



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

01244 624019
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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 4TH OCTOBER 2026

Saturday 3 October

St Theresa's	9.30am	Malankara Jacobite Syriac Community
	5.00pm	Maureen Templeton's Intentions
St Columba's	6.30pm	Joyce Bownas RIP Anniv.

Sunday 4 October – Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ord. Time

St Theresa's	9.30am	Keith Evans RIP
St Columba's	11.00am	Michael Holland RIP
	2.00pm	Kerala Catholic Community Mass in Syro-Malabar Rite

Monday 5 October – St Maria Faustina (Helena) Kowalska, V. Mem.

St Theresa's		Frank Queenan Anniv.
St Columba's	10.30am	Margaret Nash RIP Anniv.

Tuesday 6 October

St Theresa's		Special Intention
St Columba's	6.30pm	Special Intention (MH)

Wednesday 7 October – Our Lady of the Rosary. Mem.

St Theresa's		William Cannon RIP
St Columba's	9.30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	10.15am	Novena Prayers
	10.30am	Mary Ryan

Thursday 8 October

St Theresa's		Private Intention
St Columba's		Priests' Intentions

Friday 9 October – St John Henry Newman P+D, Feast

St Theresa's	10.00am	Mea Dunne RIP
St Columba's		The Parish

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

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS – Mass will be streamed at St Theresa's on Sunday 4th 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.

ANNIVERSARIES –

Mary Dorothy Groom, Margaret Nash, Theresa Mary Ann Clayton, Patricia (Pat) Layden, Frank Stone Snr, Yvonne Rose

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: £355.40; Planned Giving: £243.50; Average weekly SO £734.72. St Columba's Dona Stations: £136; Candles £40.26. 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 over the weekends up to 10/11 October.

CHRISTIAN AID: "Singing for Peace" at 4pm on October 4th in Hoole URC, Hoole Road

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 - "We are made to tell the world that there are no outsiders. All are welcome." — *Desmond Tutu*

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR -

- The residents of Garth Drive, Liverpool Road and Ennerdale, Norris Road, Burton Road, Norman Way, Lynwood Road and Trinity Gardens.
- The Church Hall Secretaries and Electoral Roll Secretary.
- Those who come to our church halls, that they will find fellowship.

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

4 Oct - Lena Greig, Hopeful Ugandan Hearts
11 Oct - Giovanna, Little Choir
18 Oct - volunteers please

MacMillan Coffee Morning - THANK YOU

After last weekend's Masses we raised £362.50 for this wonderful charity, thank you for your generosity.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN UPTON: The AGM was held recently and resulted in a new Chair being appointed, Sheila Dunbar of the URC, David Savage having stepped down after his agreed twelve month tenure. Lyn Coyle remains as Minutes Secretary and there are vacancies for Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The programme of Fifth Sunday Services and other events will continue but Committee Meetings will be held less frequently. If you would like to hear more or volunteer to join the Committee then please contact Lyn (07735574397) or David (01244 380626).

FAITH EXPLORATION AND SHARING (OCIA)

For anyone not yet in full communion with the Church but interested in exploring a way toward that, beginning at the end of September the parish will be running the Sycamore course explaining the Catholic faith. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact the Parish Office or Steve Holland (07548 791456) for more details. If you know someone you think might be interested why not offer some words of encouragement. Start date Wed 7th October at 7pm in the Newman room.

FAMILY FUN EVENING - 16th October, 7.00-9.00pm at St. Thresa'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.

LITTLE CHOIR - We are launching a drawing competition to design the new cover for the Little Choir of St Columba's folders. Children are invited to create an A4 drawing about the choir, music and singing in church, including "**Little Choir of St Columba, Chester.**" Entries can be emailed to StColumbaLittleChoir@proton.me or handed in at church by **Friday 9th October**. The winner will be announced on **Sunday 11th October** at the cake sale after the 11:00 Mass, and their artwork will become the choir's official folder cover.

SEASON OF CREATION: runs throughout September, ending on Oct 4th, the feast of St Francis of Assisi. We give thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage that we have caused and commit ourselves to take action to protect the earth our common home. (CAFOD). The children of the parish will be taking part in

the Offertory Procession in both churches on October 4th to celebrate this occasion.

CAFOD: Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. Use the CAFOD envelope in church porches, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030.

SVP - Thank You

Thank you for the very kind and generous donations of furniture and household items during our recent appeal.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER REQUEST

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

FRIENDSHIP THURSDAY

This is on the third Thursday afternoon of every month from 2-4 pm. Our guest/ or activities until 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. There will be a small charge for materials. For further information please see the posters in church or contact Lyn Coyle : 07735574397 or Marilyn.coyle44@gmail.com

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

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 Muriel Green, Phone: 07847 629672

Email: muriel.green1@btinternet.com

Deadline: Wednesday 7th 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

CTU QUIZ NIGHT!

CTU has arranged a Quiz Night on Friday October 30th at 7pm, open to anyone who enjoys quizzing. Bring your team of six to eight players or come and join a team short of members. Bring your own drinks and glasses; table nibbles are provided and a hot drink at the interval. Our quizmaster is very experienced, and it promises to be a really enjoyable evening with a good mixture of questions. There will be a raffle. Admission £3 per person at the door with all profits going to the Hospice.

TO

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN VACANCY AT HMP &YOI STYAL-

We are seeking a compassionate and committed Roman Catholic Chaplain (Priest or Lay) to join our multi-faith chaplaincy team in a women's prison. If you are interested in helping people build brighter futures, we would love to hear from you. This is a one day a week post (8hrs). Please contact Managing Chaplain Jo Hirst for further information 01625 553015 Joanna.hirst1@justice.gov.uk.

PILGRIMS REUNION - for participants of recent Shrewsbury Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimages. On Saturday 10th October at St Columba's Church, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA. There will be a reunion Mass at 2.00pm followed by refreshments in the church hall. All former pilgrims are welcome.

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI - 800th Anniversary Celebrations at St Francis Church, Chester Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 October 2026 Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, As part of the Jubilee Year of St Francis, proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi, I warmly invite the faithful of the Diocese of Shrewsbury to join us at St Francis Church, Chester, for our principal celebrations of the Feast of St Francis. This special weekend will be an opportunity to come together in prayer and thanksgiving, to remember the life and witness of St Francis, and to celebrate the Franciscan spirit of faith, fraternity and peace. Saturday 3 October 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm The Life of St Francis A special musical performance celebrating his life and message. Transitus Solemn Vespers commemorating the passing of St Francis of Assisi from this life to eternal life. Refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall. Please note: Due to the Transitus celebrations, there will be no 6:30 pm Vigil Mass at St Francis Church on Saturday 3 October. Sunday 4 October - Feast of St Francis of Assisi 10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm Solemn Mass Presided over by Bp Mark Davies, Bishop of Shrewsbury. Refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall. Solemn Mass in Polish As Capuchin Franciscan friars, we would be delighted to welcome clergy, religious, parish groups, families and individual pilgrims from across the Diocese to celebrate with us