



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa



Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp

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Deacon:

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Diocese of Shrewsbury, Registered Charity 234025

St Columba's
Plas Newton Lane,
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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 April is dedicated to
The Holy Spirit

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 12th April 2026

Saturday 11th April - Saturday of the Easter Octave

St Theresa's	5.00pm	Margaret Collins RIP
St Columba's	6.30pm	Private Intention (A & LP)

Sunday 12th April - Second Sunday of Easter

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Pepe Magaway RIP
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	David Tyrell RIP
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

Monday 13th April

St Theresa's		Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30a.m.	Christiano Alsina da Silva

Tuesday 14th April

St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's		Ivo Jakubowicz Chudy

Wednesday 15th April

St Theresa's		Joao Alsina Junior
St Columba's	9.30a.m.	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15a.m.	Novena Prayers
	10.30a.m.	Jo Staunton

Thursday 16th April

St Theresa's		Mirtes Fonseca
St Columba's		Szymanski Family

Friday 17th April

St Theresa's	10.00a.m.	John & Debbie Dwyer's Intentions
St Columba's		The Parish

Saturday 18th April

St Theresa's	9.30am	Malankara Jacobite Syriac Community
	5.00 p.m.	Rod, Josie, David & Gillian's Intentions
St Columba's	6.30pm.	Victor Silveira Yamagata

Sunday 19th April - Third Sunday of Easter

St Theresa's	9.30a.m.	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00a.m.	Anne Lucas RIP
	2.00p.m.	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite
	4.30pm	Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

POPES PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL - FOR PRIESTS IN CRISIS. Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS - Mass will be streamed at St Theresa's on Sunday 12th & 19th April at 9.30 a.m.

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

St Columba's 6.00p.m. - 6.25p.m.

St Theresa's 4.30p.m. - 4.55p.m.

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

ANNIVERSARIES - Margaret Mary Collins, David Joseph Keegan & Angela Crowe.

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.

PARISH OFFERTORY

Loose Plate: £562.48; Planned Giving: £215.77; Average weekly SO £718.15. (St Columba's) Dona Stations: £120; Candles: £46.25. Easter Flowers £104.28. Thank you for your kind generosity.

EASTER

Fr William and Fr John would like to thank everyone for your cards and good wishes, it is very much appreciated.

FR WILLIAM - Thursday is Fr William's day off so please try not to arrange meetings on a Thursday if you would like Fr William to attend.

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR -

- The residents of Essex Road, Deva Lane, Walnut Close, Palmerstone Close, Meadowside Mews, Highcliffe Avenue & Sherwood Road.
- For the Libraries, Pavilion & recreational areas in our community.
- For all adults and children that they will be safe as they enjoy leisure time.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - This will take place at St Columba's on Sunday 19th April at 4.30pm. All welcome.

LEPRA - Today 475 people will be diagnosed with leprosy, more than 25 of those will be children. Leprosy is a disease that affects the nerve endings and feet and can affect the blink reflex. For further information go to lepra.org.uk. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses over the weekend of 18/19 April.

KIDS EAT FREE (or for £1) - some may need adult spend - <https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free>

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA We need volunteers every Sunday after 11:00 Mass. To raise money for your good cause, please put your details on the sheet and let Margaret Curtis know on 01244 318424 or marg.curtis@outlook.com
12 Apr - volunteers please
19 Apr - volunteers please
26 Apr - Catholic Women's League

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2026/2027 The gift aid envelopes for the new tax year are now available for collection and can be found at the back of the church. There are a small number of un-named boxes also available.

If you would like to start using the envelopes, please take a box and contact Kevin Keegan either by email or text message with details of your name and address, the box number and indicate if you are a taxpayer or not.
Email: k1bfb@hotmail.com Text: 07790758008

SUGGESTION BOXES- It was agreed at the parish AGM last year that: "a parishioners' suggestion box be made available at each church and parishioners encouraged to use them". These have now been placed in the entrances to each church- apologies for the delay in their installation. There is a pen and paper attached to each which we hope will encourage you to use them. They offer you an easy means of making suggestions for improvements which can help us all as a parish. Ann McCarthy, Pauline Rourke (co-chairs Pastoral Council)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK -The astonishing event of the resurrection of Jesus is essentially an event of love: The Fathers love in handing over His Son for the salvation of the world; the Son's love in abandoning Himself to the Father's will for us all; the Spirits love in raising Jesus from the dead in His transfigured body. Pope Benedict XVI

CHESTER PARISHES CONFIRMATION Bishop Mark Davies will celebrate the next Chester Catholic Parishes Sacrament of Confirmation on 11th November '26 at St. Columba's Church. This year the preparation program for parishioners from all Chester Catholic Parishes will be led by St. Columba and St. Theresa's Confirmation preparation team. Anyone currently at high school, or older may prepare to be Confirmed. For youth candidates, to register, parents please email stcolumbatheresaconfirmation@hotmail.co.uk. Please include your child's current school year. Adult candidates, please speak to Fr William first and then email the above email address to join the separate adult preparation group. There will be an information meeting about Confirmation preparation in mid-June, details to be announced nearer the time.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: The Parish "We've Got Talent" event - an evening of entertainment by our very own parishioners - **Friday 15th May** at 7pm in St Columba's church hall. Not to be missed. Tickets £3.00 (or donation) will be on sale from 24th April. Proceeds to parish funds. There will be a list for anyone needing a lift from St Theresa's nearer the time.

A THANK YOU TO ST COLUMBA'S RED MISSION BOX HOLDERS St Columba's parishioners have been thanked by Missio for your kind donations totalling £841.93 in 2025. Please see the poster in the front porch.

VOCATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

There will be a Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Ministry (MFL) Retreat with presentations on the Mission of Marriage, a Reflection on the Book of Tobit and Holy Mass at Midday, on 18th April 2026 from 9.30p.m. to 4.00p.m., St. John Vianney Parish Hall, St Wilfrid's Church, Witton Street Northwich Cheshire, CW9 5NP. Please Register with

Monika Golembiewska on 07549 226794 or email: monika.golembiewska@dioceseofshrewsbury.org

MISA EN ESPAÑOL UNA VEZ AL MES! Fr Patrick from St Clare's Church, Downsfield Rd. Chester. CH4 8HH will begin celebrating a Monthly Mass in Spanish..
First Mass: Saturday 18th April at 4p.m.
If you want further information, please contact Lina Greig: 07837512544.

CALLED TO LOVE - A retreat for singles, dating and engaged young adults who want to think more deeply about relationships and the call to marriage. A relaxed weekend on **2nd - 3rd May 2026** at the Christian Heritage Centre, Stonyhurst, Clitheroe BB7 9PZ. This year's retreat will have as its theme masculinity and femininity. For registration visit: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/>

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026: The Pilgrimage Team are very pleased to announce that bookings are now open for our 2026 75th Anniversary Pilgrimage to Lourdes. By coach 30 July to 7 August and by air 31 July to 6 August. Brochures can be found on the pilgrimage website along with a link to the new online booking system www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk

SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY

will be holding our first 2026 Hospitality Members Focus Group on Tuesday 21st April, at 7pm. This will be open to any Hospitality members, even if you haven't attended previous Focus Groups. We will be encouraged to review the commitments made last year to improve our way of working with each other. We are also delighted that Fr Sean Henry, Chaplain to the Hospitality, will join us. This will take place at St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1PL. Please confirm your attendance by emailing secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk.

VACANCIES -Two vacancies have arisen within the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team for a **Programme Coordinator** and **Youth Mission Team Member**. Further details regarding both posts can be found on the Diocesan Website. <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> Interested parties should send their CV and covering letter to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org **Closing date Friday 29 April 2026.**

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 April to be compiled by Paula Bownas Phone: 01244 379794
Email: paulabownas@yahoo.co.uk

Deadline: 9.00a.m. Wednesday 15th April

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.sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk