



The Catholic Parish of St Columba and St Theresa

Parish Priest: Fr William Damah CSSp
pp@sscolumbaandtheresa.co.uk



St Columba's
 Plas Newton Lane,
 Chester, CH2 1SA

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stcolumbaschurch2016@outlook.com

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 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 October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary		
TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME		
11TH OCTOBER 2026		
Saturday 10 October		
St Theresa's	5.00pm	Dorothy Groom RIP
St Columba's	6.30pm	Terry Whatmough
Sunday 11 October – 28th Sunday in Ord. Time. Day of Special Prayer for Prisoners and Their Dependents		
St Theresa's	9.30am	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00am	Nial Sullivan RIP (SH)
	2.00pm	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite
Monday 12 October		
St Theresa's		Priests' Intentions
St Columba's	10.30am	Peter Graham
Tuesday 13 October		
St Theresa's		All Married Couples
St Columba's	6.30pm	Frank Stone Sr Anniv.
Wednesday 14 October		
St Theresa's		Special Intention
St Columba's	9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15am	Novena Prayers
	10.30am	Leotina Williams RIP
Thursday 15 October – St Theresa of Avila, V.D. Mem.		
St Theresa's		Private Intention
St Columba's		The Elwell Family
Friday 16 October		
St Theresa's	10.00am	John Murphy RIP
St Columba's		The Parish
Saturday 17 October		
St Theresa's	5.00pm	Lionel William Steele RIP
St Columba's	6.30pm	Margaret Patino Pan (CJ)
Sunday 18 October – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Day of Special Prayer for World Missions		
St Theresa's	9.30am	Parishioners' Intentions
St Columba's	11.00am	Delia Hesketh
	2.00pm	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS – Mass will be streamed at St Theresa's on Sunday 11th October at 9.30a.m.

WELCOME- We welcome Fr Josephat Ezeanlue CSSp as assistant Parish Priest. We hope he settles in soon and enjoys his time with us.

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.

CHANGES TO BAPTISM ARRANGEMENTS –Baptisms will be carried out in groups on a Sunday designated by Fr William. Individual Baptisms are no longer offered. The next Baptism Sunday will be on 29th November at 12.30 pm, preceded by a meeting with parents on 24th November at 4.30 pm in the Newman Room. Baptism forms will be available in the front and back porches. Please submit the form to the Parish Office by 19th November. The following Baptism Sunday will be on 27th December at 12.30 pm. Parents' Meeting: 21st December. Deadline for submission of the forms: 16th December.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Fr John Kirwan, Mill Hill Father whose work in the Democratic Republic of Congo was supported for many years by our Parish. Please also remember in your prayers, Kate Hughes, and her family and friends. Kate's funeral will take place at St Clare's on Wednesday 21st October at 12 noon.

ANNIVERSARIES – Yvonne Rose, Lionel William Steele, Linda Hallam, Margaret Rose Lannin, Bridget (Delia) Hesketh, Peter John Walker

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: £462.62; Planned Giving: £398.32; Average weekly SO £734.72. St Columba's Dona Stations: £98; Candles £38.35. Mission Appeal £336.63 Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION- for World Mission Sunday on the weekend of 17th/18th October.

MASS COUNT – Will take place in both churches this weekend.

POPES PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER - For mental health ministry. Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - "How beautifully leaves grow old..." — John Burroughs

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR -

- The residents of Old Mill Court, Mill Lane, Mill Close, Deans Close, Durham Road, Canterbury Road, Lichfield Road & Warwick Road.
- Those involved with the upkeep of our church buildings and church.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for our young parishioners who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on 11th November.

PAT WILKINSON'S MEMORIAL SERVICE - will take place on Sunday 8th November at 11am. Family, friends and parishioners are warmly invited.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Next weekend, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission. 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. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses over the weekend of 17/18 October for World Mission Sunday.

ST COLUMBA'S COFFEE ROTA - We need volunteers Every Sunday after 11:00 Mass. To volunteer, put your details on the sheet and let Margaret Curtis know on 01244 318424 or marg.curtis@outlook.com

11 Oct - Giovanna, Little Choir

18 Oct - volunteers please

25 Oct - volunteers please

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The Catholic women's League will be holding their next meeting on Monday 12th October at 2pm at St Columba's Church Hall. Our speaker Melanie Latham will be making homemade chutney, jam and marmalade using recipes handed down from her grandmother. Her produce will be available to purchase at a reasonable price. We warmly invite all our parishioners and friends to join us at this fun event.

FAMILY FUN EVENING - 16th October, 7.00-9.00pm at St. Theresa's Centre. **FREE** evening of Quizzes and games. If you need a lift, please put your name and contact details on the list in the front porch of St. Columba's. Bar open and teas, coffees and juice available at the interval.

YOUTH GROUP

The youth group will meet on Monday 19th October, starting at 7pm in the Newman room and finishing at 8.30pm in St. Columba's Church hall. All young parishioners school year 5, or older are welcome and encouraged to join our happy group.

FRIENDSHIP THURSDAY on the third Thursday afternoon of every month from 2-4 pm. Our guest/ or activities till Christmas are:

October 15th: a member of our own parish to speak to us on her experiences in the SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul)

November 19th: **Fairtrade** is coming to speak about their work and to sell all manner of Fairtrade items. Bring your purse and look out for cards, food and gift items for Christmas!

December 17th: a chance to make a Christmas table decoration. **A generous sponsor has offered to pay the costs so no charge will be made.**

CTU QUIZ NIGHT!

CTU Quiz Night on Friday October 30th at 7pm. Teams of 6 to 8 players or come and join a team on the day. Bring your own drinks and glasses; table nibbles, interval hot drink, raffle. Admission £3 per person - all profits to the Hospice.

New to the parish?

Welcome. We hope you will enjoy being part of our parish. Please fill in a New Parishioner form (copies in the back and front porches and available on the website). Please give this in to the office at either church and arrangements will be made for someone to contact you for a friendly call to say Hello and welcome you personally.

WEBSITE GOOD NEWS

The difficulties with the website have at last been overcome, thanks to the hard work of Mike Forber, our website manager. With a helpful paid invoice from St Theresa's, he was able to prove that an overdue upgrade had not been made. All is well and we shall spend time uploading new items. Thanks also to Anthony Mosquera, who assists Mike.

ST.COLUMBA'S PARISH OFFICE HOURS

From Monday 19 October the Parish Office will be open **10.00 am – 1.00 pm, Monday to Friday.**

The Parish Secretary will continue to work from **9.00 am – 2.00 pm.** We would be grateful if those wishing to visit or contact the Parish Office could, wherever possible, do so during the office opening hours. This will allow dedicated time within the working day for administration and other parish work. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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 9.00a.m. to 2.00p.m.

Open 10.00a.m. – 1.00p.m. visit/contact

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 11th October to be compiled by Rebecca Vaughan, Phone: 01244 318632

Email: Rebecca_vghn@yahoo.co.uk

Deadline: Wednesday 14th October 9.00 A.M.

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

ST WERBURGH'S & ST COLUMBA'S SCHOOL

We are looking for new foundation Governors to join our Governing Board. Becoming a foundation governor for a primary school in the Shrewsbury Diocese offers a unique opportunity to contribute to the spiritual and educational development of children. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact school via head@lovelearnlaugh.org.uk

CHS Christmas Fair and Grotto: The High School will once again be hosting its popular Christmas Fair and Grotto on Monday 14 December, from 3.30pm to 6.00pm, in support of the Christo Fidelis Fund. Entry is just £1 per person. If you would like to run a stall at the fair, tables are available to hire for £10. To reserve a table, please contact Sally Faulkner at faulkners@christofidelis.org.uk. We are also gratefully accepting donations for our raffle, including unwanted gifts, bottles, chocolates, and other suitable prizes. Donations can be dropped off at the school reception. We are extremely grateful for your continued support and look forward to welcoming you to this festive community event.

CHESTER THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY LECTURE

Working Beyond the Text: Historical Consultation on the Visual Presentation of Scripture, presented by Dr Katie Turner, King's College London, at 7.30pm on Wednesday 28th October at Hollybank (Chester University Dept of Theology & Religious Studies).

CHRISTIAN HERITAGE CENTRE, STONYHURST

The Centre is offering three different opportunities for people to deepen their faith and prepare for an important new chapter.

RETREAT: BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD

20th–23rd November 2026 – Residential retreat exploring mindfulness, psychology and the Christian spiritual life. Find out more and book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god/>

MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND

8th–10th January 2027 - Residential Marriage Preparation Weekend offering time and space to explore the beauty of the Church's teaching of the Sacrament of Matrimony. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/marriage-preparation/>

MEN'S RETREAT: SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST IGNATIUS

26th February - 3rd March 2027 OR 5th - 10th March 2027 - A five-day silent retreat for men (laity and clergy), led by Benedictine monks from St Joseph's Abbey, Flavigny. <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/mens-retreat-spiritual-exercises-of-st-ignatius/>