

**POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR**

December:

Evangelisation:

That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer

**THE WORD OF GOD****FIRST READING:**

Genesis 15: 1-6 21: 1-3

**PSALM 104:**

He, the Lord, is our God. He remembers his covenant forever.

**SECOND READING:**

Hebrews 11.8.11-12.17-19,

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia Alleluia!

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL READING:**

Luke 2:22-40

**DAILY ROSARY**

If anyone would like to volunteer to come and lead a daily Rosary at 7 00 p.m. then let Fr Peter know

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
will be celebrated by appointment and subject to social distancing  
And on Christmas Eve afternoon from 2 00 p.m. until 4 00 p.m.

***St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter***

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 Fr. Peter Sharrocks [petersharrocks@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk](mailto:petersharrocks@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk)

**YOU ARE ALL WELCOME TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES**

If you wish to attend Mass at St Peters on Saturday or Sunday then you should reserve a place by e mailing [admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk).

If you wish to attend Mass at St Philip's on Saturday evening the you should e mail [david.smith72220@ntlworld.com](mailto:david.smith72220@ntlworld.com)



Mother of God  
Local  
Missionary  
Area  
in Stockport

**CHRISTMASTIDE Year B****Divine Office Psalter Week 1**

**ALL SERVICES FROM ST PETERS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE LIVE STREAM**  
**Each evening the Rosary will be said at 7 00 p.m, except Sunday then at 5 00 p.m.**  
**join in on line [www.churchservices.tv/stockport](http://www.churchservices.tv/stockport)**

**Saturday 26th December 2020—ST STEPHEN. M**

12 Noon Peter Carrahar and John Kirrane

6.00 pm Polish Mass

Readings: *Acts 6: 8-10.7:54-59; Psalm 30; Matthew 10: 17-22***Sunday 27th December - THE HOLY FAMILY**

10.00 am Joan Mulcahy RIP

11.15 am Mass at St. Phillips (**ONLY FOR THIS SUNDAY**)

6.00 pm People of the Parish

Readings: *Genesis 15: 1-6 21: 1-3; Psalm 104: Hebrews 11.8. 11-12.17-19, Luke 2: 22-40***Monday 28th December 2020—THE HOLY INNOCENTS,MM**

12 00 Noon Deceased members of the Lancashire Family

Readings: *1 John 1: 1-5 –2-2; Psalm 123; Matthew 2: 13-18***Tuesday 29th December 2020—ST THOMAS BECKET,B,M****Patron of the Parish Clergy**

12 Noon Tommy Taylor Intention

Readings: *Colossians 1: 24-29; Psalm 22; Luke 22: 24-30***Wednesday 30th December 2020 - SIXTH DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE**

12 noon Vernon Whittingham

Readings: *1 John 2: 12-17; Psalm 95; Luke 2: 36-40*

1 30 P.M. Funeral Service at Stockport Crematorium for Patricia Taylor

**Thursday 31st December 2020—SEVENTH DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS OCTAVE**

12 Noon Bridget and John Kelly

Readings: *1 John 2: 18-21; Psalm 95; John 1: 1-18***Friday 1st January 2021 - MARY MOTHER OF GOD—NEW YEAR'S DAY (Please e mail in for a place)**

12 Noon Edith Harper RIP

Readings: *Numbers 6: 22-27; Psalm 66; Galatians 4: 4-7; Luke 2: 16-21***Saturday 2nd January 2021—Ss Basil the Great B, D & Gregory Nazianzen, B,D**

12 Noon Peter Carrahar RIP

6.00 pm Mass at St. Phillips

6.00 pm Polish Mass

Readings: *1 John 2:22—28; Psalm 97, John 1:19-28***Sunday 3rd January 2021 - SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

10.00 am Rita and Kevin Saunders 50th Wedding Anv.

6.00 pm People of the Parish

Readings: *Ecclesiasticus 24: 1-2. 8-12; Psalm 147; Ephesians 1: 3-6 15-18; John 1: 1-18*

**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. Let us also keep in our prayers all those who have care of the sick and the dying at this time often putting their own lives at risk in the process..

**Lately Dead:** Celia Ratcliffe, whose funeral Mass will be celebrated here on Friday January 8th at noon

Patricia Taylor whose funeral will be at the Crematorium on December 30th at 1 30 p.m. And Graham Hancock whose funeral will be at Stockport Crematorium on January 6th at 10 30

**Anniversaries that occur around this time:** Bishop Eric Grasar, Fr Paul Gledinning, James Foley, Agnes Cryer, Charles Hallsworth, Roy Engledow, Annie Kenny, Mary Morris, Winifred Hardiman, Lawrence Cregan, Vernon Whittingham, Veronica Chatterton, Christine Glazier.

**Prayer Intentions** - We have a team of 'prayer warriors' who will pray for your intentions at this time, send your intentions to the parish office and they will be forwarded. You can also light a 'virtual' candle on the parish website.

*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.*

### Holy Family (Year B)

#### Luke 2:22–40

When the day came for them to be purified, as laid down by the Law of Moses, they took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. Observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: "Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel." As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own

soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare." There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow she was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at the moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



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1. Spend some time quietly reading and rereading the passage, noting the words/phrases that draw your attention.
2. Place yourself in the shoes of Mary and Joseph in the different events of the story, imagining their thoughts and feelings... What word of hope does it hold for parents?
3. What does the story tell us about Jesus?
4. Take time in prayer to place before God the family tensions that you/others are struggling with

#### For Conversation:

The work of the Father I am/we are called to do

#### ST PETER'S BOOK CLUB

Over the Christmas period we would like to recommend:

#### Year of Wonders - Geraldine Brooks

When an infected cloth carries the plague from London to an isolated village, Eyam, a housemaid named Anna Frith emerges as an unlikely heroine. Through Anna's eyes we follow the story of 1666, as she and her fellow villagers confront the spread of disease and superstition.

#### Paris Echo - Sebastien Faulks

American postdoctoral researcher Hannah listens to the extraordinary witness of women who lived in Paris under the German Occupation - it has been described as homage to Paris.

We will meet via Zoom at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 26th January - if you would like to join us please email [ajmcarr68@outlook.com](mailto:ajmcarr68@outlook.com)

**OFFERTORY GIFTS** Thank you for your generous donations last week which amounted to £868-71 with other donations of £260 plus around £1000 per week by Standing Orders and on line giving at the moment... Thank you to those who are putting their Offertory envelopes through the door and who have done the on line giving.. **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**

If your bank asks for the name of the account it is **Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Diocese Trustees** with the above account numbers

# **THE COMING OF THE KINGS,**

is a play performed by some parishioners about the events around the Nativity. Its posted on YouTube and you can find the link from the parish website under Fr Peter's opening message. Have a listen and see if you can identify who are the players.

Thank you for the cards and gifts which have been coming in to me over the past few days, It is most humbling to be the recipient of so much generosity, thank you. Thank you to all who have helped prepare our Christmas Masses and decorate the church. As always it has been a real team effort. I hope you have all managed to have some festivities over this Christmas weekend despite the restrictions placed up on us.

Hopefully 2021 will bring an improvement for all of us.

FROM FR PETER

What a year we have had and it looks like the early part of the new year will not bring much improvement. We had started with some First Communions last weekend and we are hoping we will get some more in during this week. Poor Zac should have made his last Wednesday last but had to self isolate when a case was reported in his 'bubble' at school. We hope it will not be long before he can join us at the Table of the Lord.

Thank you for your co-operation over the Christmas Masses. I know many were disappointed not to be able to come and other had their plans disrupted because they were prevented from travelling but I hope the weblink provided by Church Services was a satisfactory substitute under the circumstances. Over 300 watched on Christmas Eve and a further 175 on Christmas Day.

Because of the restrictions we are unable to have our what is now traditional Mass for the local parishes at Our Lady's on New Years Day. There will be Mass here at 12 noon and you should e mail in for a place like you do at the weekend.

I hope you will have a read of our latest edition of SHINE either on line or through the hard copy which has been available this weekend and see above for the details of a production of '**The Coming of the Kings**' which has just been posted on our YouTube site and there is a link from the parish website.

Have a good week and be jolly careful!



GLASNEVIN Barber Shop

*Fr Peter*

Mary's next words come during a feast, a celebration.

#### WEEK FIVE            "THEY HAVE NO WINE"

The marriage feast at Cana shows us the next step in our prayer life.

#### CONFIDENCE

REFLECTION: Mary, ever vigilant and aware of the needs of others, sees that the young couple are going to be embarrassed by their lack of sufficient wine. Seeing this and knowing her Son, she makes a simple statement of the situation, confident that she can rely on support and help from her boy. But she did not know how he would solve the problem.

The reply, "What is that to me?" might seem off-hand, even dismissive, but this Son knows his mother and is aware that whatever happens she's going to win! Mary also knows that Jesus will never refuse her anything.

In prayer we must develop the certainty that Jesus will do whatever is best for us.

He may not give us what we ask for but he will certainly give us what we need.

Mary did not know how Jesus would deal with her snippet of information and, I'm sure, did not expect him to produce such a vast quantity of excellent wine!

It's almost as though Jesus is saying, 'OK, I'll show you!'

This is the relationship bond. We know that like Mary, we and God are together, are close. We know He's always there. We know that He loves us and wants to support us. We know that we can expect His presence in all our needs and in our love for each other. We can turn to Him with total trust,

and without words, for He will always love us, hold us, respond to us and deal with us lovingly.

It's important to remember that while we can and should pray for others and for things, we should be prepared for and confident that God will always do what he finds best.

EXERCISE: SET ASIDE HALF AN HOUR.

LIGHT A CANDLE.

INVOKE THE HELP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

REFLECT ON MARY'S WORDS TO JESUS.

Am I close enough to Jesus to know that I can trust him to do what's best? Can I simply tell Jesus what's worrying me and leave it at that? Can I simply put all my cares into his hands, know that he'll deal with them and then just sit with him and listen to what he wants me to hear?

Next week we shall listen to the last words spoken by Mary and they are well worth remembering and not only in this context.

"DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU."