

St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL
That those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

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www.stpeterscatholic.church www.churchservices.tv/stockport
Email admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk
Fr. Peter Sharrocks petersharrocks@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk



Mother of God
Local
Missionary
Area
in Stockport

Offertory Gifts Thank you for your generous donations last week which amounted to £128-50 plus £600 by Standing Orders and a number of envelopes for the Easter Offerings with further donations of £260.

THE NEW SET OF OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW FINANCIAL YEAR IN APRIL ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PORCH. THEY ARE CLEARLY MARKED WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS AND THEY WILL STILL BE THERE WHEN WE GET BACK TO 'NORMAL'!

DURING THE PRESENT EMERGENCY WE STILL HAVE BILLS TO PAY!! Please continue to put your offerings in an envelope and save them until we are 'back to normal' or you can post them through the presbytery door. If you wish you can send an offering by cheque payable to St Peters Hazel Grove or do a direct transfer to

St Peters Hazel Grove at Lloyds Bank 30 15 52 54607668 or set up a Standing Order or for St Philip's go to **St Philips Offerton 30 15 52 54674660**

See also the note overleaf about on line giving via a new website

GIFT AID DONORS— will any donors who no longer pay Income Tax please notify the Parish office to ensure the accuracy of this years claim. Date of last payment will assist. Anyone who wishes to join the scheme please contact Hughie 07977414884 or email k13rey@sky.com

CAFOD Collection - £10

Cleaning - There is no Church cleaning until further notice

Callers - Could we ask that callers to the Presbytery please use the front door and also if you are putting an envelope through the letter box there is no need to ring the bell.

References - WE REMIND ANYBODY WHO IS PUTTING FR PETER DOWN AS REFEREE TO CONTACT HIM IN PERSON, NOT BY PHONE OR EMAIL. THIS FOR YOUR OWN ADVANTAGE, FR PETER KNOWS A LOT OF PEOPLE BY SIGHT BUT NOT BY NAME!!

THEATRE TRIPS

Both the Lowry and the Palace are closed. We have been informed not to telephone the Theatres' but they will be in touch with us by email, to advise and update, as to the situation regarding both the Phantom and Les Miserables. We will keep you informed.

We received an e mail this week informing us that Les Miserables has been rescheduled for 'early 2021.' We will let you have the exact dates as soon as we have them.

From Fr Peter.

I had some nice comments about the photos in last weeks newsletter which showed my view of church on Sunday mornings. Today we have the view from t'other end! There is also a picture of the Sacred Heart Statue on another page. Our Lady is on her way!



Funerals are always sad occasions but these days with the restrictions in place they are even more sad. Attendance is restricted to immediate family - up to ten people at the Crematorium and a similar number at graveside services for burials. Hopefully when things are different we will be able to remember people who have died recently at Mass or a Liturgy of the Word in church and that will hopefully ease the sadness. This coming week sees two burials and one cremation so keep these deceased people and their families in your prayers.

There is a new section on the parish website where you can light a virtual candle and leave a prayer intention and its free! You can also find instructions

on how to join our virtual Coffees after Sunday Mass in this newsletter. You have to provide your own tea or coffee because otherwise it makes a mess of the i pad or lap top or whatever you are using!

Stay well, stay at home, keep safe, wash your hands!!

Fr Peter

LIVE ON THE INTERNET

To access our Masses go to www.churchservices.tv/stockport

PLEASE NOTE THAT ST PETER'S CHURCH AND SOME OF THE GROUNDS ARE MONITORED BY CCTV CAMERAS AND LIVE STREAMING CAMERAS 24/7

Data Protection Privacy Notice

The Parish of St. Peter's Hazel Grove sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity No 234025



THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING:
Acts 2:14,22-33;

PSALM: 15:

**Show us , Lord,
the path of life**

SECOND READING:
1 Peter 1:17-21

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia Alleluia
**Lord Jesus, explain the
scriptures to us.**
**Make our hearts
burn within us
as you talk to us**
Alleluia

GOSPEL READING:
Luke 24:13-35

**The Sacrament of
Reconciliation**
will be celebrated by
appointment and subject
to social distancing

YOU ARE ALL WELCOME TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES
During the present emergency the churches have to remain closed. All Masses, Rosaries and Exposition from St Peters are being streamed live.
The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available by appointment and is subject to social distancing.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year A
Divine Office Psalter Week 3
ALL SERVICES WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ON THE LIVE STREAM
Each evening the Rosary will be said at 7 00 p.m, join in on line
www.churchservices.tv/stockport

Sunday 26th April 2020 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.00 am People of the Parish
Readings: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 15; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

Monday 27th April 2020

12 Noon Peter Wilkinson
Readings: Acts 6:8-15; Psalm 118; John 6:22-29

Tuesday 28th April (St Anselm)

12 Noon Emily Nugent
Readings: Acts 7:51-8:1; Psalm 30; John 6:30-35
A Private funeral service for Gerard Sturmey this afternoon

Wednesday 29th April 2020 St Catherine of Siena - Patron of Europe

12.Noon Joan Whittam
Readings: 1 John 1:5-2:2; Psalm 102; Matthew 11:25-30.
Private Funeral Services for Irene King and then Margaret Wade this morning

Thursday 30th April 2020

12 Noon Angela Crowe
Readings: Acts 8: 26-40; Psalm 65; John 6:44-51

Friday 1st May 2020 (St Joseph the Worker)

12 noon Barbara Martin
Readings: Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 116; John 6:52-59
A Private funeral service for James Flynn this morning
6—8 00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR HUMAN WORK

Saturday 2nd May 2020 St Athanasius

11 00-11 45 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12 noon Peter Carrahar
Readings: Acts 9: 31-42; Psalm 115; John 6:60-69

Sunday 3rd May 2020 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10.00 am People of the Parish
Readings: Acts 2:14, 36-41; Psalm 22; 1 Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10.

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

ROSARY AT 7 00 p.m. Each evening streamed live churchservices.tv/stockport



CORONAVIRUS

There is a group of volunteers from the parish who will be happy to help those who are unable to get out to shop or just want a chat over the phone. If you need such help then get in touch via our parish phone 0161 483 3476 or email and leave a message and we shall get back to you.



Your prayers are asked for

The sick - remembering, all the sick in the parish, in our hospitals and nursing homes. We also remember those who are housebound and are unable to come to Mass. We remember especially young people who are sick. Please remember Fr Jim McGrath one of our retired priests who has had a major stroke.

Lately Dead: Peggy Saunders, Colette Murphy (St Vincents), Gerard Sturmeay and Margaret Wade, Irene King and James Flynn

Anniversaries that occur around this time: Ernie Ball, Sheila Pierse, Barbara Dunstan, Bill Christie, Eileen Massey, Joan Whittam, Winifred Copp, Edward Gaughan, Peter Bramall, Therese Hanson, George Thirnlley, Frances Oulton, Barabara Martin, Terence McConville, Doriis Head, Tony Devoy, Elizabeth O'Reilly, June Whittaker, Stanley Mitchell, William Moriarty and Peter Carrahar

To prepare for this prayer, spend a few moments asking the Holy Spirit to open your mind and heart to hear this Word being spoken to you today.

Third Sunday of Easter (Year A) Luke 24:13-35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast. Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these past few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the woman had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?' They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

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1. Spend some time quietly reading and rereading the passage, noting the words/phrases that draw your attention.
2. Imagine yourself walking alongside Jesus...saying *Our own hope has been...* Take time to talk to him, listening to his reposnse...

Who/what has helped you to say *'Yes! It IS true! Christ IS risen!*

For Conversation

The things that stop you seeing people as they really are - Filled with God's Spirit.



ALPHA

We're in unprecedented times but Alpha doesn't have to stop. Through the powers of modern technology, Alpha will be continuing on line after Easter, streaming the videos through an online conference service called zoom including small group discussion - you'll just have to provide your own drinks and food! To register your interest email mckay7897@hotmail.com

THANKS

Pat Knox and the family of the late Harry Knox wish to thank everyone who has sent Mass cards and messages of sympathy and who lit candles and joined in prayer for Harry during his 'virtual' funeral at

SCRUBS FOR THE NHS

A Stockport volunteer sewing army banded together to provide urgently needed scrubs and PPE to the local primary care health community in the midst of Covid-19. We are here one stitch at a time - to protect out NHS heroes risking their lives daily in order to protect us.

If you can sew and would like to help out please sign up on the FaceBook page 'For the love of Scrubs - Stockport Cheshire' alternatively there is a desperate need for fabric, if you can donate cotton/ polycotton fabric, (old bed linen) any colour or pattern except white or cream, elastic for the waistbands, tape to be used as drawstrings, or thread it would all be most welcome. The donations can be made via the FaceBook page or if you aren't on Facebook call Una Devlin on **07894904930**

A WEEK OF GUIDED PRAYER -still on the calendar!

Earlier in the year a week of Guided Prayer was written in to the Parish Calendar to start the very last day of May. Then the virus invasion that swept into all our lives, changing them beyond recognition, led us to assume the week would have to be postponed for another time. However the genius of modern technology means that need not be the case. **We can and will still have our week of Guided prayer from 31stMay – 6th June but it will be a Virtual week available on line**

A week of accompanied prayer is an ideal way of drawing closer to God in the midst of daily living, particularly in our present circumstances, and will be open to all who have access to the internet. Each day participants set aside a half hour prayer period based on Scripture and, in addition, receive face to face spiritual support /guidance from a member of the prayer team each day via Zoom or Skype or .any other communication ap that is readily available

Participants make their prayer exercise at home and but also make a timed internet appointment with their assigned prayer companion for 30 minutes Monday to Friday inclusive. On the opening Sunday and the closing Saturday there will hopefully be a group session via Zoom

If you are interested in availing of this personal retreat on line please send an email clearly headed Directed Prayer week to: michaeldomalley@sky.com Please include your name, your phone number; and your email address and also, very importantly, whether you will be using Facetime; Skype or Zoom to communicate with your prayer companion.

Please do not delay in making your decision as it is important to know the number for which plans need to be made.

St Peter's Book Club in lockdown

In these unprecedented times we are hoping that more people within the parish will be looking to pick up a good book, so please find a little list that will hopefully keep you going - *Conversations with Friends* by Sally Rooney, *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* by Christy Lefteri, *The Book Thief* by Markus Lefteri, *Mud Larking* by Lara Maikelm, *The Parisian* by Isabella Hamed, *The Woman in the Window* by AJ Finn, *Firefly* by Henry Porter, *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon, *The Winter Soldier* by Daniel Mason, *The Binding* by Bridget Collins, *The Huntress* by Kate Quinn and *The Wolf and the Watchman* by Niklas Natt och Dag.

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

First of all let us keep in our prayers our health care professionals who are doing a magnificent job in very difficult circumstances. A priest may visit **ONLY** for the Sacrament of the Sick in urgent circumstances. If you are going into hospital for an operation then ask Fr Peter to visit you at home before you go in if you wish to receive the sacraments. We are going to the hospital if people request to see a priest and the staff are being most careful in making sure we are suitably protected.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE AND COMMUNITY

In his most recent letter to the priests of the diocese, the Bishop has cancelled his timetable of Visitations and Confirmations for the summer which means the planned visitation at St Philip's in June and Confirmation in July for our Local Area will not take place as scheduled. We will have to wait and see how the lockdown is revised in the weeks and months that lie ahead before making any plans. This is the same for First Confessions and Communions. You can also find a message from the bishop to the people of the diocese on the next page

MARRIAGE COURSE ONLINE

This is a unique moment in time where we find ourselves in a season where strength in relationships is needed more than ever. This applies particularly to marriage. We are looking to offer the marriage course online in the coming weeks, a fantastic resource for strengthening marriages. See link below.

<https://alphainternational.cmail20.com/t/j-l-qzjin-tkktksks-y/>

There is no cost involved and the film series will be shown in webinar mode ensuring complete privacy for couples. Please register your interest by emailing laurasmall92@outlook.com

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR NEIGHBOURS IN CASE THEY NEED HELP AT THIS TIME

ONLINE GIVING TO THE PARISH

For those Parishioners who normally give in the collection at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish has been added to the Parish website. **Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way. At the emomentthis is for St Peters only. A link for St Philip's is coming.**

The page can also be used to set up a regular monthly donation, and you can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further. If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order.

The page can be found at:

For St Peters <https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/stpeterdioceseofshrewsbury2122>

For St Philip's use <https://investmycommunity.com/not-logged-donator/page/StPhilipOffertonDioceseofShrewsbury2161>

Thank you for your support.

STOCKPORT TALKING NEWSPAPER

If you know of any visually impaired people then you could tell them about this.....

Our charity, Stockport Talking Newspaper, provides weekly local news from the Stockport Express in free, audio form via memory sticks to blind and visually impaired listeners. We also create a free monthly audio magazine for them, largely, but not entirely, about Stockport.

Our output is available online for anyone to enjoy. Even in these trying lockdown times we are producing our weekly edition of the news and monthly magazine. Please share this information with your church community to ease the isolation. stockporttalkingnewspaper.org.uk We would be pleased to register any blind or visually impaired person for receipt of the news and magazine by post on a free memory stick, once lockdown ceases.

If any of the group would like to record an historical piece about your church, when normality resumes, we would be

VIRTUAL TEAS AND COFFEES SUNDAY AT 11 AM

If you would like to receive the link to join the Zoom Sunday Morning Virtual Teas and Coffees and haven't already registered your email address on the [stpetershelters](http://stpetershelters.com) website, then please click on the link below and register your email address.

Register here;- <https://forms.gle/9oRc4QRs3JJnJ9Yu9>

If you know people who would like to join the teas and coffees gathering on a Sunday please let them know and ask them to register as well. You can register their email for them, so long as you have their consent to do so.

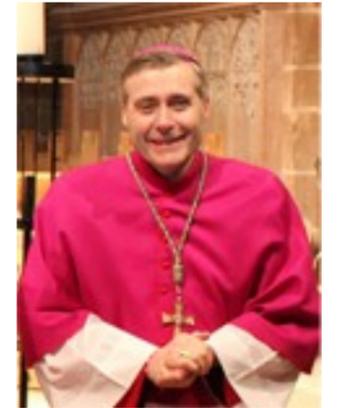
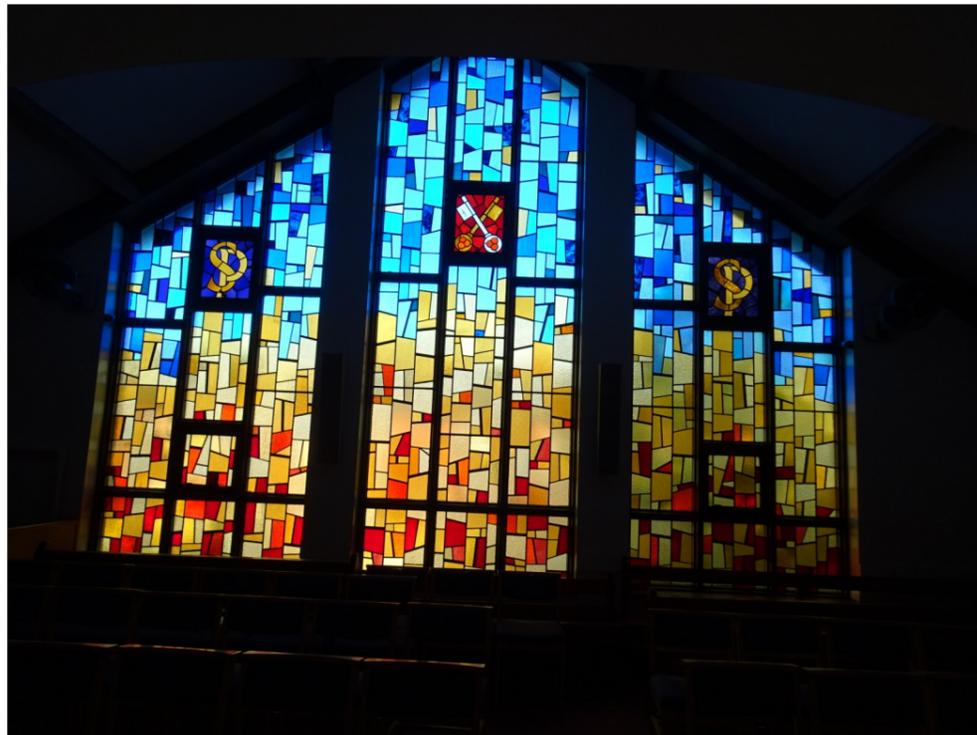
The Zoom link for Sunday's gathering will be then be sent out once you've registered.

We've made some progress in helping people with technology but if anyone is still struggling, do let us know

Hope to see you on Sunday,

FOODBANK AT ST PHILIP'S

The Foodbank at St. Philips is still operating each Thursday and, as you can imagine, is very busy. Thanks to all our parishioners who are helping with their time or gifts of food. Supplies are needed but a request has gone out to stick to tea, coffee or cans of soup, tomatoes, vegetables, fruit, meat, fish etc. but no treats or chocolates or nappies as we have plenty of these. Donations can be put in the containers at Asda or Sainsburys in Hazel Grove or taken directly to the Baptist Church, opposite Hazel Grove station.



A message from the Bishop to the people of the Diocese during the public health crisis, 26th April 2020

I send this short message to you as we continue to walk day by day through this crisis. I know that tens of thousands have been able to join me in the Cathedral via livestream, yet I am conscious that I have not been able to speak personally to many others in the Diocese. I want to assure you, whether you find yourself today in our hospitals and care homes; in self-isolation at home; or living amidst the many restrictions of this time, that we remain united in prayer. Be assured that you have a place in my prayer every day.

I particularly want to thank your priests and deacons who have continued to serve in so many generous ways, not least in the care of the sick and dying and above all by the daily offering of the Mass celebrated alone. I know you are held in their daily prayer. I also want to record our gratitude at this moment in history to all the doctors, nurses, care workers, cleaners, our police and shop workers and all of the essential services together with so many volunteers. I know many others are praying and interceding hidden from human sight. Pope Francis reminds us, it is all of you who are quietly and heroically writing the story of this time.

i Cf. Urbi et Orbi Message 27th March 2020

In the Gospel, we hear how even in the most desolate and bewildering moments, the Risen Jesus walks with us even when we fail to recognise Him. He allows our hearts to once more burn within us and inspires the prayer, "Stay with us, Lord Jesus." I hope the re-opening of our churches will not be too long delayed so that we can recognise Jesus Himself as the first disciples recognised Him in the breaking of the bread – in the mystery of the Holy Eucharist with all joy renewed.

In the meantime, let us continue to pray wherever we find ourselves: Stay with us, Lord Jesus as we walk through these days.

May God bless you and all your loved ones,

Mark

Bishop of Shrewsbury