

That the Lord gives us the grace
to live in full fellowship with
our brothers and sisters of
other religions, praying for one
another, open to all

St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter

16, Green Lane, Hazel Grove, SK7 4EA Phone 0161 483 3476 Fax 419 9592
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

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.

If you wish to attend Mass at St Philip's on Saturday evening the you should e mail david.smith7220@ntlworld.com



THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING:
ISAIAH 55:1-11:

CANTICLE ISAIAH 12:2-26:
With joy you will draw
water from the wells of
salvation.

SECOND READING:
1 John 5:1-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia Alleluia!
John saw Jesus coming
towards him and said: This
is the Lamb of God who
takes away the sin of the
world
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING:
Mark 1:7-11

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 in the
sacristy during Exposition
of the Blessed Sacrament
on Saturdays and subject
to social distancing

ORDINARY TIME 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

Saturday 9th January 2021 SATURDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12 Noon Hampson Thanksgiving
6.00 pm Mass at St. Phillips
6.00 pm Polish Mass

Sunday 10th January - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

10.00 am People of the Parish
6.00 pm Colleen Whittam RIP
Readings: Isaiah 55:1-11; Canticle Isaiah 12:2-6; 1 John 5:1-9; Mark 1: 7-11

Monday 11th January 2021 - ORDINARY TIME BEGINS TODAY

12 Noon Jodie Turton
Readings: Hebrews 1:1-6; Psalm 86; Mark 1:14-20

Tuesday 12th January 2021-

12 Noon The Cheetham Family
Readings: Hebrews 2:5-12; Psalm 8; Mark 1:21-28.

Wednesday 13th January 2021

12 Noon Aloysia & Fritz Stoerr
Readings: Hebrews 2:14-18; Psalm 104; Mark 1:29-39

Thursday 14th January 2021

12 Noon Requiem Mass for Maureen McConville (by invitation only)
Readings: Hebrews 3:7-14; Psalm 94; Mark 1:40-45

Friday 15th January 2021 -

12 Noon Marie Downey
Readings: Hebrews 4:1-5,11; Psalm 77; Mark 2:13-17

Saturday 16th January 2021

Readings; Hebrews 4:12-16; Psalm 18; Mark 2:13-17
11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

12 Noon Elizabeth West
6.00 pm Mass at St. Phillips
6.00 pm Polish Mass

Sunday 17th January - SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

10.00 am People of the Parish
6.00 pm Secular Clergy Fund
Readings: 1 Samuel 3:3-10,19; Psalm 39; 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20; John 1:35-42

**Please remember to wear face masks and sanitise your hands coming in
and going out of church and keep to social distancing.
DO NOT COME TO CHURCH IF YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS - SNEEZING,
COUGHING, SORE THROAT ETC**



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: Maureen McComville whose funeral takes place on Thursday at noon. (Attendance by invitation only)

Anniversaries that occur around this time: Robert Gordon, Bob Smith, Anthony Mulvaney, Sarah Duffy, Gerard White, Sarah Kelly, Jacqueline James, Daniel Ryan, William 'Peter' Cartwright, Bridget Barnfield and James Holtom

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.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Mark 1:7-11

In the course of John's preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

It was at this time that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. No sooner had he come up out of the water than he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit, like a dove, descending on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

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1. Spend some time quietly reading and rereading the passage, noting the words/phrases that draw your attention.

2. Imagine the scene... John... the Jordan... the people there... Place yourself there... notice what you see, hear, think, feel... Watching Jesus being baptised... Listening to the voice from Heaven... Your response the baptised Jesus...

3. Spend some time in quiet prayer hearing the Father saying to you: N_____, You are my beloved son/daughter.

For Conversation:

How you/your community live(s) out your baptismal vocation?

Some of our young people went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land a few years ago and renewed their baptismal promises at the River Jordan at the site where John the Baptist baptised Jesus

THE COMING OF THE KINGS

Is a radio 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 or if you have facebook the link is also on St. Peters Hazel Grove facebook page. Have a listen and see if you can identify who are the players before looking at the credits at the end!.



THEATRE TRIPS - LION KING

You may recall that we booked 27 tickets for the above show and like so many productions it was cancelled. We have just received notification that the show is due to reopen in May and our reserved tickets have been moved forward to 27th May if these are needed.

If you booked previously can you let us know whether you would like to attend so that we can confirm or cancel our original booking. Could you let us know by the 17th January. Thank you

ST. PETERS 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 *go to Paris*.

We will meet via Zoom at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 26th January - if you would like to join us please email ajmcgarr68@outlook.com

hope that is ok with everyone and thank you again.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

We will be having a Zoom session on Tuesday 12th at 2.00 pm. We will be having a guest speaker from Signpost to talk about the work they do with their Bereavement Group. We will then be having a brainteaser quiz so you will need a pen and paper. If you have not joined us before and would like to please contact Rachel who will send you the link. Any enquiries please get in touch.

Helen helenlyons1957@hotmail.co.uk 07854928072 or Rachel rachelemckay@icloud.com 07724749217

ST PETERS HELPERS –WE ARE STILL HERE TO HELP

SIGN UP WITH US: If you or someone you know, are feeling a little lost in the current lockdown, in need of a friendly phone call, or in need of emergency practical support. If you have been told to shield again, are you getting the support you need? If you want to refer a friend, do speak to them about signing up with us. Anyone who is feeling isolated or vulnerable (not just our more elderly parishioners) can register with us, even if there is nothing they need at the moment.

JOIN US: We can help each other by offering a little friendship and support. If you would like to be involved with projects to help each other, such as making/receiving friendly phone calls, writing letters, card making, knitting and online social groups.

E mail stpetershelpers@gmail.com or leave a message on the parish office number 0161 4833476 OR

Register with us at <https://sites.google.com/view/st-peters-helpers/home>

OLD CHRISTMAS CARDS

If you have yet to recycle your religious Christmas cards, please save the front covers for a Christmas card project for next year (We like to plan ahead!)

E mail stpetershelpers@gmail.com and we can collect them or you can drop them off at church.

MARRIAGE CARE: If you are going through difficulties in your relationship, Stockport Marriage Care offers a confidential counselling service. You can contact us on 0800 389 3801. We are currently providing couple counselling via a secure webcam (Zoom).

FOODBANK DONATIONS

IF YOU HAVE DONATIONS FOR THE FOOD BANK PLEASE WOULD YOU TAKE THEM DIRECTLY TO HAZEL GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH OPEN ON MONDAYS 12 30-14 30, WEDNESDAYS 10 30—12 30 AND FRIDAYS 11 30—14 30. PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM TO ST PETERS AT THE MOMENT

OFFERTORY GIFTS Thank you for your generous donations last week which amounted to £720-35p 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

IMPORTANT COLLECTION NEXT WEEK!!
RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND - SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend the annual Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund will be held. With your help, we can build up the Fund to help meet the future needs of our sick and retired priests.

If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, please make your donation Online. To donate Online please go to www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund

An electronic version of a leaflet about the Fund is available at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund and this also explains how you can donate to the Fund by Standing Order or Cheque and how to Gift Aid donations made using these methods.

HEADTEACHER REQUIRED
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stockport

Governors are advertising for a new Headteacher.

The closing date for applications is 25th January 2021.

For further information please visit one of the following websites -

School www.st-josephs-pri.stockport.sch.uk

Diocese www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/education/vacancies/primary

Local Authority www.stockport.gov.uk/job-vacancies

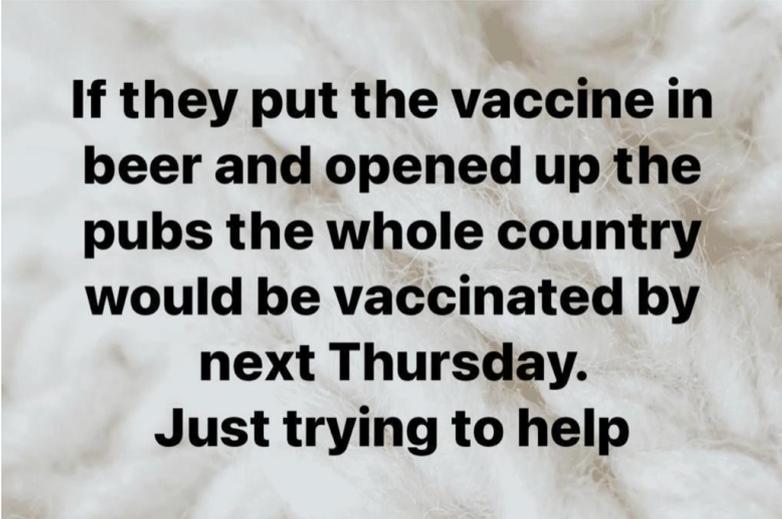
FROM FR PETER

I presume that 'Lockdown 3' did not come as a great shock but what was a pleasant surprise was that our churches are continuing to be allowed to stay open for communal worship and private prayer. We are grateful to our stewards for enabling us to stay open and who work so hard to sanitise the seats after every Mass as well as keeping a check on who is coming. It is important that we book our places for the weekend Masses and only come if we have booked a place. Equally important is to fill in names and contact details during the week on the 'Track and Trace' forms available. Masks should be worn in church and hands sanitised on entry and exit. Spare a thought and a prayer for our young people whose education is being disrupted again with the closure of our schools. Hopefully this will not be for too long.

The vaccination programme is being rolled out and I had an interesting text from my medical practise telling me to be careful not to fall for a scam where someone rings up and offers the injection on payment of a fee. **DO NOT GIVE ANY DETAILS TO PEOPLE ASKING FOR MONEY FOR COVID VACCINATIONS** or any other vaccinations for that matter.

What sad 'goings on' on Capitol Hill on Wednesday evening. It certainly had no place in a democracy. We hope and pray that President elect Biden will be able to heal the United States following the aftermath of the election.

An important event coming up on Monday—**Stockport County v West Ham** in the F A Cup. Last time we played them we beat them, and I was there.! This time I shall have to be content with BT Sport but hopefully the boys will give a good account of themselves. Have a good week, despite the restrictions.



**If they put the vaccine in
beer and opened up the
pubs the whole country
would be vaccinated by
next Thursday.
Just trying to help**

Fr Peter

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees
Registered Charity No. 234025

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms (please delete) Other title

Christian Name(s)

Surname

Home Address

Post Code

I request that all donations I have made to the above charity since 6 April 2020 and all qualifying gifts of money that I make hereafter shall be treated as Gift Aid donations. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less income tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature of Donor

Date of signature / / 20

Please tick below to indicate how you intend to make (or are already making) your donations:

By Cheque By Banker's Standing Order

Please return this form to your Parish or to:

Planned Giving and Gift Aid Service,
Diocese of Shrewsbury, Curial Offices,
2 Park Road South,
PRENTON, CH43 4UX

Phone: 0151 652 9855 Fax: 0870 094 1142

Protecting your privacy. A record of your personal information and donations will be held by the Diocese of Shrewsbury and stored securely on the Diocese's database. We comply with data protection and marketing legislation and the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Practice. We do not transfer your data to 3rd parties to use for their own marketing or fundraising purposes. The Diocese will use your details to administer your gifts. This may include sharing your information with external organisations working on our behalf such as IT support companies, or when required by law (eg to claim Gift Aid). Many thanks for your continued support. You can read our full Privacy Notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice. The statement also contains details on how to opt-out of further communications from the Diocese if you change your mind at a later date and how to update your preferences. We would also occasionally like to send you news by post on the work of the Diocese and give you the opportunity to support future appeals.

If you do not wish to receive these communications, please tick this box

My dear People,

During my ten years as your bishop, I have been deeply moved to see the generous support given by the people of the Diocese to the annual collection for the Retired Priests' Fund. I am sure that with your continued support, we can build up this Fund to meet the present and future needs of all our sick and retired priests. I am aware that amid the present

public health crisis there are many calls on your generosity.

Today, I wish to invite you to show your continued support in whatever way is possible and would want to express my own gratitude for all of your unfailing generosity in helping the priests who have so generously served our Shrewsbury Diocese.

With every blessing,

+ *Mina*

Bishop of Shrewsbury

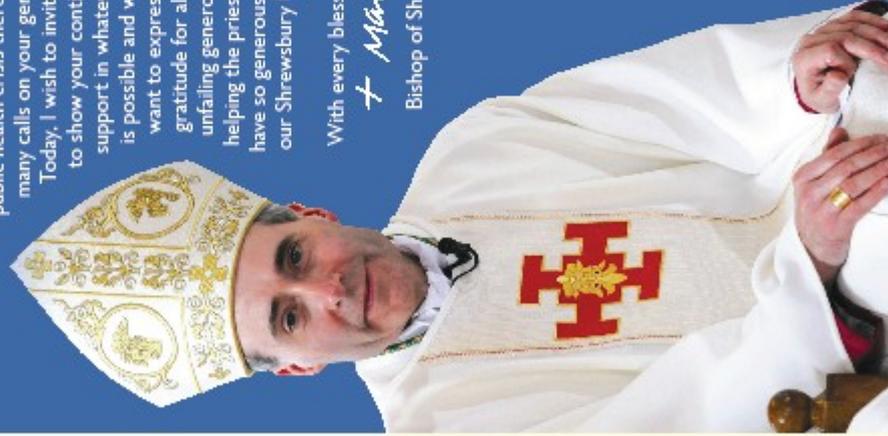


Photo: Michael Beckwith.org.uk

REMEMBER our RETIRED PRIESTS

Please give to the Special Collection for the Retired Priests' Fund



DIocese of SHREWSBURY
THE RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

Planned Giving and Gift Aid Service, Curial Offices, 2 Park Road South,
Prenton CH43 4UX Phone 0151 652 9855 Fax 0870 094 1142
Email: mike.russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Registered Charity No. 234025

DIocese of SHREWSBURY
THE RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

There are 3 ways you can give to the Retired Priests' Fund:

1. Donate Online

You can donate Online to the Fund. And if you donate Online you will also be able to Gift Aid what you choose to give to the Retired Priests' Fund. Just go to www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/retired-priests-fund

2. Donate by Standing Order or Cheque

If you would like to request that a Standing Order is posted to you, please print off and complete the form in this leaflet and return it to the address on the form. Alternatively, please send an Email to the Email address on the form. If you would like to make a donation by Cheque, please make this payable to Retired Priests' Fund and send it to the address shown for the Planned Giving & Gift Aid Service at the end of this leaflet.

3. Donate to the Annual Special Collection

Churches throughout the Diocese participate in a special collection held annually in January or February. This usually takes place as a Retiring Collection at which cash donations can be made. If you would like the Fund to be able to claim Gift Aid on your donation, please donate Online, or donate by Standing Order or Cheque and print off and complete the Gift Aid Declaration in this leaflet.

Boost the value of your donation with Gift Aid!

If you donate Online, you will also have the opportunity to Gift Aid this whilst making your donation to the Fund. If you make your donation by Standing Order or Cheque and want to Gift Aid your donation, please print off and complete the Gift Aid Declaration in this leaflet and send it to the address shown for the Planned Giving & Gift Aid Service.

Gift Aid provides a great boost to the value of your donation, increasing it's value by 25%!

A donation of £10 would be worth £12.50 A donation of £25 would be worth £31.25

A donation of £50 would be worth £62.50 A donation of £100 would be worth £125

A donation of £500 would be worth £625

STANDING ORDER FORM

What is the Retired Priests' Fund?

When active ministry ceases, Diocesan priests live independently in retirement. Priests generally retire at 75, often after having given 40-50 years of service to the people of the Diocese – well beyond the retirement age of most lay people. As they live independently, retired priests support themselves and are unable to rely upon the financial support provided by a Parish.

Priests receive a minimal wage during their years in active ministry, and so most only receive the basic state pension upon retirement. As a response to this, the Retired Priests' Fund seeks to help sick and retired priests with their basic living needs, providing a pension, accommodation etc... Our priests rely on what the Fund provides after devoting their lives to furthering the mission of the Church and bringing people closer to Christ.

Why does the Retired Priests' Fund need help?

The Retired Priests' Fund is dependent on donations. As a result of the tremendous support that the people of the Diocese have shown in the annual special collection in previous years, the Fund has managed to help sick and retired priests in need. However, the number of Priests needing support has increased in recent times and is expected to grow rapidly in the future.

How can you help?

Continued support of the Retired Priests' Fund is essential if we are to meet increased need in the future. Our priests are living longer, healthier lives like many people today. Living longer means that the Retired Priests' Fund is drawn on for a longer period of time. At present, we have around 90 priests in active ministry and there are 33 sick and retired priests. But in the next 10 years, the number of retired priests will increase significantly, greatly increasing demands on the Fund. If you would like to make a regular donation to the Retired Priests' Fund by Standing Order, please print this form and complete the information requested. On completion, please return it to the address shown below. A Standing Order form will then be sent to you by post.

Alternatively, you can request a Standing Order form by sending an Email to the Email address shown below.

Planned Giving and Gift Aid Service,
Diocese of Shrewsbury,
Curial Offices,
2 Park Road South,
PRENTON CH43 4UX
Phone: 0151 652 9855 Fax: 0870 094 1142
Email: mike.russell@dioceseofshrewsbury.org
Registered Charity No. 234025

DON'T FORGET Legacies

If you would like to help the priests of the Diocese when they have finished active ministry by leaving something in your Will, please contact the Planned Giving & Gift Aid Service.

Protecting your privacy. The information about you provided on this form will be used to post a Retired Priests' Fund Standing Order form to you or to contact you to provide details so that you can set the Standing Order up yourself Online. Your personal details will not be used for any other reason and this form will be destroyed immediately once the information has been used as described in this notice. You can read our full Privacy Notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice



A PASTORAL LETTER ON PUBLIC WORSHIP AND PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY

To be read at all Masses on the Sunday after the Epiphany

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

10th January 2021

My dear brothers and sisters,

As I write, a third National Lockdown has begun with many restrictions reducing our daily lives to “essentials.” The Government now recognises public worship as one of those essentials. Not a few may ask why churches remain open when other activities are prohibited; and some will question why worship remains the only legally permitted public gathering. Yet, we know that worship is not only a fundamental freedom: it is our primary human vocation. In short, worship is what we were made for!i The Catholic faith teaches that this worship is supremely offered in the Sacrifice of the Mass in which God is glorified and humanity sanctified.ii

It is your witness to this truth, which I have no doubt, has enabled public worship to be recognised as essential to society during this renewed lockdown. It is almost certainly the care with which all safety measures have been implemented in parishes which has now allowed the celebration of Mass and the Sacraments to continue. I wish, once again, to record my thanks to the clergy, the teams of parish volunteers and every member of the faithful who have together implemented and followed these safety requirements.

In all of this, we recognise the seriousness of our responsibility to help ensure the continuance of public worship and the safety of all. I ask you at the beginning of this New Year and a renewed state of lockdown, not to assume we have yet returned to “normal life” in our parishes; nor to give way to any sense of complacency, especially whilst a new variant of the virus is spreading rapidly. The continuance of public worship into Lent and Easter will, in large measure, depend on our vigilance and all our efforts to follow the measures which have already made our churches among the safest places in society.

In my letter to you in March of last year, I wrote of how these safety requirements can be lived in a spirit of charity. We continue to see how these demands call us to a refinement of charity. Requirements as strange - yet now so familiar - as social distancing, hand sanitising in church and wearing face coverings can serve as expressions of our love for our Lord and our love for the Mass, which continues to be publicly celebrated because of the careful fulfilment of such duties. If we ever feel fatigued in carrying out these requirements, let us renew them with love. At the end of the Christmas celebration, let us also do so with our gaze fixed on the Holy Eucharist, where the same Lord Jesus is now truly present whom wise men once fell down and worshipped; and whom Saint John the Baptist declared himself to be unfit even to kneel at His feet.ⁱⁱⁱ

As I picture you gathered in all the churches of the Diocese, may Saint Joseph - *the man who goes unnoticed, a support and guide in time of trouble*^{iv} - accompany us through these troubled times in fulfilling the greatness of our call to worship and our responsibility both to each other and to the whole of society.

Entrusting each of you to Saint Joseph's prayers,
+ *Mark*
Bishop of Shrewsbury