



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
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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 November is dedicated to The Souls in Purgatory		
THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 16TH NOVEMBER 2025		
Saturday 15th November		
St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Christine North RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Enrico Lenzi RIP – 1 st Anniversary
Sunday 16th November – World Day of Prayer for the Poor.		
St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Kath Maguire RIP
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Evan Rothwell RIP – 1 st Anniversary
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite
Monday 17th November		
St Theresa's		Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	Raymond Harrington RIP (ms)
Tuesday 18th November		
St Theresa's		Eric Walsh RIP
St Columba's		Holy Souls
Wednesday 19th November		
St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
	10.30a.m.	Milton, Luciana, Catarina
Thursday 20th November		
St Theresa's		Holy Souls
St Columba's		Holy Souls
Friday 21st November – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Mem.		
St Theresa's	10.00a.m.	Nell Tobin RIP
St Columba's		Mark Traynor
Saturday 22nd November		
St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Freda Blundell's Intentions
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Holy Souls
Sunday 23rd November – Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Solemn.		
St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Carlos Hernan Archiniega RIP – 1 st Anniversary
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

CONFESSIONS - After each weekday mass until 11.30a.m. At the weekend: St Columba's: from 6.00-6.25p.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.

HOLY SOULS - If you would like any deceased remembering during the month of November please put their names in an envelope marked HOLY SOULS and place it in the basket in front of the altar.

YOUTH SUNDAY - Young volunteers are needed to welcome, collect and read on Youth Sunday, 23rd November. If you are a young parishioner and would like to help on Youth Sunday at St.Columba's please contact Denise Lusk (01244379742) , or to help at St. Theresa's, contact Ann McCarthy. Thank you.

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 - David Vaughan, Steven Andrew Roberts, Kenneth Klepalo, Berta Barton.

POPES PRAYER INTENTIONS For November - for the prevention of suicide Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS - Mass will be streamed at St Columba's on Sunday 16th November at 11.00a.m.

LARGE PRINT NEWSLETTER - A limited number of large print newsletters are now available at the back of both our Churches. Printed on yellow paper to aid contrast and aid ease of reading. See our Welcomers if you need a copy.

PARISH OFFERTORY - Loose Plate: £523.63; Planned Giving:£306.17; Average weekly SO £718.15; Candles: £42.12; World Mission Collection: £250.56
There will be Caritas at Christmas Appeal on 29th/30th November Masses.

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING & CRAFT FAIR - Saturday 29 November 10.30a.m. to 2.30p.m, Hoole URC Hall, Hoole Road. Range of stalls and cakes and children's activities, in aid of Chifundo UK, empowering women & girls in Malawi.

SATURDAY EVENING MASS (ST COLUMBA'S) - Please **do not use the rear entrance** when leaving, as it has led to the church being left unlocked overnight. Thank you for your understanding.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING - 4 NOVEMBER 2025 KEY POINTS:

Parish Financial Situation: Fr William will request a meeting to discuss this with the Diocesan Financial Secretary and Pastoral Council members.

Safeguarding: A Safeguarding information session for the parish will be held on a Saturday morning early next year.

Chester Festival of the Bible: Thanks were given to Lyn Coyle, Deacon Lawrence, and all involved in St Columba's contribution to this worthwhile event.

Reports: Leaders of various parish groups (Social Committee, Children's Liturgy, Youth Group, etc.) presented reports. Thanks were given for the generosity of time and commitment shown by everyone: report authors and group members.

AGM: The Pastoral Council AGM will be held on Saturday, 9th May 2026, in St Columba's Hall, open to all parishioners.

Next Meeting: 7:00p.m, Tuesday, 20th January 2026.

Reports & Minutes: Available on the parish website by the end of November.

Pauline Rourke & Ann McCarthy, Co-chairs

CONTACTLESS DONATIONS WITH A CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD AT ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH -

Processing cheques and banking cash has become very expensive so many churches now encourage donations to be made, as you enter or leave, with a credit or debit card. As well as offering convenience, donations are automatically recorded for Gift Aid where appropriate. We plan to use this system at St Columba's, hopefully before Christmas. Further details will be given in the newsletter. Pauline Rourke

AUTUMN FAYRE 16TH NOVEMBER - Soup and a sandwich or a hot dog £2. Anyone wanting a table/stall or to share a table to sell their goods, please contact Margaret Curtis on 07876061993. There will of course be our usual bottle tombola. **Donations of bottles etc are still needed as prizes.** Please leave them inside the entrance to St Columba's and St Theresa's.

If anyone would like a lift from St Theresa's to St Columba's, please put your name on the list at the back of church.

Also the Christmas Party will be on Saturday 13th of December.

MARY, JOSEPH AND THE DONKEY'S ADVENT JOURNEY - Can you look after Mary, Joseph and their donkey this Advent? They're looking for overnight accommodation on their journey to Bethlehem, actually St Theresa's Crib. They will arrive in time for the Carol Service on Friday 19th December 2025. The hope is that Mary, Joseph (and the donkey) will be handed from home to home around the parish during Advent before being delivered to St Theresa's on 19th December. Sign-up lists in the church porches.

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA - We would like to thank all parishioners who have volunteered their time to help with tea and coffee after the 11:00am Mass.

16th Nov - Autumn Fair

23rd Nov - volunteers please

30th Nov - volunteers please

CHURCHES TOGETHER REMEMBRANCE AND ADVENT SERVICES - Thanks to those of you who supported the recent Remembrance Service at Holy Ascension Church. It was a thought provoking event. The next CTU service will be an Advent Sunday Service at St. Columba's at 4.30p.m. on Sunday 30th November. It promises something a little different and forms a fitting beginning to the Advent season. Your support for this event would be much appreciated.

FIRST SACRAMENTS (ST COLUMBA'S) - Next Sunday, 23rd November we will be celebrating Youth Sunday and 25 children from the parish who are preparing to receive First Sacraments this school year will be enrolled in their preparation programme during the 11.00am Mass. Please pray for the children and their families at this important time in their faith journey.

ADVENT PRAYER GROUP - As a legacy of the Jubilee Year, a new parish prayer group will meet during Advent on Tuesdays at 11:00-11.30a.m in the Iona Chapel (Nov 25, Dec 2, 9, 16 & 23). Focus will be on the upcoming Sunday readings with time for personal reflection and shared discussion on their relevance to our daily lives. Contact marilyn.coyle44@gmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - Life is like a camera..Focus on what's important, Capture good times, Develop from negatives, and if things don't work out ..Take another shot! Snoopy.

PRAYING FOR:

- The residents of Queen's Crescent, Weston Grove, Lakeside Close, Dukesway, Rhuddlan Road, Carmel Close & Rose Close.
- The Senior Citizens Club, Food & Fun and St Vincent de Paul Society.
- All those who are retired.

ST COLUMBA'S RED MISSION BOX HOLDERS - Could those parishioners at St Columba's with a Missio Box, please leave it in the sacresty for Margaret to collect. You can collect your next Red Box from the back of the church, after your donation has been counted.

YOUTH GROUP - The youth group will meet tomorrow, Monday 17th November, 7p.m. start, meet at St.Columba's back door. This meeting, we will be designing Christmas cards for the SVP to take from our parish to housebound parishioners. We will also play lots of games, have refreshments and finish promptly at 8.30pm in the hall. All young parishioners, year 5 or older are invited and very welcome to attend.

ST COLUMBA'S ON TELEVISION - There are two very good programmes about St Columba currently available on BBC iPlayer: **Pilgrimage: The Road to the Isles** and **How the Celts Saved Britain** introduced by Dan Snow (also on BBC Four). Both well worth watching. Pauline Rourke.

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 23rd November to be compiled by

Muriel Green Phone: 01244 383836

Email: muriel.green1@btinternet.com

Deadline: 9.00a.m. Wednesday 19th November

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.

SHREWSBURY DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE REUNION - SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER AT ST COLUMBA'S Have you ever been on a Shrewsbury Diocesan Pilgrimage to

Lourdes? Whether you've travelled as a helper, assisted as part of the Hospitality team, or come as a pilgrim, you are warmly invited to a special Reunion Day organised by the Lourdes Hospitality. Join us at St Columba's Catholic Church for a celebration of faith, friendship, and shared memories. Mass at 2:00pm Refreshments to follow in the Parish Hall. This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, share experiences, and reflect on the blessings of Lourdes.

MARY POPPINS JUNIOR AT THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL - An extraordinary production from the Drama and Music departments. Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th November at 7p.m. Please buy your tickets now! £7.50 children, £10 adult tickets, and £30 ticket and dinner with a glass of wine/soft drink before the show. For enquiries, email welcometo@christofidelis.org.uk

COMMEMORATING MRS. OATES' SERVICE AS HEADTEACHER - We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating Mrs. Oates' dedicated years of service as Headteacher of St Werburgh's and St Columba's Schools on Thursday, 18th December at St Columba's Church. The evening will begin at 6.30p.m. with a special service at St Columba's Church, bringing our community together to give thanks for her commitment to our schools and parishes. Following the service, you are invited to a **Cheese and Wine Reception** in the church hall from 7p.m. to 8p.m. Children are welcome at both the service and the reception. Please help us spread the word so that as many families connected with the schools as possible can attend. If you plan to join us, kindly complete the RSVP form so we can prepare refreshments:

<https://forms.office.com/e/9bNq70BFcR>

We look forward to celebrating together!

SOUP WITH SOUL - at the Town House, Chester, open Mon- Fri 12p.m.-2.30p.m. £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 - Items for website must be about parish-based events and should be sent to Lyn Coyle, who is the parish liaison with the website manager. marilyn.coyle44@gmail.com

FOOD BANK DONATIONS – Urgently Needed - The Food Bank's is asking for, tinned meat, fish, veg, fruit, tomatoes, spaghetti, puddings, curry sauce, Smash, pasta & sauce, UHT/powdered milk, long-life juice, custard, jams, spreads, and coffee. westcheshirefoodbank.org.uk for up to date needs. Thank you for your support!

STAY SAFE FROM SCAMS - Scammers may know your details, don't assume they're genuine. Always think twice. Never share your PIN or passwords. Ignore emails or calls about computer viruses. Delete suspicious emails and mark them as spam. Be safe, if unsure, contact companies using official numbers. **Dial 159** to safely reach your bank. Report scams to **Action Fraud**: 0300 123 2040 or online. Free guide and tips: **Age UK Scam Advice** the Booklet is available at the back of both churches – please return after reading.