		
St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Mary Baker's Intention
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Trevor Burges RIP
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite
Monday 13th October		
St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	John Hobson RIP
Tuesday 14th October		
St Theresa's		Private Intention
St Columba's	12.00p.m.	Funeral Service for Callum Edwards
Wednesday 15th October – St Theresa of Avila, V, D. Mem.		
St Theresa's		Special Intention
St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
	10.30a.m.	Delia Hesketh
Thursday 16th October		
St Theresa's		Eileen Mapp's Intention
St Columba's		Priests' Intentions
Friday 17th October – St Ignatius of Antioch, B, M. Mem.		
St Theresa's	10.00a.m.	John Murphy RIP
St Columba's		The Parish
Saturday 18th October		
St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	John James Tobin RIP 1 st Birthday Remembrance
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Derek Sheeran RIP
Sunday 19th October – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Day of Special Prayer for World Missions		
St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Tony Walsh RIP (CH)
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

FR WILLIAM:

Anyone wishing to talk to Fr William should contact one of the parish offices and make an appointment. Fr William is not available on Thursdays.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Please remember in your prayers Callum Edwards. His funeral service will be held at St Columba's on Tuesday 14th October at 12.00p.m.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - The Children's Liturgy normally happens at the 11a.m. service at St Columba's on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. See the parish website under the Family tab.

ANNIVERSARIES - Linda Hallam, Margaret Rose Lannin, Bridget (Delia) Hesketh, Peter John Walker, Lionel William Steele, Maureen Theresa Brady

POPE'S OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTIONS: FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

CONFESSIONS - After each weekday mass until 11.30a.m. At the weekend: St Columba's: from 6-6.25p.m. on Saturday. And St Theresa's; from 4.30-4.55 on Saturday.

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 12th October at 11.00a.m.

PRAYING TOGETHER:

- Pray for the residence of Old Mill Court, Mill Lane, Mill Close, Deans Close, Muir Road, Elm Muir, Beech Muir, Silver Muir, Ash Muir & Birch Muir.
- Those involved with the upkeep of our church buildings and church.

PARISH OFFERTORY - Loose Plate: £391.20; Planned Giving: £128.28.00; Average weekly SO £718.15; Candles: £36.11

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA - Write your name, charity and phone number on the calendar or leave a message with Margaret Curtis on 01244 318424 with your name and date(s).

12th Oct - Junior Choir
19th Oct - volunteers please
26th Oct - volunteers please

SECOND COLLECTION FOR WORLD MISSIONS NEXT WEEKEND.

NEXT SUNDAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - MISSIONARIES OF HOPE AMONG ALL PEOPLES -

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio - his charity for world mission - through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missis envelopes, call 020 7821 4755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

SATURDAY EVENING MASS ST COLUMBA'S - Please do not use the rear entrance. Parishioners leaving that way has resulted in the church being left unlocked overnight on a number of occasions recently. Thank you.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

23.09.25 - The AGM of 19th July had referred a number of items for discussion at this meeting:

The financial situation of the parish – referred to the Finance Committee Meeting.

Availability of Fr William at St Columba's Church – details to be a regular item in the newsletter.

Priests greeting parishioners after Mass – this should be the usual practice for all priests at both churches.

Communication between laity and clergy – all members of Pastoral Council to work together with clergy to improve two-way communications.

Re-introduction of reception of Holy Communion under both kinds – to take place after recruitment and training of Eucharistic Ministers.

Shaking hands at Sign of Peace – this is no longer forbidden but if you wish to shake hands, please be sensitive to the fact that not everyone will want to do this. When further information on these items is available it will be given via the newsletter. Ann McCarthy, Pauline Rourke, co-chairs Pastoral Council.

CHESTER BIBLE FESTIVAL AT ST COLUMBA'S – An Open Afternoon will take place in our church from 1-4p.m. this Saturday October 18th. Please come to support the event and to see the displays on the theme Catholics and the Bible. Refreshments and friendly conversation available all afternoon.

NEXT FRIENDSHIP THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2-4P.M. IN THE HALL – We are back to our proper time, and we have Dave Atkinson, folk singer, returning by popular request so come and enjoy friendship, coffee and music. It would be lovely to see new faces as well as our regulars!

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - Donations can be put in a CAFOD envelope (located in the church porches) and placed in a collection basket during Mass over the next 2 weeks. Donations can also be made via the CAFOD website cafod.org.uk/envelope, by phone on **0303 303 3030** or text **CAFOD** to **70560** to donate £10. Thank you.

ALTAR SERVERS – At both St Columba's and St Theresa's, we are in need of more altar servers, especially at the Saturday evening masses. If you are interested or want to find out more about becoming an altar server, contact Richard Curtis at 07787782255 / rich.curtis89@yahoo.co.uk

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – "Somehow we must keep hope alive – a hope that we can find a way to educate all, alleviate poverty, assuage anger, and live in harmony with the environment, with animals, and with each other." Dame Jane Goodall RIP.

CLERGY WELFARE SUPPORT WORKER - The role would be to support the Diocesan Welfare Nurse in their duties. Hours: 22.5 per week over 3 days. Closing date, 24th October. For details see: www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/

KERALA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY would like to welcome all parishioners to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary and St Sebastian on 26th October at 2p.m. It will start with the Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite and the Procession, followed by refreshments in the hall.

SOUP WITH SOUL - at the Town House, Chester, opened 6th October, Mon- Fri 12pm-2.30pm. £5 for soup and short bread. Choice of 3 soups. This includes £1 to Soul Kitchen. Creating a positive future for those experiencing homelessness and hardship.

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

RNLI FUNDRAISER - To raise money for the RNLI, the Chester Branch is holding a Fish and Chip Supper, with the Port Sunlight Shanty Band, between 7pm-10.30pm on Friday 17th October, at St Mary's Creative Space, Chester. Tickets are £20 from Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/>. Please email chesterrnli@btinternet.com if you'd like to know more, or need advice with purchasing the tickets. Thank you, Frances Hughes.

FAIR TRADE AUTUMN FAIR

At Wesley Church, St John's Street, 11am – 3pm, Sat October 18th, including Chester Fairtrading, Homeware, Luna Tree Jewellery and bread and baked goods from Bread Together

MARRIAGE HELP

Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th October. Tel 07887 296983 www.retrouvaille.org.uk

FAMILY AND GROUP STAYS AT CASTLERIGG MANOR THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM

Castlerigg Manor is a Retreat Centre in the Lake District, and they are opening their doors during October Half Term (Oct 27-31). A good option for anyone looking for a budget get-away in a beautiful part of the country. Book at <https://castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us/> or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

FOOD BANK DONATIONS – MORE NEEDED: The food bank has launched a **Harvest Appeal** and is looking particularly for donation of the following items: Tinned meat/ fish/ veg/ fruit/ spaghetti/ puddings/ tomatoes/curry sauce, smash, pasta and sauce/Milk (UHT or powdered); Fruit juice (long life)/Custard, jams and spreads, coffee. A look at the Foodbank website: (westcheshirefoodbank.org.uk) indicates where there is a need for particular items. Thank you so much.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR OF ST COLUMBA'S RECRUITMENT -

The Little Choir is looking for children, yr 3 and above. No previous experience necessary. We practise on Tuesday at 6.45p.m. for one hour. Mass and practice are in St Columba's Church (entrance at the back door). For further information please contact Giovanna or the director of the choir Mark, at the end of 11.00a.m. Mass.

INSTRUMENT REQUEST FOR THE LITTLE CHOIR -

The choir would like to develop its percussion section. If you have any drums that you no longer use and would like to donate, please contact Giovanna and/or Mark after the 11:00 mass on the left of the altar. Thanks for your help.

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 COLUMBA'S CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS

To book the **Church, Newman Room or Iona Chapel**, contact **Magdalena Bukowska** at the Church Office 01244 624019, email stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com
Office hours Mon-Fri 9a.m. to 2.00p.m.

To check **Hall availability**, visit the **Church Hall calendar** on the St Columba's website, then contact Magdalena during office hours or email: columbashallbookings@gmail.com.

NEXT WEEK'S NEWSLETTER:

Sunday 19th October to be compiled by Amy O'Donnell
07854 290897, email: amyod@hotmail.co.uk

Deadline: 9.00a.m. Wednesday 15th October

Please include a contact number with your notice. Also email a copy to **Fr William** at st.theresas@btinternet.com.

Note: The website version may include extra items not in the printed copy, visit www.stcolumbaandtheresa.co.uk.