



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

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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 December is dedicated to
The Immaculate Conception

THE HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY 28th December 2025

Saturday 27th December

St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	John James Tobin RIP 1 st Anniversary
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Lorraine Probert RIP

Sunday 28th December – The Holy Family

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Michael Dunne RIP
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Mary & Horace Walpole RIP
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

Monday 29th December – St Thomas Becket, B, M. Feast.

St Theresa's		Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	Joe Clifford

Tuesday 30th December – Sixth Day of Christmas Octave

St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's		Parishioners' Intentions

Wednesday 31st December – Seventh Day of Christmas Octave

St Theresa's		Pamela Dobson RIP
St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
	10.30a.m.	Sr Anne Morris
	9.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

Thursday 1st January – Mary Mother of God. Solemn.

St Theresa's		Bridget Williams RIP
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	New Year's Mass Mary & Mike Kiernan

Friday 2nd January – SS Basil the Great, P, D & Gregory Nazianzen, B, D. Mem.

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

Saturday 3rd January

St Theresa's	5.00p.m.	Muriel & Jim Halligan RIP
St Columba's	6.30p.m.	Roy Burns RIP

Sunday 4th January – Second Sunday After Christmas

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES - A leaflet containing all Mass times is available in the porches of each church. It is also on the website under *Our Parish > Mass times*.

CONFESSIONS - After each weekday Mass until 11.30am. Saturdays:

St Columba's 6.00 - 6.25p.m.
St Theresa's 4.30 - 4.55p.m.

WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS & FUNERALS - Please contact one of the Parish Offices to make your arrangements.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for December – for Christians in areas of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Please remember in your prayers, Michael Hayden & Roger John Warburton, who died recently, and also their families and friends.

ANNIVERSARIES - Jean Barbara Mary Blake, Sheila Patricia Hainey, Kathleen Lawlor.

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

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS - Mass will be streamed at St Columba's on Sunday 28th December at 11.00a.m.

PARISH OFFERTORY - Loose Plate: £438.22; Planned Giving: £256.50; Average weekly SO £718.15; Candles: £44.54.

CLERGY EDUCATION & TRAINING FUND - Many thanks for the amount of £190.39 which was collected recently for this.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS - The offertory collection at the Christmas Masses is for the parish. Anyone wishing to give to either Fr William or Fr Peter personally should put their offering in an envelope marked "personal" with their name on and put in the Offertory basket. Thank you.

PRAYERS - please pray for

- The residents of Dorset Road, Shipbrook Road, Mannings Lane South, Peckforton Way, Sumner Road, Fisher Road, Stamford Road & Church Way.
- The way of Churches Together in Upton and Churches Together in Chester & Praying for Blacon.
- All the Churches in Upton & Blacon.

CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE - A time to remember those who will not be with us this year. There will be a tree and cards on side Altar at St. Columba's (near the back door) to write your memories and hang on the tree.

The memory is the important thing, but if anyone wishes to make a donation, there will be a basket with donations going to the Parish Third World Group.

PRO-LIFE UPDATE - 2025 has been one of the most challenging and busiest years ever for the pro-life movement in the UK, with the biggest battles on abortion and assisted suicide in over 50 years. Thanks to the support of our parish, there has been a strong, coordinated response in Parliament, in the media and among the wider public. The **2025 Right To Life UK Year in Review** sets out some of the key areas in which significant progress has been made this year. Please visit <http://righttolife.org.uk/2025> to read the Year in Review to find out more about what we have achieved together for life this year.

FRIENDSHIP THURSDAY JANUARY 8TH - Our first meeting of 2026, from 2-4p.m. in the Hall. Let's start the New Year in friendly fashion over coffee and biscuits. If you can bring a small donation, we may have a raffle to raise funds for the group.

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

28th December - volunteers please

4th January - volunteers please

11th January - volunteers please

HEATING AT ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH - Most of the heaters have now been fixed. A friendly reminder, however; please do not turn off any radiators or interfere with the heating system in any way. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

St Columba's office will be closed from Tuesday 23rd December to Thursday 1st January and will re-open on Friday 2nd January. Carol Galvin will be in the office for emergencies from 9a.m. - 12noon during this time.

St Theresa's office will be closed from Thursday 24th December to Friday 2nd January. The office answer machine is available for messages to be left.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL CHRISTMAS TREES - Enjoy over 80 trees decorated in the theme of *Christmas Around the World*. Booking required. However, no booking or entry fee on Sundays.

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.

UPTON CHURCHES CRIB - The CTU Crib has been erected in the rear porch at St Columba's together with, for the first time, its backdrop. The figures will follow in due course.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow" - Albert Einstein

NEWSLETTER Deadline:

Due to the printers' holiday closures over Christmas and New Year, the newsletters covering Sunday 21st December through to 4th January have now been printed.

If you have an urgent item that needs announced over Christmas or New Year, please ring St Theresa's number with the details 01244 371660. Thank you.

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.

WORD SEARCH FOR CHRISMAS:

JESUS - MARY - JOSEPH - ANGEL - STAR - SHEPHERD
- STABLE - PEACE - JOY - HOPE

S	T	A	R	S	M	P	E	A	C	E
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