

That we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter

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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 for the services from next Thursday to Easter Sunday then go to

www.tickettailor.com/events/stpetershazelgrove

If you wish to attend Mass at St Philip's on Thursday evening, Friday afternoon or Easter Sunday morning then you should e mail david.smith7220@ntlworld.com

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-7

PSALM 21

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you O Christ, king of eternal glory
Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.
But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.

Praise to you O Christ king of eternal glory

The Passion according to St Mark

14:1- 15:47

Or 15:1-39

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

will be celebrated in the sacristy after Mass on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday

DID YOU REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD ?



LENT WEEK 6 Year B

HOLY WEEK

Divine Office Psalter Week 1

ALL MASSES 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. The Rosary is not open for people to attend but just broadcast over the internet.

THERE WILL BE NO ROSARY FROM THURSDAY UNTIL THE TUESDAY AFTER EASTER SUNDAY

Saturday 27th March 2021

11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

12 Noon Mick Kilheaney

6.00 pm Mass at St. Phillips— Gerard McAndrew

6.00 pm Polish Mass

Readings *Ezekiel 37:21-28 ; Psalm Jeremiah 31; John 11:45-56*

Sunday 28th March PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Readings *Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11;*

Mark 14:1-15:47

8 30 a.m. Margaret Fogarty

10 00 a.m. Alan Shuttleworth

6 00 p.m. People of the Parish

Monday 29th March

12 Noon Dan Begley

Readings: *Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 26; John 12 :1-11*

Tuesday 30th March 2021

12 noon William Connolly

Readings: *Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 70; John 13:21-38.*

Wednesday 31st March 2021

12 Noon Staff of St Peter's School

Readings: *Isaiah 50:4-9; Psalm 68; Matthew 26:14-25*

Thursday 1st April 2021 Holy Thursday

12 noon Funeral Service for Moyra Ivory (By invitation only)

7 30 p.m. EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Vera Hogan and Joe McGurk

Readings: *Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 115; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26;*

John 13:1-15

7 00 p.m. At St Philip's Aileen Bennet

Friday 2nd April 2021 GOOD FRIDAY

3 00 p.m. In St Peters and also St Philip's

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Readings: *Isaiah 52:13-53; Psalm 30; Hebrews 4:14-16 5:7-9; John 18 :1- 19:42*

HOLY SATURDAY Saturday 3rd April 2021

12 Noon Blessing of food for the feast in Polish

8 30 p.m. In St Peter's only The Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter

People of the Parish

Masses on Easter Sunday will be at 8 30, 10 00 and 11 30 a.m. In St Peter's and at 10 00 a.m.

In St Philip's **YOU WILL NEED A TICKET FOR ALL OF THEM**

There will be NO EVENING MASS in ST PETERS on EASTER SUNDAY

HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY AND HOLY SATURDAY and 10 00 a.m. MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY AT ST PETERS ARE FULLY BOOKED

Please remember to wear face masks and sanitise your hands coming in and going out of church and keep to social distancing including sitting away from the aisles as much as possible.
YOU SHOULD ONLY SIT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR OWN HOUSEHOLD
Please follow the Arrow markings on the floor of the church DO NOT COME TO CHURCH IF YOU HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS - SNEEZING, COUGHING, SORE THROAT ETC

Sunday 4th April Easter Sunday—THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Readings Acts 10:34, 37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9.

8 30 a.m. Secular Clergy Fund

10 00 a.m. Stanley McGlashan

11 30 a.m. James Cox

THE COLLECTION AT THE MASSES ON HOLY SATURDAY AND EASTER SUNDAY IS THE TRADITIONAL EASTER OFFERING TO THE CLERGY WHICH IS PART OF THE SALARY STRUCTURE IN THIS DIOCESE>

At St Philip's 10 00 a.m. Gerard McAndrew

NO EVENING MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY AT ST PETER'S

Your prayers are asked for

The sick - Canon Brenda Hoban—former parish priest at St Philip's, and 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..

Latently Dead: Moyra Ivory whose funeral service will be on Thursday April 1st at 12 noon. Sister Gertrude Geoghan from the Sisters of Evron who was Parish Administrator in St Bernadette's Brinnington and who died suddenly on Tuesday afternoon.

Anniversaries that occur around this time: Les Gelding, Nellie Horan, Eleanor Hall, Peter Judge, Anne Healey, Teresa Chapman, David Adamson, Margaret Fogarty, Arthur Philbin, Dan Begley, James Perkins, Elsie Freeman, James Hulme, Gerard Maher, Paul Hayward, Carol Collins, Catherine Marsland, Carol McLachlan, Kathryn Lee, Marian Sheldon, Norman Anderson and John Irwin

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.

Passion Sunday Mark 11:1-10

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord.

When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it. If any one says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" And they went away, and found a colt tied at the door out in the open street; and they untied it. And those who stood there said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' And they told them what Jesus had said; and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and threw their garments on it; and he sat upon it. And many spread their garments on the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed cried out, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!'

Think what it must have been like on that first Palm Sunday?

How would you have felt.

The same crowd were baying for blood a few days later

HOLY WEEK

*This is the holiest of weeks so do keep the crosses on you to remind you of the journey we are all on in union with the Lord.. If you can come to Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday then do so. Please do not come on Thursday Friday Saturday or Sunday if you have not booked a ticket. As I write there is room for more at 11 30 on Easter Sunday. Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday are FULL so please do not come unless you have a ticket. **IF YOU HAVE BOOKED A TICKET FOR ANY OF THE SERVICES AND FIND YOU CANNOT ATTEND THEN PLEASE LET US KNOW ON admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk***

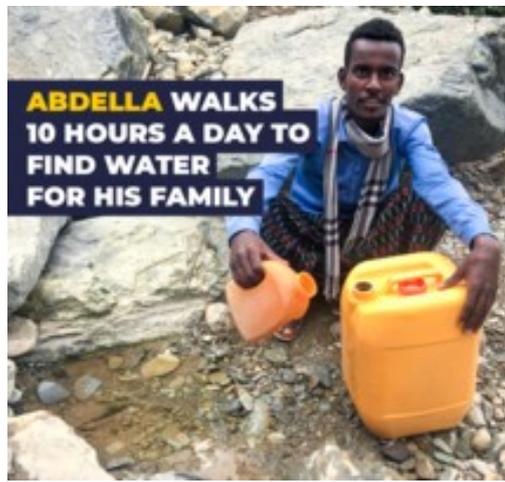
You can download the Holy Week edition of Magnificat to follow the readings of the week at home. Go to <https://uk.magnificat.net/holyweek>.

HOLY PLACES COLLECTION

At this time we are always asked to make a collection for the upkeep of the Holy Places in Bethlehem, Galilee and Jerusalem. The collection baskets at the back of church will be for this collection on Holy Thursday and Good Friday. You can also donate by putting your offering in an envelope clearly marked —**HOLY PLACES**

CAFOD Lent Appeal

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10*. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice. The Lenten Family Fast Day envelopes are available in the porch as you enter or leave Mass and the **Family Fast Collection will be taken on Easter Sunday**. There is more information about this appeal on the Cafod website. <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>.



To help people like Abdella
Text LENT to
70460
to donate £10 to
CAFOD's Lent Appeal

Or visit
cafod.org.uk/give

CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

Text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice. The Lenten Family Fast Day envelopes are available in the porch as you enter or leave Mass and the **Family Fast Collection will be taken on Easter Sunday**. There is more information about this appeal on the Cafod website. <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Family-Fast-Day>.

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Many thanks for the 16 bags and 3 boxes of food and 10 reconditioned lap tops which we have been able to deliver to our schools

CATHOLIC PAPERS

We have stopped selling the catholic papers over the past few months because there was little or no demand but if you so wish you can have the Universe delivered direct to your home. To arrange this just go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange delivery for you. You can have a hard copy or a digital version and the current offers are

SPECIAL OFFER 3 MONTHS: -	£25.00
SPECIAL OFFER 12 Months: -	£99.00
DIGITAL COPY: - 12 Months:	£55.00

OR

DIGITAL COPY/AND HARD COPY FOR: - £115.00 (EASTER SPECIAL OFFER)

ST PETER'S HELPERS

Thank you to our children and volunteers for delivering little packages to people this week. We have had many messages of thanks. The cards have been given pride of place on mantelpieces!

We are delivering the weekly church newsletter to those who live locally and are unable to read this online or get out to church. If you know someone who would like this, please let us know by email stpetershelpers@gmail.com or leaving a message for us on 0161 483 3476

TIME TO SHINE...!

We're starting to prepare for the next issue of Shine, our parish magazine. This time we'd like to focus on the parish of St Peter's because it's **90 years** since the official opening of the church, which took place on **12 April 1931**. So let's share some stories from those 90 years.

Firstly, if you were there at the time, we'd love to know more!! Secondly, send in your best memories of your life in St Peter's parish, either in words or pictures (with captions) and we'll create a special anniversary issue. We'd still like to hear any news you might have or anything interesting you'd like to share about your lockdown achievements: any new hobbies you've taken up, new skills you've learnt. If you've been inspired, maybe you can inspire others. Please send your contributions to terrythiele@hotmail.co.uk by Sunday May 30

ST PETER'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

Yes, it would be lovely to celebrate the 90th anniversary of St Peter's parish, ideally around our patronal feast of 29 June, but for now we'll have to wait and see what is practical and feasible for the weekend of 3 July. One way or another we'll mark the occasion, so watch this space.

OFFERTORY GIFTS Thank you for your generous donations last week which amounted to **£420-06p** plus online giving last month came to over £1000 per week. Thank you to those who are putting their Offertory envelopes through the door and who have done the on line giving.. 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 are putting several weeks collection in at the same time you only need to use one envelope. Many of the new sets of Offertory Envelopes have been delivered through your doors over the past few days but there are some remaining to be picked up in church or will be sent by post shortly.. 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

There are now some boxes of envelopes for people who do not do Gift Aid available in the church porch

SAFEGUARDING

Our parish safeguarding officer is Sean Downey and he may be contacted on

Seangdowney@hotmail.co.uk or 07766054754

FROM FR PETER

Some sad news came in on Wednesday morning with message that Sister Gertie from the Evron sisters had died suddenly on Tuesday afternoon. Sr Gertie led the team of Evron Sisters in St Bernadette's Brinnington from 1997 until Fr Bill Fitzgerald took on pastoral responsibility a couple of years ago. The parish community at St Bernadette's thrived under her leadership and they will miss her greatly. On a couple of occasions she gave the reflection at the LPA New Year's Day Masses at Our Lady's. She will be sorely missed and may she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Bookings for our Holy Week and Easter weekend liturgies came in thick and fast as soon as the website opened last Sunday and some of our services are completely booked. When you are trying to book and it says **SOLD OUT** it means that there are no spaces left for that particular celebration. If you have booked and realise you cannot make it then do let us know and we may be able to re allocate your ticket. **DON'T ATTEMPT TO COME IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A TICKET.** As usual all our services from St Peter's will be streamed at www.churchservices.tv/stockport.

Because of the restrictions parts of the ceremonies will be slightly different this year, thus no procession today, no Altar of Repose on Thursday, no individual veneration of the Cross on Good Friday and no outside fire on Saturday and no singing any day, but lots of recorded music thanks to the wizardry of Chris Ellis, Techie, Eileen and various others.

Enjoy the week as best you can

Fr Peter

NEXT ALPHA COURSE

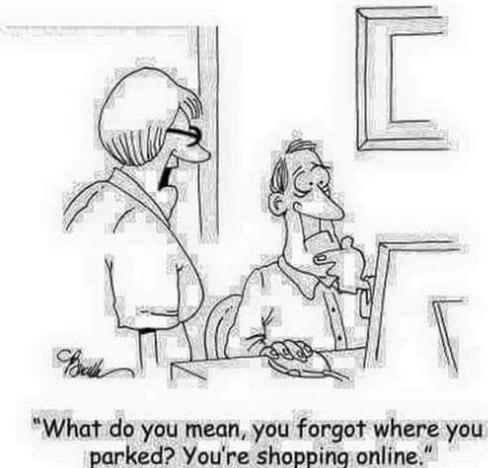
There's never been an easier time to do Alpha - You don't even have to leave the comfort of your own home! **Alpha Online starts on Thursday 22nd April 7.30 PM.** For more information contact

Rachel or John on mckay7897@hotmail.com or text 07724 749217. All welcome!

JOB VACANCY FOR SECRETARY

The linked parishes of **Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose, and St. Vincent de Paul, Stockport**, are looking to recruit a second Parish Secretary to assist in providing administrative and secretarial support required to ensure the smooth running of the Parish and to enable the Parish Priest to carry out his Parish responsibilities.

Copies of the job description and application form are obtainable from any of our websites <http://ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/>; <http://stvincentbramhall.org/>; <http://www.stambrosechurch.org.uk/> and completed applications should be emailed to stockport3parishes@gmail.com Closing date: Friday 30 April 2021



NEW BEGINNINGS - A JOURNEY FROM LENT TO EASTER

For the past few years I've produced a Lent reflection leaflet continuing a format started by Bryan Halson during our time together on the former Shrewsbury Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission. This year Lent takes on a new meaning for me following the death from natural causes of my beloved elder daughter Annie in June 2020. For Advent 2020 I put together a series of weekly reflections based on her writings as a scripture scholar, teacher and evangelist. For Lent this year I am sharing some more of her material as we journey through Lent towards Easter.

I've been looking at C S Lewis' classic *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* whilst helping home-school our 9 year-old granddaughter during the latest lockdown. It seems apposite in the current situation to identify with a bleak land where it is 'always winter but never Christmas.' At present it feels as though we are existing in a continual season of Lent, an enforced time of fasting and abstinence from so many of the ordinary pleasures we take for granted: visiting family and friends or new places, going to a film or out for a meal, enjoying a day out to the coast or the countryside. We wait, sometimes with impatience, for the time to move forward to Easter and the joy of the Resurrection. We are locked in a period of stasis, of stagnation. There is frustration and fear. Will our lives ever be the same again? But we can choose to embrace this enforced isolation as an opportunity to quieten ourselves, to truly listen to God and discern a new way forward. We can use this time wisely to consider changes to our lifestyle that will help conserve the fast-diminishing natural resources of our planet, to live more simply and to work for the good of all. This is an opportunity to focus on what really matters and to journey in faith and hope.

Anne O'Connor

March 28, Palm Sunday, Holy Week *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* Ps 21: 8-9,17-20,23-24 'Sudden loss is harder to come to terms with.'

Monday, March 29 *He does not cry or shout aloud.* Isaiah 42:1-7 'In our busy, stressful world, we have to seek out silence and stillness consciously.'

Tuesday, March 30 *My lips will tell of your help.* Ps 70: 1-6, 15, 17 'We sat by the fire and shared laughter and companionship.' **Wednesday, March 31** *I did not cover my face against insult and spittle.* Is 50:4-9 'Instead of rehearsing hurts over and over, release them.'

Holy Thursday, April 1 *If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet.* Jn 13: 1-15 'Before we can love others, we must feel and understand how deeply God loves us.'

Good Friday, April 2 *After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said, "It is accomplished," and bowing his head he gave up his spirit.* Jn 18: 1 -19.42 'Giving ourselves to others in love takes courage. We can only do this knowing that we possess God's indestructible love.'

Holy Saturday, April 3 *You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified: he has risen, he is not here.* Mk 16: 1-7 'God's love for us and the kind of love we are to have for him and for others is *agape* – unconditional, giving, sacrificial love – signifying a commitment to act.'

Easter Sunday, April 4 *We are witness.* Acts 10: 34, 37-43 'We are called to live out our baptismal anointing: to be a light in the world, to bring joy to others' lives and to enrich them through the message we proclaim.'

IMAGINATIVE MEDITATION FOR PALM SUNDAY

St. Ignatius of Loyola suggested that one way of praying is to use our imagination.

This is an imaginative meditation on the Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

SETTING THE SCENE: Imagine that you have gone out into the main street of a town.

Are you alone or with someone else? Is this person a member of your family or a friend? Why are you there? Are you shopping, window shopping, strolling, going for a meal or have you some important business to attend to?

What is the day like? Is it hot, windy, wet or cloudy?

Is the street busy or quiet?

What do you notice as you look around?

Can you see anyone you know?

What can you hear? Perhaps you can hear people talking, music playing, the sound of market traders or the jingle of change being given after a purchase? Perhaps in the distance you can hear a noise as from a crowd. Can you hear what is being said, chanted or shouted?

How do you respond to this noise?

Are you curious or not concerned?

Do you want to see what's going on?

Can you see anything exceptional?

As the crowd approaches what do you see?

Can you see anything different, unusual, funny, daft, ridiculous?

What can you see?

How do respond?

What do you say to your companion?

Is their reaction different from yours?

What do you say to your companion because the sight of a man on a donkey strikes everyone differently?

Are you amused, irritated, embarrassed or indifferent?

Do you recognise this man because you have a feeling that he's not a stranger?

Where and when have you seen him before and what are your memories of him?

What is the crowd doing?

Do you want to join in?

Do you want to be part of the crowd or does the whole scene irritate you, revolt you?

Do your thoughts about it make you feel worried or glad?

Do you want to understand or do you want the whole embarrassing event to be over with?

Then you realise that you know the man on the donkey. This is Jesus whom you've met on several occasions. You like him. You think that you love him and you certainly respect him. At one point you thought that you wanted to be his follower but not perhaps like this. How do you want to show your love for him?

REFLECTION: Imagine that you can stop the crowd, stop Jesus in his tracks to talk to him.

What would you say to him?

How would you express your love and respect for him?

How would you respond to the crowds yelling and screaming for him to be their king?

Stop for a few moments and stay with the scene.

PRAYER: Talk to Jesus about your thoughts and feelings. Listen to him as he replies. Stay with your feelings, your emotions, your instinctive reactions to what you are seeing. Tell Jesus again how you feel, what you want him to do, how you might be worried about his future and how the authorities might respond to this show of devotion by the crowds.

DEEPER PRAYER: Stay in the scene, watch as it develops, react to your responses with words of praise and comfort to and for Jesus.

Let your imagination run and see into the future, into the following week, into the few days which are left of Jesus' life.

Stay with him. Comfort him. Love him. Talk to and with him. Let him tell you of his worries, his concerns, his fears, his dread of what is inevitable. Be his confidant and his support. Be the one whom he can turn to in his trials.

Be there for Jesus.

Turn the tables and, for once, don't ask but offer.

Don't want but give.

Don't think of yourself but of him.

Be his friend, his comforter.