

**OFFERTORY GIFTS** Thank you for your generous offerings last week which amounted to £1058.47 Online giving last month came to around £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 !82-55p plus £340 from direct debits during the month of November. We also received £ 376.33 through the card machine during December 2023

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**.

**CHURCH CLEANING IN ST PETERS** Team 3 are on duty this week. Volunteers for St Philips are requested

#### 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.

From Fr Peter

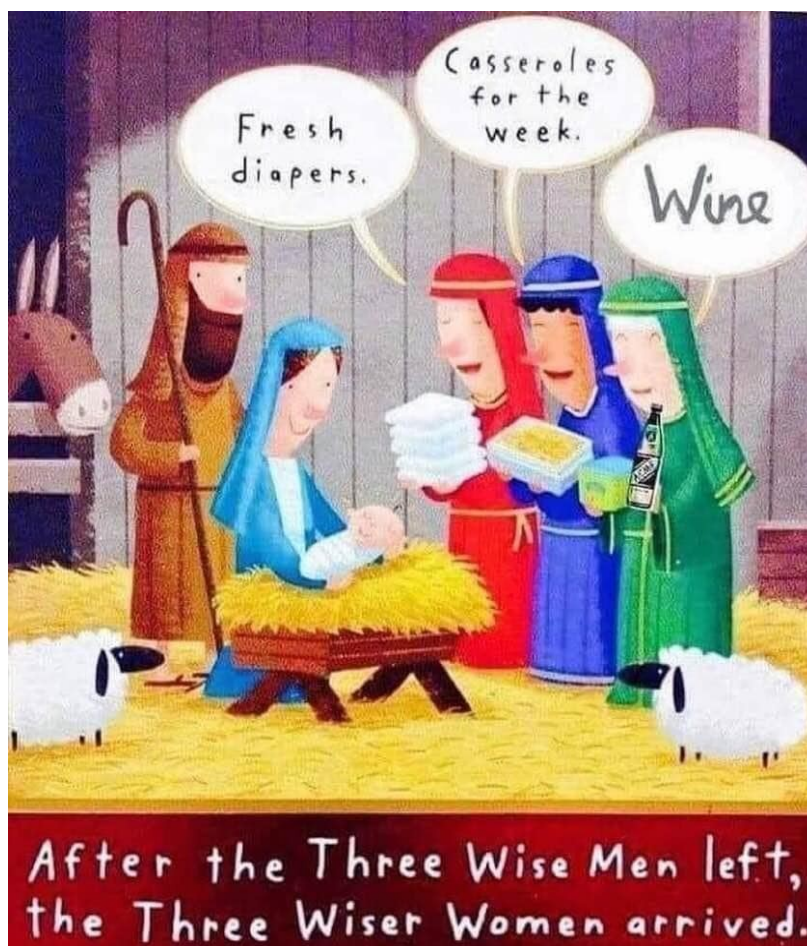
A Happy New Year to everyone and I hope that you have enjoyed the Christmas Season which actually lasts until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple which we will celebrate on February 2nd. So you can carry on enjoying yourselves! However, do remember that Lent begins early this year, but then so is Easter. Ash Wednesday is on February 14th this year so that might affect any plans for keeping St Valentine's Day!!

Deacon John and myself wish to thank you for your generosity towards us over Christmas. The many gifts we received as well as the Christmas Collection were a great encouragement to us and we are indeed very grateful for your generosity and support in all that we try to do.

This year sees the centenary of the founding of St Peter's as an independent parish. Our main celebration will be on the feast of St Peter and Paul on June 29th when the bishop will come and we shall be inviting the former priests of the parish. There will be a Mass at midday and hopefully the weather will be fine enough to have a Garden Party on the front lawn. You will also notice that there will be a celebration of Marriage and Family life at the beginning of February and the details are on page 3 of this newsletter and also keep Saturday March 2nd free for a Parish Lenten Day with David Wells who is a brilliant and entertaining speaker who gets his points across in a thoroughly enjoyable way.

Not mentioning football this week, very disappointing on New Year's Day!

Have a good week Fr Peter



**POPE'S INTENTIONS  
FOR JANUARY 2024  
THE GIFT OF  
DIVERSITY IN THE  
CHURCH**  
We pray the the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms with the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church

#### THE WORD OF GOD

##### FIRST READING:

**ISAIAH 60: 1-6**

**PSALM 71  
ALL NATIONS  
SHALL FALL  
PROSTRATE  
BEFORE YOU, O  
LORD**

##### SECOND READING:

**EPHESIANS 3:  
2-3.5-6**

**GOSPEL  
ACCLAMATION**

**ALLELUIA!  
ALLELUIA!  
WE SAW HIS STAR  
AS IT ROSE AND  
HAVE COME TO DO  
THE LORD  
HOMAGE.  
ALLELUIA!**

**GOSPEL READNG:  
MATTHEW 2:  
1-12**

**THEY SAW  
THE CHILD  
WITH HIS  
MOTHER,  
MARY, AND  
FALLING TO  
THEIR KNEES  
THEY PAID  
HIM  
HOMAGE.**

## 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

Parish Deacon: Rev John McKay admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk



#### CHRISTMASTIDE/ORDINARY TIME WEEK 1

Divine Office Psalter Week 1

ALL MASSES FROM ST PETERS WILL

BE AVAILABLE ON THE LIVE STREAM [www.churchservices.tv/stockport](http://www.churchservices.tv/stockport)

#### Saturday 6th January 2024—SATURDAY OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

11– 11.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction  
12 Noon Daniel Begley RIP  
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philips - Ken Pryce RIP  
6.00 pm St Peters - Polish Mass  
Readings: 1 John 5: 5-13; Psalm 147; Mark 1: 6-11

#### Sunday 7th January 2024—EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8.30 am People of the Parish CHOIR  
10.00 am Sean Donelon RIP FOLK GROUP  
11 00 am St Philips Mass in Syro Malabar Rite  
6.00 pm Gaetano Scappaticci  
Readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6; Psalm 71; Ephesians 3: 2-3.5-6; Matthew 2: 1-12

#### Monday 8th January 2024 - THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

12 Noon Special Intention  
Readings: Isaiah 55: 1-11; Psalm Isaiah 122; 1 John 5: 1-9; Mark 1: 7-11

#### Tuesday 9th January 2024 (Week 1 of Ordinary Time)

12 Noon Alice and Philip Sainter RIP  
Readings: 1 Samuel 1: 9-20; Psalm 1 Samuel 2; Mark 1: 21-28  
1 45 p.m. Crematorium Service for Keith Ryan

#### Wednesday 10th January 2024

9.15 am Mass at St. Philips - Della and Michael Gaffey  
12 noon Service of Word and Communion  
Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10, Psalm 39; Mark 1: 29-39  
12 noon Crematorium Service for Sydney Bloomfield

#### Thursday 11th January 2024

12 Noon Jodie Turton RIP - Birthday memories  
Readings: 1 Samuel 4: 1-11; Psalm 43; Mark 1: 40-45

#### Friday 12th January 2024 - St Aelred of Rievaulx

12 Noon: Geraldine Bramwell RIP  
Readings: 1 Samuel 8: 4-7, 10-22; Psalm 88; Mark 12: 1-12  
1 00 p.m. Crematorium Service for Pamela Brown

#### Saturday 13th January 2024 - St. Hilary

11– 11.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction  
12 Noon Aloysia and Fritz Stoerr RIP  
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philips - Patricia Hartigan  
6.00 pm St Peters - Polish Mass  
Readings: 1 Samuel 9: 1-4, 17-19.10:1; Psalm 20; Mark 2: 13-17

#### Sunday 14th January 2024 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.30 am Mary Burke RIP ORGAN  
10.00 am People of the Parish FOLK GROUP  
11 00 am St Philips - Mass in Syro Malabar Rite  
6.00 pm Bernard & Ann Clarke  
Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 3-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15, 17-20; John 1: 35-42

**DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE**

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



### *Your prayers are asked for*

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Pamela Brown whose funeral will be at the Crematorium on Friday January 12th at 1 00 p.m., Keith Ryan whose funeral will be on January 9th at 1. 45 p.m at the Crematorium, Sidney Bloomfield whose funeral will on Wednesday January 10th at 12 noon at the Crematorium. Richard and Phyllis Gavillet, their Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 16th January at Noon and Jean Green whose Requiem Mass will be on Friday January 19th at 11 00 a.m. The Funeral of Fr Paul Lomas will be at Christ Church Heald Green with a Vigil Mass on Thursday February 1st at 7 00 p.m. and the Requiem Mass on Friday February 2nd at 12 noon

**Anniversaries that occur around this time:** Jimmy Flynn, Theophane Jones, Jack Edwards, Patrick Broadhurst, Colin Oldham, Mark Munroe, Elizabeth Joxy, James Wheeldon, Rosemary Leonard, John Brassington, Dennis Foy, Wilhelmine Mitchell, Robert Gorden, Bob Smith, Anthony Mulvaney.

**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. We remember especially Fr Bill Fitzgerald from Holy Spirit Marple who is convalescing after heart surgery

**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

### **Epiphany Matthew 2:1–12**

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel'. Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

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

2. Picture the scene...the travellers journeying determinedly to find the child... their thoughts and feelings on finally arriving, their wonder and adoration...their presentation of gifts...

3. Place yourself before the child, in praise and adoration... presenting the gift of your life... Christ responding to you...

### **For Conversation:**

Seeing the glory of God today To prepare for this prayer, take time to quieten yourself... become aware of your mood... place before the Father any worries or concerns... ask the Holy Spirit to open your mind and heart to hear this Word being spoken to you today.



**BEREAVEMENT GROUP** Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 9th January at 2.00 pm when we will be having Reflection and Refreshments, after that we will meet on Friday 26th January for an Unwanted Christmas Gift Raffle and Winter Afternoon Tea, at 2.00 pm in the Parish Centre. 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 begins today January 7th and 21st January 2024. Please contact [justasec55@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

**CHRISTMAS TREES** will be taken down after 10am mass TODAY Sunday the 7th of January if you are not available to pick your tree up then it will be left in the sacristy for you to collect

**REFLECTIONS ON THE HOLY LAND** - John McKay and Jonathan Goodfellow recently visited the Holy Land arriving back 2 days before the terrible events of October 7th. Come and hear something of their reflections as they experienced this beautiful land through the lens of John's Gospel. **Thursday 18th January 7.30 pm in the Parish Centre.** All welcome.

### **CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024**

We welcome the whole parish community, whether single or married, to celebrate this event. It will be a celebration of community that lies at the heart of the sacrament of Marriage. Please bring your family with you. As a Parish, we're looking to celebrate and support marriage, as well as supporting those people who experience difficulties, including divorce, separation and bereavement. A service with reflections, music and an opportunity to renew your marriage vows will take place in church at 2pm - continuing with a shared table (bring a plate of food - sweet or savoury to share if you're able) in the Parish Centre. We would wish to particularly invite non-Catholic husbands/wives to take part in this occasion. We are hoping to gather as many wedding photographs as possible - please let us have these by January 28<sup>th</sup> (box in Sacristy), so that we can decide how best to display them.

### **2nd HAZEL GROVE SCOUTS—GROUP CHAIRMAN**

As part of the support structure for the Scout Group there is an Executive Committee which at the moment is in need of a Chairperson. The local Scout Association would like such a person to be from the Church community so if there is anyone who would like to explore this possibility a bit more either speak to Fr Peter or to Samantha Panjeta whose contact details are below.

### **SCOUT LEADERS NEEDED**

As Scouts we believe in preparing our young people with skills for life. 2nd Hazel Grove Scout Group meets in the hut at the back corner of the car park. We are looking for leaders to help us to run our Brownies, Scouts and Cubs sections - If you can spare an hour a week, and the odd weekend, to help our young people - please email

[samantha.panjeta@ladybrookvalleyscouts.org.uk](mailto:samantha.panjeta@ladybrookvalleyscouts.org.uk) or ring **Samantha on 07748308514**

### **Meeting Times**

Brownies - Monday - 6.30pm to 7.45pm

Cubs - Tuesday - 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Guides - Tuesday - 7.45pm to 9.15pm

Beavers - Wednesday - 6:00pm - 7:15pm

Scouts - Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm

### **CAFOD SPONSORED WALK**

Tim Smart, accompanied by his Grandaughter, did the Cafod Sponsored Walk (Aka Bollington Fun Run) on 27th December. If you sponsored Tim, and have not yet paid, he will be collecting donations at the end of each Mass today or alternatively put it in the Collection basket marked **CAFOD SPONSORED WALK.**

### **ST PETER'S HELPERS**

There are some cards with the dates for 2024 and some prayer cards by the SPH Christmas tree in Church. Please feel free to take one for yourself or for anyone you think might be interested in joining us for any of our events in 2024. The prayer cards are particularly suitable for anyone who might be a bit unsteady on their feet! People on our list who received goody bags before Christmas will have them already.

Our first **Cuppa and Chat** on 18 January from 2.00 until 3.30 pm in the Meeting room.

### **HAND MADE CARDS**

Hand made birthday and occasion cards will once again be on sale in the Parish centre on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month beginning on 14 January. The cards are reasonably priced (50p - £2.50) and many can be personalised with ages and/or names if required. All of the proceeds are used to support good causes - mostly in the local area. Thank you all for your on-going support.

### **FINDING NEW LIFE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

Most people find the Old Testament rather dead, but we know it should be important. How are we to find God's voice in such an ancient and obscure (let's be honest) book?

Come and See! - a journey across the desert with **David O'Neill**. Everyone welcome starting on Thursday 25th January 7.30 PM - 9 PM in the Parish Centre.

(Save the dates:- Series 1 - starts on Thursday 25th January; 1st February and then will continue during Lent on Thursdays 22nd + 29th February; 7th + 14th March.)

### **RCIA**

The next meeting will be on Monday at 7 00 p.m. In the Sacristy Meeting Room

### **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

Lenten Parish Day on Saturday March 2nd 9 30 a.m. —4 00 p.m. with David Wells

You can look up his website at <https://davidwellslive.com/about-david/>

He is a brilliant speaker whom everyone will enjoy and learn from.