

OFFERTORY GIFTS Thank you for your generous offerings last week which amounted to £919.99 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 £350.90. We also collected £277 through the card machne last month.

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 3 re 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.

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 2924. If you would like your group to display a tree please contact Jacqueline McKay on 07984340367 or email the Parish Office admin@stpetershazलगrove.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 PHILIP'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Admissions Authority at St Philip's have gone out to consultation on the policy for 2025 - 26. Further details can be found via the following links.

[Admissions Policy 2025 - 2026 - under consultation | St Philip's Catholic Primary School \(stphilipsstockport.co.uk\) letter-for-admissions.pdf \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITY Hazel Grove Methodist Church, Wesley Street SK7 4JQ are looking for a part-time Church Caretaker to work 50 hours/month flexibly between 08.00 and 22.00 hrs sometimes at weekends. £12.50/hr. For an application pack, including job description and job specification, please Email

anthony.tonge1@btinternet.com.

STOCKPORT LOAVES AND FISHES –serving the homeless - are collecting new or good as new coats, hats, scarves,socks, gloves and handwarmers, for ‘Wrap Around Sunday’ today.Items can be dropped off at Stockport Baptist Church, Thomson St. SK3 9DR or the Olive Branch in Edgeley 2C Castle Street SK3 9AB during the following week.

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 for 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>

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

MASSES FOR DECEMBER 24th FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT AT ST PETER'S

Saturday 23rd at 12 noon Sunday 24th at 8 30 and 10 00

AT ST PHILIP'S

Saturday 23rd at 6 00 p.m.

MASSES FOR DECEMBER 25th CHRISTMAS DAY AT ST PETER'S

Christmas Eve at 6 00 p.m. Children's Mass with TOAST and 10 00 p.m. Christmas Day at 8 30, 10 00 (Family Mass) and 11 30 a.m. NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY (recovering from Christmas lunch!!)

CHRISTMAS DAY AT ST PHILIP'S

Christmas Eve at 8 00 p.m and the Syro Malabar Community will have Mass at 11 30 p.m.

Christmas Day at 10 00 a.m.



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:

ISAIAH 63:

16-17.64: 1.3-8

PSALM 79:

GOD OF HOSTS
BRING US BACK;
LET YOUR FACE
SHINE ON US AND
WE SHALL BE
SAVED.

SECOND READING:

I CORINTHIANS :

3-9

GOSPEL

ACCLAMATION:

Jesus is Lord,
ALLELUIA!
Jesus shall
come, ALLELUIA!
Stay awake
and be
prepared
Jesus shall
come ALLELUIA!
Be ready to
greet the Lord
Jesus shall
come ALLELUIA!
Jesus is Lord
ALLELUIA!
Jesus shall
come, ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL READNG:

MARK 13: 33-37

'BE ON YOUR
GUARD, STAY
AWAKE,
BECAUSE YOU
NEVER KNOW
WHEN THE
TIME WILL
COME'

St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter

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ADVENT WEEK 1

Divine Office Psalter Week 1

ALL MASSES FROM ST PETERS WILL

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

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

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; 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9 Mark 13: 33-37

Monday 4th December 2023—St. John Damascus

12 Noon Requiem Mass for Denis Fogarty

Readings: Isaiah 2: 1-5; Psalm 121; Matthew 8: 5-11

Tuesday 5th December 2023

12 Noon Matthew Brazier RIP

Readings: Isaiah 11: 1-10; Psalm 71: Luke 10: 21-24

Wednesday 6th December 2023—St. Nicholas

9.15 am Mary and Gordon Young

12 noon Service of Word and Communion

Readings: Isaiah 25: 6-10; Psalm 22; Matthew 15: 29-37

Thursday 7th December 2023 - St Ambrose

12 Noon Patricia Kenny RIP

Readings: Isaiah 26: 1-6 Psalm: 117 Mathew 7; 21.24-27

Friday 8th December 2023—The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

12 Noon: Mary Burke RIP

6.00 - 6 45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

7 00 p.m. **Mass with Diocesan Lourdes Hospitality**

Readings : Genesis 3: 9-15.20; Psalm 97; Ephesians 1: 3-6. 11-12; Luke 1: 26-38

Saturday 9th December 2023—St. John Diego Cuahtlatatzin

11– 11.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction

12 Noon In Thanksgiving DF

6.00 pm Kenneth Savage RIP

Readings: Isaiah 30: 19-21.23-26; Psalm 146; Matthew 9: 35-10: 1. 6-8

Sunday 10th December 2023 - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8.30 am Alan Goulden RIP

10.00 am People of the Parish

FOLK GROUP

11 00 am **St Philips**—Mass in Syro Malabar Rite

6.00 pm Jodie Claire Turton

PIANO

Readings: Isaiah 40: 1-5. 9-11: Psalm 84; 2Peter 3: 8-14; Mark 1: 1-8

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated in the Sacristy on Saturday morning and Friday evening Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



Your prayers are asked for

Anniversaries that occur around this time: Ann Burgess, Mary Selby, Matthew Brazier, Thomas Hazley, Theodora Mowatt, Mary Brammer, Anna Kazio, Elizabeth Mulvey, Edmund Barry, Mary Kenny, David Byrne, Irene Entwistle, Francis Scholey, Mary Cannally, Catherine Ryan, Charles Brassington, Hazel Simons, Alan Goulden, Eileen Jones, Eileen Jones.

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.

Lately Dead: Christine O’Gara whose Requiem Mass will be at St. Ann’s Church in Cheadle Hulme tomorrow 4th December at 10.00 am., Denis Fogarty (brother of the late Michael Fogarty) whose Requiem will be here tomorrow 4th December at 12 Noon Derek Rhodes whose Requiem Mass will be here on Tuesday December 12th at 12 noon and Margaret Grayshon whose funeral will be at the Crematorium on Tuesday December 12th at 2 30 p.m.

Baptism:

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT (YEAR B) Mark 13:33–37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard; stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

1. Spend some time quietly reading and rereading the passage, noting the words/phrases that draw your attention.
2. Take time to reflect on your approach to waiting in everyday life.
3. ‘Stay awake’ ... Keep watch ... Wait patiently ... ‘The Master is coming’ ... In this season of watchful waiting, pray of the grace to become aware of all that God has given you...and for the grace to respond from the depths of your heart.
4. Take time to talk with Jesus about his call to you to ‘Stay awake’ to welcome his presence midst all the daily busyness.

For Conversation:

How a conscious watchfulness, waiting for God, might become a greater part of you/your community’s life.



Daily Meditations—Find prayer and reflection for each day of Advent with an on line retreat—no need to book, go to www.onlineprayer.net/advent-retreat/

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.

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.

LAMBS CHRISTMAS PARTY will be on Sunday the 10 of December between 4pm and 6pm In the Parish Centre, we will have some special visitors and lots of fun. We hope you are in good voice we will be singing.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP We had a wonderful afternoon last Friday, thanks to the ‘No Notes’ from the Holy Spirit in Marple. 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. Helen is away in Lourdes from 4th but she will be thinking of you all and lighting a candle at the Grotto for you and your loved ones.

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.

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: 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.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

There are still a few places available at the St Peter's Helpers Christmas lunch on Tuesday, 12 December from 1.00 - 3.00 pm in the Parish Centre. Please contact Margaret 07504 708 981 by Wednesday, 06 December if you (or someone you know) would like to attend. There is no charge for attending but there will be an opportunity to make a voluntary contribution if you wish.

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).

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.

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM GROUP

Save The Date : Church Open Afternoon, January 27th 2024, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

For most of us, we look forward to our church Christmas services, the music, crowds in church, different services, the flowers, the lights all add to an excitement in church. But for some people, just one of these factors will result in increased anxiety and coming into church may be really difficult.

On Saturday 27th January we will be opening the church for anyone who would like a calm, Autism friendly visit. Join us in sensory prayer. Enjoy some refreshments. More details to follow.

ST PETER’S HELPERS

Can you help us find the following item for people in need who we are working with and who have limited means?

A double buggy for a 12 month and a two year old, or a buggy with a buggy board.
If you’re able to help please contact stpetershelpers@gmail.com

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.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Peter’s annual Parish Christmas Concert is on Friday 15th December at 7.30 in the Parish Centre. Come along and get into the Christmas spirit, listen to our choirs, band and recorder group and join in our annual famous rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas! Only £5 (children free)! Bar available.