



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa

Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp
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St Columba's
 Plas Newton Lane,
 Chester, CH2 1SA

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stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

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 August is dedicated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 9th AUGUST 2026		
Saturday 8 August		
St Theresa's		
	5.00pm	Healing for Eloisa Sophia
St Columba's	6.30pm	Barbara Wilson RIP
Sunday 9 August – Nineteenth Sunday in Ord. Time		
St Theresa's	9.30am	John Dunne RIP
St Columba's	11.00am	Deacon Lawrence & Family
	2.00pm	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite
Monday 10 August-St Lawrence, Dc,M		
St Theresa's		Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30am	Carol & Mark Traynor
Tuesday 11 August – St Clare,V Mem.		
St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's	6.30pm	Private Intention (MC)
Wednesday 12 August		
St Theresa's		Private Intention
St Columba's	9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15am	Novena Prayers
	10.30am	Special Intention & Thanksgiving (JW)
	2.00pm	Requiem Mass for Niall Sullivan
Thursday 13 August		
St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's		Priests' Intentions
Friday 14 August-St Maximilian Mary Kolbe,P,M Mem		
St Theresa's	10.00am	Ann O'Connell RIP
St Columba's		Ian Bullough RIP
Saturday 15 August		
St Theresa's	9.30am	Malankara Jacobite Syriac Community
	5pm	Roy Gent RIP
St Columba's	6.30pm	Pat Wilkinson (EH)
Sunday 16 August The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary		

St Theresa's	9.30am	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00am	Parishioners' Intentions
	2.00pm	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS – Mass will be streamed at St Columba's on Sunday 9th August at 11a.m.

POPES PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST -FOR EVANGELIZATION IN THE CITY. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

CONFESSIONS – After each weekday Mass until 11.30a.m. On 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 Murray, Roy Gent, Michael Paziuk & Hubert McDermott.

RECENTLY DECEASED – Please remember in your prayers, Niall Sullivan who died recently, and his family and friends. The Funeral of Niall will be held on Wednesday 12th August at 2pm at St Columba's.

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: £463.98; Planned Giving: £206.82; Average weekly SO £734.22. (St Columba's) Dona Stations: £105; Candles: TBC.
 Thank you for your kind generosity.

ST COLUMBA'S OFFICE – There will be a change of the office hours at St Columba's from 10th August to 31st August. During that time the office will be officially closed but urgent matters will be dealt with through the kind services of Carol Galvin on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only between 9am and 12pm.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK- The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.
 Eleanor Roosevelt

PARISH WEBSITE

Unfortunately, there is a problem with uploading new material to the website at the moment. Our website manager has reported an issue with Wordpress who manage the format of the website. There are items of news and photographs of Deacon Lawrence's farewell celebration waiting to be uploaded. Please keep looking. It is hoped that this will soon be addressed.

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR -

- The residents of Caughall Road, Acorn Court, The Acorns, Rosedene Close, Endsleigh Gardens, Endsleigh Close, Venable's Road, St Chad's Road, Church Hall Close and Cedar Mews.
- The PCC Members, Elders and all who hold Office in the Church.
- Strong leadership by those elected and appointed.

EXAM RESULTS - to all of our students, wishing you all the very best as your exam results are made available to you. Wishing you every success for your future, whatever that may hold for you. Dream Big. Good luck.

CONFIRMATION

If you wish to prepare to be Confirmed next November and are already at high school, please email ASAP to register: stcolumbatheresaconfirmation@hotmail.co.uk

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

9 Aug - volunteers please

16 Aug - volunteers please

23 Aug - volunteers please

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING (CST) is a body of moral doctrine developed by the Church on matters of social justice, poverty, and human rights. Rooted in Scripture and modern papal encyclicals starting with Pope Leo XIII's 1891 *Rerum Novarum*, it provides a framework for building a just society and living out faith in the modern world. (CAFOD)

CARE OF CREATION/STEWARDSHIP: The earth and all life on it are part of God's creation. We are called to respect this gift. We are responsible for taking care of the world we live in and for sharing all the wonders and resources the earth gives us. Our changing environment prompts us to stop and think about how we live on our planet. We are called to respond and to adopt new ways of living as the late Pope Francis highlighted in his encyclical, *Laudato Si': On the Care for our Common Home*. (Caritas Australia)

CAFOD CAMPAIGN: Over the next few weeks we are collecting signatures for a CAFOD petition about the global debt crisis which is causing terrible suffering for our brothers and sisters around the world. Cardinal Stephen Ameyu Martin Mulla from South Sudan has written to parishes in England and Wales to explain. A copy of the letter and petition forms to sign can be found in the church porches. Please take a moment as you leave church to lend your support. Thank you for helping to build a better world.

CLOTHING APPEAL - A neighbour has asked for our help to support a young woman and her two young daughters who have recently moved into a refuge, with

very few belongings. They are urgently in need of clothing, toys and educational materials. The woman is 30 years old and wears a size 8. The children need clothing for ages **2-3 years** and **4-5 years**. If you have any good-quality, clean clothing or toys that you were planning to donate to a charity shop and would be willing to give it to this family instead, it would be greatly appreciated. Please place any donations in the labelled box in the church porch labelled 'Clothing Request'. Thank you very much for your kindness and generosity.
Pauline Rourke

MARSH & PLESSINGTON, THE CHESTER MARTYRS - This is the theme for the next Churches Together Fifth Sunday service to be held in the Iona Chapel at 4.30 p.m. on Sunday 30th August. Please join us in this short service together with our friends from the other Upton Churches.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, CHESTER - CHANGE OF MASS TIMES

From Sunday, 6 September 2026, the Sunday Mass schedule at St Francis, Chester, will change as follows:

Saturday: 12.00 noon (English), 6.30 pm Vigil (English)

Sunday: 8.00 am Benedictine Abbey (English), 10.00 am (English), 5.00 pm (Polish).

Please note that the 12.00 noon Polish Mass will be celebrated for the final time on Sunday, 30 August.

Weekday Masses remain at 12.00 noon (Monday-Saturday), with 9.00 am Mass at the Benedictine Abbey on Wednesdays.

MASS IN SPANISH - Fr Patrick from St Clare's Church celebrates a monthly Mass in Spanish for Spanish speaking community in Chester and anyone who wishes to participate. Next Mass will take place on Saturday 15th August at 4.00pm at St Clare's Church. ¡Todos son Bienvenidos!

FR WILLIAM - Is available to meet with parishioners after 10.30a.m. Mass on Mondays & Wednesdays or can be contacted at St Theresa's presbytery (details on top of Newsletter). Thursday is his day off.

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 16th August to be compiled by Alison Wrigglesworth, Phone: 07759 042262
Email: a.wrigglesworth@outlook.com

Deadline: 9.00a.m. Wednesday 12th August
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

FOOD BANK DONATIONS - MORE NEEDED PLEASE

Donated food is taken to the West Cheshire Foodbank at Ellesmere Port every fortnight. Recently, volunteers at the warehouse have had to leave halfway through the day because they had run out of supplies. St Columba's and St Theresa's have been very generous in the past. Last time an appeal was made in the newsletter, the response was amazing and the Centre so grateful. As Pope Leo has said, the poor should be at the heart of the Church. Please give as generously as possible, especially UHT milk, Long-life juice, Pasta in sauce, Coffee, Tinned Meat, Pasta sauce, Tinned vegetables

Thank you so much. Your generosity makes all the difference

- Children should not enter or play on the stage area, nor touch the curtains, as this presents a safety risk.
- Children should not run around the hall, particularly when hot drinks are being served.

A box of games, colouring and drawing activities will be available for children; it will be kept behind the bar. We kindly ask parents and carers to return the items to the bar area afterwards.

Children are very welcome in our parish community, and we hope that parents and carers will understand the need for these measures to help ensure that the hall remains a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. The Pastoral Council

ST THERESA'S ANNIVERSARY

On the 15th September it will be 70 years since the first Parish Priest was appointed to St Theresa's. If anyone has any photos or information they would like to share with the parish, please let us know. Please write your name and tel. no. on them so that the items can be returned. Thank you.

HOT WEATHER IN ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH

During the current spell of hot weather, it is difficult to cool the church because the small windows at the top of the stained-glass windows can no longer be opened. If you have a personal hand-held fan, please do bring it with you to church. *Pauline Rourke*

BADMINTON GROUP The Parish Badminton Group meets on Thursdays from 7p.m. to 9p.m. in St Columba's Hall and is looking for new members. Mixed group, all ages, all abilities welcome.

MARRIAGE IN A RUT?

Or need help with deeper issues?

Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd-4th October.

www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info Tel: 0788 7296983

CATHOLIC HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT THIS SUMMER

During August and September, Castlerigg Manor in Keswick is opening its doors to families, groups of friends, or private individuals who are looking for an affordable stay in the Lake District. Breakfast and evening meal are provided, and Mass is celebrated on site. For more information check out castleriggmanor.com/stay-with-us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

QUIET RETREATS FOR ADULTS THIS OCTOBER

During October half term, Castlerigg Manor is running a quiet retreat for individual adults who want to spend a few days of peace, relaxation, and prayer in the Lake District. Each day there will be a talk, Mass, and evening prayer, and then a lot of time to explore the area, pray, or just simply relax.

Book at castleriggmanor.com/events or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk

SAFETY IN ST COLUMBA'S PARISH HALL

Following feedback from parishioners and a review of health and safety arrangements in the parish hall, we would like to remind all who come for tea and coffee after the 11.00am Mass on Sundays of the following: