

OFFERTORY GIFTS Thank you for your generous offerings last week which amounted to £1067.66 Online giving last month came to over £1100 per week . Thank you to those who are putting their Offertory envelopes through the door and to those who have done the on line giving. St. Philips Offertory amounted to £201.28

The Collection for the Priests' Training Fund is still open this weekend if you forgot to bring some extra cash last week!!

If you are putting several weeks collection in at the same time you only need to use **one** envelope. . 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 number

CHURCH CLEANING Team 2 are on duty this week

ST PETER'S BOOK CLUB

We would like to recommend the following books:

Behind the Scenes at the Museum by Kate Atkinson - this is Kate Atkinson's debut novel and it is a fantastic epic that chronicles the lives of four generations of women from the late 1800's to 1992. It is set in York and it depicts working-class life spanning two World Wars with a particular focus on the lives of women and the choices they were forced to make. **Lonesome Dove by Larry McMurty** - this is a Western, it won the 1986 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and it is based on the lives of several retired Texas Rangers who attempt to drive a cattle herd from Texas to Montana in the late 1870's. A story that is rich in detail and surprisingly warm, likeable characters. **Homecoming by Kate Morton** - set in Adelaide in 1959, a body is discovered and the case goes cold until sixty years later. This is described as an epic novel that spans generations and asks us what we would do for those we love?

Black Butterflies by Priscilla Morton - set in 1992 and the siege of Sarajevo, Zora, an artist and a teacher, sends her husband, mother and daughter to safety in England and stays behind while the city falls.

We will meet up again in January so please get in touch if you would like to join us and if you would like to recommend a book message Alison McGarr on 07792 107152.

HEARING DOGS FOR DEAF PEOPLE are holding a Christmas Shopping Night on Thursday 30th November from 6 pm - 9 pm in St. Peter's Parish Centre. Tickets are £5 (accompanied under 16s free) Mince pie and mulled wine/soft drink for every shopper. Find the perfect gifts, win big in our tombola, enjoy a very special performance from Little Singers (sign language choir) plus lots of children's activities. To book tickets scan the QR code on the poster at the back of Church or visit EventBrite: bit.ly/xmasHD.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

We will once again be having our Christmas Tree Festival in Church. We will be putting up the trees on Friday 15th the December from 4.30-6.00 pm and Saturday 16th December from 9.30—11.00 am. They will be taken down on 8th January 2024. If you would like your group to display a tree please contact Jaqueline McKay on 07984340367 or email the Parish Office admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk. This is a lovely occasion to celebrate the many groups we have in the Parish and to also let people know what is going on by displaying some information about your group.

ST PETER'S CENTENARY GIN

If you wish to purchase a bottle of Centenary Gin then use the following link and providing you order it by Thursday and click on **COLLECT** it will be delivered here at St Peters by the following weekend. Thank you to all of those who have purchased already and thereby helped the parish! What better excuse do you need to have a drink?

<https://www.stockport-gin.com/stpeters>

From Fr Peter

Apart from dreary England, no football this week but hopefully the weekend will have us back to normal. On a more serious note it is good to see that there has been a short ceasefire in the conflict between Hamas and Israeli Defence Forces and that some hostages were released on Friday afternoon. We hope and pray that this is the beginning of a return to some sort of normality for these poor people who are having to suffer from the effects of this war.

Next weekend sees the beginning of Advent and there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the Fridays of Advent in the evening (6-8 p.m.) with the opportunity for Confession. I must warn you that on December 8th and 22nd the Confessions will finish early at 6.45 because there will be an evening Mass on the 8th for the feast and on the 22nd I have an 'appointment' in Edgeley at 7.45 p.m., but that still gives plenty of opportunity for the sacrament on Fridays and Saturday's during this special season as we prepare for the Birth of the Saviour

Have a good week

Fr Peter

**WHATEVER YOU'RE
DOING TODAY DO IT
WITH THE CONFIDENCE
OF A 4 YEAR OLD IN
A BATMAN T-SHIRT.**

**POPE'S INTENTIONS
DECEMBER 2023
FOR PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES:
We pray that people
living with disabilities
may be at the centre
of attention in society,
and that institutions
may offer inclusive
programmes
which value their
active participation**

**THE WORD
OF GOD**

**FIRST READING:
EZEKIEL 34: 11-
12 15-17**

**PSALM 22:
THE LORD IS MY
SHEPHERD; THERE
IS NOTHING I
SHALL WANT**

**SECOND READING:
1 CORINTHIANS
15: 20-26.28**

**GOSPEL
ACCLAMATION:
ALLELUIA!
ALLELUIA,
BLESSINGS ON
HIM WHO COMES
IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD!
BLESSINGS ON
THE COMING OF
OUR FATHER
DAVID!
ALLELUIA!**

**GOSPEL READING:
MATTHEW
25: 31-46**

**"I TELL YOU
SOLEMNLY, IN
SO FAR AS YOU
DID THIS TO
ONE OF THE
LEAST OF THESE
BROTHERS OF
MINE, YOU DID
IT TO ME."**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated in the Sacristy on Saturday morning during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter

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ORDINARY TIME XXXIV

Divine Office Psalter Week 2

ALL MASSES FROM ST PETERS WILL

BE AVAILABLE ON THE LIVE STREAM www.churchservices.tv/stockport

Saturday 25th November 2023 - St Catherine of Alexandria

11– 11.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction
12 Noon Francis Binnie RIP
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philips - Marie Walker RIP

Welcome to the staff and pupils from St Philip's School who join us for this Mass
Readings: Maccabees 6: 1-13; Psalm 9; Luke 20: 27-40

Sunday 26th November 2023 - OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

8.30 am People of the Parish CHOIR
10.00 am Intentions of the Mercer Family TOAST
11 00 am St Philips Mass in Syro Malabar Rite
6.00 pm Peter Xenophantos PRAISE BE
Readings: Ezekiel 34: 11-12.15-17; Psalm 22; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26.28; Matthew 25: 31-46

Monday 27th November 2023

12 Noon Denis Fogarty RIP
Readings: Daniel 1: 1-6. 8-20; Psalm Daniel 3: Luke 21: 1-4
1 45 p.m. Crematorium Service for Mary Box

HELP NEEDED

Is there anyone out there who could help with putting items on the parish website?

Tuesday 28th November 2023 -

12 Noon Nora Dennehy RIP and Family
Readings: Daniel 2: 31-45; Psalm Daniel 3: Luke 21: 5-11

Wednesday 29th November -

9.15 am Mass at St. Philips - Tom Hickey RIP
12 noon Service of Word and Communion
Readings: Daniel 5: 1-6. 13-14. 16-17.23-28; Psalm Daniel 3: Luke 21: 12-19

Thursday 30th November 2023 - St. Andrew—Patron of Scotland

12 Noon Cindy Hazel
1.00 pm Memorial Service for Sophia Wright (nee Hughes)
Readings: Romans 10: 9-18; Psalm 18; Matthew 4: 18-22

Friday 1st December 2023

12 Noon: Roy Matthew Intention
6.00 - 8.00 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Readings: 1 Maccabees 4; 36-37. 52-59; Psalm 1 Chronicles; Luke 19: 45-48

Saturday 2nd December 2023

11– 11.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction
12 Noon Joseph Erinjeri RIP
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philips - Baby Roma Intention
Readings: Daniel 7: 15-27; Psalm Daniel 3: Luke 21: 34-36

Sunday 3rd December 2023 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.30 am Graham Wallworth RIP ORGAN
10.00 am Johanna Foley RIP FOLK GROUP
11 00 am St Philips Mass in Syro Malabar Rite
6.00 pm People of the Parish PIANO
Readings: Isaiah 63: 16-17. 64:1.3-8; Psalm 79; 1Corinthians 1: 3-9Mark 13: 33-37



Your prayers are asked for

Anniversaries that occur around this time: John Coakley, Mary Knaggs, Anthony Noon, Alesssandro Di Chiara, Eileen Fleming, Irene Dalton, Sylvia Lyndale, Eileen Mullen, Christina Douglas, Ella Rose Heath, Claire Briggs, Norma Taylor, Dick Drain, Carmel Mitchell, Ann Burgess, Mary Selby.

Sick: remembering, all the sick in the parish especially those in our hospitals and nursing homes. We also remember those who are housebound and are unable to come to Mass.

Latently Dead: Mary Box whose funeral will be at the Crematorium on Monday November 27th at 1.45pm Christine O’Gara whose Requiem Mass will be at St. Ann’s Church in Cheadle Hulme on 4th December at 10.00 am. Derek Rhodes whose Requiem Mass will be on December 12th at 12 noon and Denis Fogarty (brother of the late Michael Fogarty). The funeral of Bernard Barron the deacon has taken place. At the request of his family it was very private.

Baptism: We welcome into our Parish community Sebastian Otto Godley-Farrar who was baptised here last Sunday

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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, UNIVERSAL KING (YEAR A) Matthew 25:31–46

Jesus said to his disciples:

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me". Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me".

And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.

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

2. As you reflect today on this familiar passage, what fresh insights do you have of Jesus?

3. Lord, when did we see you...’ Take time to pray for the grace to be aware of how you might give life to others today

For Conversation:

The people who inspire/encourage you to a life of love in action

BEREAVEMENT GROUP The next meeting will be on Tuesday 5th December at 7.00 pm for an Advent Service in Church followed by Refreshments and Entertainment in the Parish Centre Everyone is welcome to join us no matter how recently or long ago you were bereaved. If you would like any further information please contact the office admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk or ring Helen 07854928072.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE The dates for the next course will be 7th and 21st January 2024. Please contact justasec55@hotmail.com to book a place on the course. The course is an opportunity to reflect on the parent's role as the first teachers of the faith and to meet other families who are also preparing for their child's baptism.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP is on this Tuesday evening 7.30pm in the parish meeting room. Do come along and join this friendly, growing group as we lay down our worries, share our intentions and pray the Rosary. All welcome.

PIETY STALL

We have a new selection of cards for all occasions for sale in the Piety Stall, Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Sympathy and many others.

We are very much in need of new helpers to serve in the Piety Stall for a few minutes before and after the 8.30 and 10.00 am Masses. If you could spare any time please contact the Parish Office or speak to one of the helpers who generously give their time at the moment.

ADVENT RETREAT DAY NEXT SATURDAY DECEMBER 2nd

“Becoming a servant Church” is the title for our **Advent Day on Saturday 2nd December**. Fr David Long will explore this theme looking at some of the major Advent figures and the pointers that they give to us as we prepare to welcome: **‘The Servant King’**. 9.30 - 4 pm in the Parish Centre. Bring a packed lunch.

Christmas Elves needed! Sunday 10th December. Bakers, packers and deliverers all welcome, we have lots of special packages to deliver this year! Baked goods (mince pies, gingerbread, goodies which will last a few days please) would be very welcome. Deliverers are given a short list of people to deliver to, it's a lovely thing to do for others, families are welcome to get involved.

9.30-10.00 Drop off baked goods

9.30-11.00 Packing

11.00-11.30 Deliverers to collect

Email stpetershelpers@gmail.com if you can help.

NOT GOT OTHER PLANS ON CHRISTMAS DAY?

You are invited to enjoy a traditional, home cooked Christmas lunch with all the trimmings, free of charge, at Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street, Stockport SK7 4JQ from **12 noon until 4pm** on Monday 25 December.

Come on your own or with a neighbour, friend or family member. Children are welcome, indeed ALL are welcome! Transport can be arranged if necessary. Please book early (ideally by 18 Dec) by leaving your contact details for Marion by phone on 07731 840466

or by Email: bookings@hazelgrovemethodists.co.uk and someone will be in touch with you.

CARDS Birthday, Occasion and Christmas cards will be available after the 08.30 and 10.00 Masses on the following dates: 26th November; 3rd, 10th and 17th December. The cards are all handmade and reasonably priced (50p - £2.50). All of the proceeds go to charities and other good causes mostly in the local area so this is a good chance to obtain individual cards and help others at the same time. Many of the cards can be personalised with names / ages etc if required. Thank you for your ongoing support.

CARD SALES

Hand made birthday, occasion and Christmas cards will be on sale from the Piety stall after 12.00 Mass on Saturday, 02 December. Items from the Piety stall may also be purchased at the same time.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

St Peter's Helpers are hosting a Christmas lunch for older or more isolated parishioners (turkey with all the trimmings and Christmas pudding by Reflections, High Lane) on Tuesday, 12 December from 1.00 - 3.00 pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to join us, please contact Margaret King 07504 708 981 by Wednesday, 06 December. Numbers are limited to 80 by catering restrictions so places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. There is no actual charge for this event but there will be a box available for voluntary contributions. This is the first time we have been able to do this since lockdown so we would love to see you there.

CARD MAKING

The next card making session will be on Thursday, 07 December from 10.00 - 11.30 am in the Parish Centre. All are welcome you do not need to have any previous experience! We will be concentrating on Christmas cards and gift tags. Please let Mary know by Tuesday, 05 December, if you wish to attend so that materials can be prepared in advance. There is no charge for this activity but you will be able to make a voluntary contribution if you wish. All proceeds are used to fund charitable activities (mostly within the Parish).

SPY Advent Explore. Are you high school age? or in Sixth form/college? Come along and join Spy for an evening of faith, fun, food and friendship as we journey to the Manger this Advent. This month's Spy on Sunday December 10th will be led by the Diocesan Youth Mission Team. Through activities, reflections and challenges we'll be thinking how we can spread the message of the real meaning of Advent and Christmas this year. If you've not been to SPY before feel free to Come and See. Open to all young people of high school age and above, there's Mass in church at 6 PM and the session follows Mass 7PM - 8.30 PM in the parish centre meeting room. All welcome.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION December 8th

As well as the midday Mass on December 8th there will be an evening Mass at 7 00 p.m. At which we will be joined by members of the Diocesan Lourdes Hospitality. All are welcome.

STOCKPORT LIBRARIES

Do you or someone you know struggle to visit the library due to health issues or caring commitments?

Stockport's Home Library Service can deliver your choice of books, talking books and DVDs direct to your door in the Stockport area completely free of charge.

For more information please contact us on 0161 474 5600 or homelibraryservice@stockport.gov.uk and speak to one of our friendly members of staff.