

**OFFERTORY GIFTS** Thank you for your generous offerings last week which amounted to £1112.63 Online giving last month came to around £1100 per week . Thank you to those who have done the on line giving. St. Philips Offertory amounted to £235.26 We also received £495-35p through the card machine during February 2024.

The recent collection for the Retired Priest's Fund came to the magnificent sum of £2903-11p which is the combined total from both parishes. Thank you for your great generosity.

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**.

**OFFERTORY ENVELOPES for St Peter's Parishioners** for 2024/2025 are now available at the back of Church

**CHURCH CLEANING IN ST PETERS** Team 4 are on duty this week. Volunteers for St Philips are requested

**ST PETER'S BOOK CLUB**

**Everything is Everything by Clive Myrie** is a memoir by a British-born son of Windrush parents, he tells the story of his time working for the BBC reporting in Afghanistan and his experience of racism both in the UK and the USA. **Don't Look Away by Rachel Abbott** is a thriller set in Cornwall. Eleven years ago, Lola vanished and Nancy Holland, her sister, has returned to the cottage in Cornwall where she was last seen - it sounds very creepy! **The Stranger in the Lifeboat by Mitch Albom** sees ten people set adrift on a raft struggling to survive - three days pass and they spot a man floating in the waves, they pull him onto the raft and he whispers that He is the Lord.. This is a fictional account of an encounter with God. We will be meeting again on the 16<sup>th</sup> April - we usually go to Gnammy's, so if you would like to join us for a post-Lent drink and a lovely meal, please get in touch with Alison McGarr on 07792 107152 If you would like to recommend a good book, once again just let us know, we are always looking for good recommendations.

**ST PHILIPS FRIENDSHIP GROUP** - Meet every Friday at 10-12 am tea/coffee/biscuits . The group have now raised £350 towards Parish funds.

**ST. PHILIPS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL** is looking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Head-teacher from September 2024. More information can be found on the following websites: Greater Jobs: <https://www.greater.jobs>

**THE CHILDREN AND STAFF OF ST PHILIP'S SCHOOL INVITE YOU TO**

**Parishioner Coffee Morning**

**Parishioners of both St Philip's and St Peter's are very welcome to join our children for this event in our school hall.**

**Wednesday 6th March 9.45-10.45**

**St Philip's School, Half Moon Ln, Stockport SK2 5LB**

**HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STAFF VACANCIES**

Please visit the school website ([www.harrytownschool.org](http://www.harrytownschool.org)) to see current job vacancies. We are currently advertising for :a Pastoral Manager (permanent), a Pastoral Manager (maternity cover) and a Teacher of MFL (maternity over) all with a closing date of 4th March 2024.

**SCOUTS**

**Meeting Times for 2nd Hazel Grove Scout Group - St Peter's Scout Hut**

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

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

**ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We are looking for an individual at St. Peter's Catholic Primary School to join our caretaking team as a school cleaner For more information, pop in to the school office or ring Mrs Sutherland on:- 0161 483 2431

**CASTLERIGG MANOR** (Diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District, and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary package in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food etc. Would suit somebody with youth ministry experience perhaps recently graduated. Interested – [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

**ST JOSEPH'S STOCKPORT - THREE DAYS OF HEALING**

The mission services this week led by Sr Briege McKenna and Fr Pabo Escriva de Romani will now be held in Our Lady's Shaw Heath. Each evening begins at 7 00 p.m. The midday Mass will continue to be celebrated at St Joseph's in the School Hall. This is because of the ongoing structural work at St Joseph's Church. For futher details see the poster in the porch and there are also some leaflets available.

**POPE'S INTENTIONS  
FOR MARCH 2024  
FOR THE NEW  
MARTYRS**  
We pray that those  
who risk their lives  
for the Gospel in  
various parts of the  
world inflame the  
Church with their  
courage and  
missionary  
enthusiasm

**THE WORD  
OF GOD**

**FIRST READING:  
EXODUS 20: 1-17**

**PSALM  
YOU, LORD HAVE  
THE MESSAGE OF  
ETERNAL LIFE**

**SECOND READING:  
1 Corinthians  
1: 22-25**

**GOSPEL  
ACCLAMATION**

**PRAISE TO YOU, O  
CHRIST, KING OF  
ETERNAL GLORY!  
GOD LOVED THE  
WORLD SO MUCH  
THAT HE GAVE HIS  
ONLY SON;  
EVERYONE WHO  
BELIEVES IN HIM  
HAS ETERNAL LIFE.  
PRAISE TO YOU, O  
CHRIST, KING OF  
ETERNAL GLORY!**

**GOSPEL READNG:  
JOHN 2: 13-25**

**THE LAW  
WAS  
GIVEN  
THROUGH  
MOSES**

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

*St Peter's and St Philip's Newsletter*

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[www.stpeterscatholic.church](http://www.stpeterscatholic.church) [www.churchservices.tv/stockport](http://www.churchservices.tv/stockport)  
Email [admin@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk)  
Fr. Peter Sharrocks [petersharrocks@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk](mailto:petersharrocks@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk)  
Parish Deacon: Rev John McKay [admin@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk)



**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**Divine Office Psalter Week 111**

**ALL MASSES FROM ST PETERS WILL**

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

**Saturday 2nd March 2024**

1.45 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
3.00 pm Mass - Ursula Ventre  
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philips - Lyz Donaghy RIP and deceased relatives  
6.00 pm St Peters - Polish Mass  
Readings: Micah 7: 14-15, 18-20; Psalm 102: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32

**Sunday 3rd March2024 - THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

8.30 am People of the Parish CHOIR  
10.00 am Malcolm Jones RIP FOLK GROUP  
11 00 am St Philips - Mass in Syro Malabar Rite  
6.00 pm Deceased members of the O'Malley and Graffey Families BARBARA  
Readings: Exodus 20: 1-17; Psalm 18; 1 Corinthians 1: 22-25; John 2: 13-25

**Monday 4th March 2024**

12 Noon Kathleen Kipling RIP  
Readings: 2 Kings 5: 1-15; Psalm 41: Luke 4: 24-30

**Tuesday 5th March 2024**

12 Noon Chaplains and Staff at SHH Norbury Ward  
Readings: Daniel 3: 25, 34-43; Psalm 24; Matthew 18: 21-35

**Wednesday 6th March 2024**

9.15 am Mary and Brendan Wheatley  
12 noon Service of Word and Communion  
Readings: Deuteronomy 4: 1, 5-9; Psalm 147; Matthew 5: 17-19

**Thursday 7th March 2024**

12 Noon Service of Word and Communion  
Readings: Jeremiah 7: 23-28; Psalm 94; Luke 11: 14-23

**Friday 8th March 2024**

7 30 p.m. Mary Burke RIP NOTE TIME  
Readings : Hosea 14: 2-10; Psalm 80; Mark 12: 28-34  
6 00 - 7 30 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday 9th March 2024**

11—11.45 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
12 Noon Margaret Magner RIP  
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philips - People of the Parish  
6.00 pm St Peters - Polish Mass  
Readings: Hosea 5: 15-6:6; Psalm 50; Luke 18: 9-14

**Sunday 10th March2024 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

8.30 am Janet Quirk RIP ORGAN  
10.00 am Christine Slater RIP CHOIR  
11 00 am St Philips - Mass in Syro Malabar Rite  
6.00 pm Philip Howarth PRAISE BE  
Readings: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16, 19-23; Psalm 136; Ephesians 2: 4-10; John 3: 14-21

**During Lent we keep in our prayers those who will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil which will be on Saturday March 30th at 8 00 p.m.**

## Your prayers are asked for

**RECENTLY DECEASED** Michael Melia whose Requiem Mass will be at St Peters on Monday March 11th at 12 noon  
**Anniversaries that occur around this time:** Kathleen Hirst, Kathleen Kipling, Bernard McCartney, Desmond Gallagher, Kathleen Pollit, Patrick Duffy, Austin McDonald, Margaret Wagstaffe, Bernard Donlan, Mariette Hahn, Thomas Parker, Peter Keary, Mary Burke, Peter Ormerod, Keith O'Hara, Mary Wright, Vic Chesham, Ian Morgan.

**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.

**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.

**BAPTISM** We welcome into the Parish Community Barney Posta-Tonge who was baptised at St. Philips last weekend and his sister Minnie who was received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church

### BAPTISM COURSE

Baptism preparation course. The dates for the next two courses are 3rd and 17th March, 28th April and 12th May. Please contact Karen on [justasec55@hotmail.com](mailto:justasec55@hotmail.com) if you would like to book a place. 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. Please note there is no planned course for December.

### 3rd Sunday in Lent (Year B) John 2:13–25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market'. Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

1. Spend some time quietly reading and rereading the passage, noting the words/phrases that draw your attention.
2. Notice all that Jesus said and did...notice how different people reacted...and how Jesus responded to them...
3. What does the story tell you – about Jesus? - about discipleship?
4. The body of Christ ...human beings 'temples' of Christ...Take time in prayer to reflect on the people to whom you show most/least respect...the way you reverence the presence of Christ in others...

### For Conversation:

The ways you/your community work for justice for the downtrodden

**BEREAVEMENT GROUP** Our next meeting will be on March 12th, when we will be having a Lenten Service in Church at 7.00 pm followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. During Lent we are meeting on a Friday for the Lenten Lunches after the Midday Mass starting on 23rd February. Our Spring/Summer programme will be available soon.

If you would like any further information please contact the office [admin@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk](mailto:admin@stpetershazलगrove.org.uk) or ring Helen 07854928072. You are welcome to come to the group no matter how recently or in the past you have lost a loved one.

**ROSARY PRAYER GROUP** are meeting again this Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the parish centre meeting room. We pray the rosary and relax into our loving God's presence. All are welcome to come and join in with our friendly group - no experience necessary!!

**SPY (St Peter's Youth)** are meeting this Sunday 3rd March after 6pm Mass in the Parish Centre Meeting Room. Open to all young people of high school age and above. Come along for Faith sharing, friendship and fun and of course food! (7pm - 8.30 pm) We have young people from year 7 through to college age who attend regularly. All welcome.

**THE PIETY STALL** have a good selection of cards on sale at the back of Church, also gifts for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation and other occasions. Help is very much needed on a Sunday for a few minutes before and after the Masses, if you would like to volunteer please contact Helen in the office.

The **price of Mass cards** has to be increased to **£1 per card** and this is the first increase in 17 years that I am aware of!! The Mass offering remains at your discretion.

### FINDING NEW LIFE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

The Old Testament course with David O'Neill continues during Lent on 7th and 14th March. It is not too late to join us.

## SAVE THE DATE 24 hours of Adoration for the Centenary of the Parish

Friday March 15th midday - Saturday March 16th midday.

This will be a chance to pray especially for our parish. For all who have worked and worshipped here over the last 100 years and for all who will keep the spirit of St Peter's Parish alive in the Hazel Grove community for the next 100 years. A SIGN UP SHEET IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF CHURCH

**HAND MADE CARDS** - Birthday and Occasion cards (INCLUDING MOTHER'S DAY AND EASTER CARDS) will be on sale in the Parish Centre after the 08.30 and 10.00 Masses on Sunday 10th March (Mother's Day) and 24th March (Palm Sunday).

### ST. PETER'S HELPERS

**Card Making** - The next session will take place in the Meeting Room from 10.00 'til 11.30 on Thursday, 07 March. Please let Mary know by Tuesday, 05 March if you wish to attend 01663 762974 or [mvbin-nie@gmail.com](mailto:mvbin-nie@gmail.com)

**Cuppa and Chat** - The next session is on Thursday, 14 March from 2.00 'til 3.30 in the Meeting Room - All are welcome.

### A WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER.

In the Spring we will be having a week of accompanied prayer in our parish as part of our centenary celebrations and in answer to Pope Francis's appeal to make 2024 'a year of prayer'

**Our week is planned for Sunday April 21st to Saturday April 27th**

Joining in a week of accompanied prayer is a way of making a personal retreat in the midst of daily living and is open to all. The details of how the week is organised are on the poster at the back of the Church and will be shown on our screens.

There is a sign-up sheet in the porch if you are interested in availing of this personal retreat.

**EVERYONE** is welcome but please do not delay in making your decision as it is important to know the number for which plans need to be made.

To find out more contact Fr. Peter, Deacon John, or Michael O'Malley on 0161 483 8296.

### SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

If you want to find out what is going on in school then look up [www.st-simons.stockport.sch.uk](http://www.st-simons.stockport.sch.uk) or [www.st-peters.stockport.sch.uk](http://www.st-peters.stockport.sch.uk) and click on newsletter

### Parish Consultation on Access

We would welcome your comments and improvements on our Parish Access Statement.

We would particularly like to hear from people of all ages, their families or carers, who have any additional access needs, such as mobility or sensory access needs, neurodivergent people, such as autistic people or people with dementia. We are also interested in feedback on any access issues for parents of young children. Please send your responses by 10th March.

You can read our access statement here: [St Peter's Hazel Grove Access Statement](#) and you can give your feedback here: [St Peter's Hazel Grove Access Consultation Feedback Form](#) or by completing a paper copy available at the back of church.

**LENTEN LUNCHES** Its that time of year again for Soup and a bread roll after midday Mass on a Friday. We will be starting on the 23rd February. If you would like to offer to make a pan of soup, please contact Helen on 07854928072. This year we will, once again, be donating to St. Philips Foodbank.

### FURTHER THREAT TO THE UNBORN OF ABORTION UP TO BIRTH

In the next couple of weeks an attempt is to be made to widely decriminalise abortion up to the birth. This is a further assault on the sanctity of human life in our society. This extreme amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill is being made by Diana Johnson MP and parliamentarians will be under pressure to support the amendment on grounds of compassion for mothers who seek to abort their unborn child beyond the legal limits. The effect would be to withdraw legal protection from the unborn. It is important to make our voice heard in support of the unborn child. Please contact your Member of Parliament to ask that they oppose the decriminalization of abortion up to birth. Our MP in Hazel Grove is William Wragg. The *Right to Life* website has details under 'Take Action' which enables you to find and contact your MP directly and the website of the *Society for the Protection of Unborn Children* has helpful information under 'Resources.' The Right to Life website also has details of an alternative amendment by Caroline Ansell MP to reduce the legal limit for abortion from 24 to 22 weeks on the basis of the increased survival rates for babies being born at 22 and 23 weeks. We cannot doubt the impact which your e-mail or letter will have in making known opposition to decriminalizing abortion up to birth and in support of the value of every human life.

<https://righttolife.org.uk/littlefighters> Click on this site and you just fill in your details and they will send a letter to your MP

<https://www.spuc.org.uk/>