

OFFERTORY GIFTS Thank you for your generous offerings last week which amounted to £2785.23online giving last month came to £3995 and £376.91 from the card machine. Those who use the card machine may find it has not been functioning properly this past few weeks but I think the matter is resolved now (again!) but check your own bank statements. St. Philip's Offertory amounted to £ 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**

The new set of envelopes begins this weekend so make sure you have your set.

CHURCH CLEANING IN ST PETERS Team 4 are on duty this week.

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

ST. SIMON'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL is looking to recruit **two permanent teachers**, to begin in September 2025. One position is for a main scale teacher and the other is for a TLR, to lead Key Stage 1. For further information, please click on the link <https://www.st-simons.stockport.sch.uk/vacancies-1>
Visits to our school are warmly welcomed. Please spread the word to anyone you know who may be interested in working at our fabulous school

ABBA TRIBUTE calling all you Dancing Queens (and Fernando's) , ABBA are coming to St. Peter's Parish Centre on Saturday 3rd May, doors open at 7.00 pm. Tickets are £15 including food, DJ ABBA Quiz and more...tickets are limited so get yours now. Call Rita on 07483114783

FROM ST PHILIP'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

In September 2023, Bishop Mark and Diocesan Trustees confirmed the vision for Catholic education in the Diocese of Shrewsbury - that all diocesan schools would become members of one of the already established Catholic Multi Academy Trust Companies. As a result, the governing board of St Philip's Catholic Primary School will be conducting a statutory stakeholder consultation which will complete on 9th May 2025. To find out more please visit <https://www.stphilipsstockport.co.uk/page/academy-conversion/157856>

The governing board of St Philip's Catholic Primary School is looking to recruit a Health and Safety Governor to support with the continued strategic development of their wonderful school. If you would be interested in finding out more then please email the school at admin@st-philips.stockport.sch.uk

Advance notice: Shhh As most of you will be aware Father Peter will be celebrating his 50th Jubilee on July 19th, this will be marked with a Mass at 12.00 Noon with celebrations in the Parish Centre afterwards. We will also be saying Farewell to him as he will be retiring not long after. He has asked that we make it a joint occasion for him. Fr. Peter will be away on 15th and 22nd June and we will be having a collection for him on these two Sundays, more details will be given nearer the date.

The Joy of the Lord is my Strength (Nehemiah 8:10) - All are welcome to join us for a time of Scripture & live worship music in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament at St Benedict's Catholic Church, Hall Road, Handforth, SK9 3AD on Sunday 4th May 2025, 7pm followed by refreshments in the hall.

Celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima on Tuesday 13th May 2025 from 7pm to 9pm - You are welcome to an evening of hearing the message of Fatima, hymns, Eucharistic Adoration, Marian devotion, and veneration of the Relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco. **Beginning with the celebration of Holy Mass at 7pm at Sacred Heart and St Teresa's Catholic Church**, Green Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 1LD. Free parking on Green Lane from 6.30pm and nearby in the Rex Car Park, SK9 1NX

Fr Peter writes

Pope Francis

As our plane landed in Rome last Monday morning and people switched on their various mobile devices the sad news was filtering through that Pope Francis "had returned to the house of the Father." Many of us had watched him on Easter Sunday on the balcony and in the square of St Peter's greeting the crowds and giving the traditional Easter Blessing 'Urbi et Orbi.' Before our arrival we had been informed of the cancellation of the Wednesday morning General Audience but his death, despite his recent illness, came as a shock.

Now as I write this on Wednesday morning, the press and television have descended, the helicopters are flying overhead capturing the scenes of people queuing for the Lying in State. One of the group was interviewed by a Polish TV station and another gave his thoughts to SKY News. Some of the group went off straight after breakfast to join the queue to get into St Peter's

We are due to go off to Assisi on Friday so we will be watching the funeral on TV but still united in prayer for a Pope who was indeed a 'holy father' to the Church.

On Thursday evening May 1st there will be an opportunity to gather as a parish family for Mass at 7 00 p.m. to pray for Pope Francis and for the College of Cardinals who must choose his successor.

Fr Peter

POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR APRIL

For the use of new technologies:
Let us pray that the use of new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

THE WORD OF GOD

**FIRST READING
ACTS 5 12-16**

**PSALM 117
GIVE PRAISE TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD, HIS MERCY ENDURES FOR EVER**

**SECOND READING:
APOCALYPSE 1: 9-13. 17-19**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

ALLELUIA ALLELUIA!

YOU BELIEVED, THOMAS, BECAUSE YOU HAVE SEEN ME, SAYS THE LORD. BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN AND YET HAVE BELIEVED. ALLELUIA

**GOSPEL READINGS:
JOHN 20: 19-31**

'FEAR NOT I AM THE FIRST AND THE THE LAST'

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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EASTER WEEK II

DIVINE OFFICE PSALTER WEEK II

ALL MASSES FROM ST PETERS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE LIVE STREAM
www.churchservices.tv/stockport

Saturday 26th April 2025 - Saturday of the Easter Octave

12 Noon Deceased members of the McKenna family
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philip's Santana Antomo Mascarhenas RIP
Readings: Acts 4: 13-21; Psalm 117; Mark 16: 9-15

Sunday 27th April 2025 - Second Sunday of Easter

8.30 am Kathleen Maddocks and Family ORGAN
10.00am Eminanuella Omegio and Family CHRIS AND EILEEN
11.00 am Syro Malabar Rite Mass at St. Philip's
6.00 pm Peter Wilkinson RIP PIANO
Readings: Acts: 5 12-16; Psalm 117; Apocalypse 1: 9-13. 17-19; John 20: 19-31

Monday 28th April 2025 - St Geore—Patron Saint of England

12 Noon Service of Word and Communion
Readings: Apocalypse 12: 10-12; Psalm 125; John 15: 18-21

Tuesday 29th April 2025 - St Catherine of Siena

12 Noon Patrick Kavauagh RIP
Readings: 1 John 1:5—2:2 Psalm 125; John 15: 18-21

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR EUROPE

Wednesday 30th April 2025—St Pius

9.15 am Mass at St. Philips - John Constable
12 noon Service of Word and Communion
2.00 pm Wedding Service for Stephanie Leonard and Mohamed Hassan Hairdeen
Readings: Acts 5: 17-26; Psalm 33; John 3: 16-21

Thursday 1st May 2025 - St Joseph the Worker

12 Noon Barbara Martin RIP
7.00 pm Mass for Pope Francis
Readings: Acts 5: 27-33; Psalm 33; John 3: 31-36

SPECIAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR HUMAN WORK

Friday 2nd May 2025 - St Athanasius

9.15 am Mass in St. Philip's School to celebrate the Feast Day-Parishioners welcome
12 Noon Sharon Smith RIP
Readings: Acts 5: 34-42; Psalm 26; John 6: 1-15

Saturday 3rd May 2025 - Ss Philip and James

12 Noon Peter Carrahar RIP with anointing of the sick
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philip's - Gibbons and Cusack Families
Readings: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-8; Psalm 18; John 14: 6-14

Sunday 4th May 2025 - Third Sunday of Easter

8.30 am Mary Drinkhill and Christine Haines RIP ORGAN
10.00am Bill and Muriel Christie RIP FOLK GROUP
11.00 am Syro Malabar Rite Mass at St. Philip's
6.00 pm People of the Parish CHOIR
Readings: Acts: 5 27-32.40-41; Psalm 29; Apocalypse 5: 11-14; John 21: 1-19

Your prayers are asked for:

LATELY DECEASED : Pope Francis-Mass here on Thursday 1st May at 7.00 pm **Victor Bradley** whose Requiem Mass will be at St. Peter's on Friday 9th May at 11.30 am, **Juan Perez** whose Funeral Service will be in the Rowan Chapel in Stockport Crematorium on 6th May at 11.30, **John Hazeldine** whose requiem Mass will be here on 7th May at 12 Noon. **Richard Dearman** whose Funeral Service will be here at 10.00 am on Thursday 22nd May .

Anniversaries that occur around this time: Ernie Ball, Sheila Pierse, Babara Dunstan, Eileen Massey, Winefred Copp, Peter Bramall, Maureen Howarth, Bill Christie, Joan Gaughan, Therese Hanson, George Thornley, Frances Oulton, Barbara Martin, Doris Head, Elizabeth O'Reilly, Maureen Kennern, Alexander Murphy, Terrence McConville, Tony Devoy, June Whittaker, Stanley Mitchwell, Peter Carrahar.

BAPTISM COURSE

The dates for the next course are 25th May and 1st June . If you would like to book on the course please email justasec55@hotmail.com . The aim of the course is to help parents prepare for the baptism of their child and to reflect on their role as the first teachers of the faith.

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.

Please keep in your prayers our young people preparing for First Communion.

GOSPEL - JOHN 20: 19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord', but he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.'

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands, and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve.' Thomas answered him, 'my Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Now Jesus do many other signs in the presence of the disciples which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in this name.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th May at 7.00 pm in the Members Lounge - details to follow.

If you would like any further information please contact the office 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.

CARD MAKING This event has now been cancelled

LAMBS

Lambs will meet on Sunday the 27/4/25 **TODAY** between 4pm and 6pm in the parish centre . We will have music bingo and crafts all are welcome.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP takes place again this Tuesday at 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room. All are welcome to attend this friendly, no experience is necessary. Come along and lay down your worries as we relax in prayer.

CAFOD BIG LENT WALK

I have completed my Lent Walk, my total distance was 370 km. Donations have amounted to £2081. On behalf of CAFOD, I would like to thank you all for your generous donations and encouragement Tim

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ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL EVEN WORSE THAN BEFORE - POSTCARDS AVAILABLE

Committee Stage of the assisted suicide Bill has ended. It is now weaker and less safe than it was before. 300+ amendments that sought to strengthen safeguards in the Bill and protect vulnerable groups were rejected by Bill supporters, including protection for people with disabilities and domestic abuse victims.

Please take action now - collect a red and white postcard, fill out your details and post it to your MP today!

ST PETER'S BOOK CLUB please see website for Book suggestions and for more information please contact Alison on 07792 107152. We will be meeting on 29th April at Topkapi in Hazel Grove 7.00 pm

ONLINE PARISH CALENDAR

We have a 'first draft' Online Parish Calendar which is temporarily hosted here <https://sites.google.com/view/st-peters-helpers/st-peters-parish-calendar>

All bookings for rooms and dates must still go to the Parish Administrator Helen Lyons, but entries for the Online Parish Calendar can be submitted here <https://forms.gle/NuDveL18hyfuxopm9> or you can send these into the parish office . Please note, the online calendar will only be updated every 1-2 weeks, please check before you travel. Groups who haven't yet given dates, please submit your dates through the form or contact the Parish Office.

SPY is for all young people attending secondary school and college. It's a fun, relaxed space to journey and explore faith with other young people, including ice breakers, games, gospel time along, outreach initiatives to support charities etc. Two of the best things the young people like about SPY is making new friendships and having chance to grow in their faith journey.

Start time: 7pm

Location: St Peter's church Parish centre

Finish around: 8.30pm

We provide refreshments and food.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Spy Dates for 2025

Sunday 11th May

Sunday 15th June

Saturday 21st June - Savio House Away Day

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL - Please see notice at the back of Church

VE Day 80 - Thursday 8th May - 7pm onwards

On 8 May 2025, we mark the historic **80th anniversary of VE Day**, with the peoples, families and communities of our great nation coming together to unite and celebrate 80 years of peace since the end of World War II in Europe. To commemorate this national event, we will be **hosting a fish and chip supper** in the parish centre from 7pm. The cost will be £10 per person. Please sign up at the back of church. Payment will be required in advance and the payment options will be on the sign-up sheet (cheque payable to St Peter Hazel Grove, cash in an envelope with your name on it, or bank transfer bank transfer reference VE DAY TO St Peter Hazel Grove Sort Code 30-15-52. Account No. 54607668 At 9.30pm, we will then go out onto the lawn, and like thousands of people around the country, **light a Lamp of Peace**. We will come together in prayer to show our gratitude for the many sacrifices that secured our freedom.

SHINE SHINE SHINE – CALL FOR ARTICLES

We're looking to produce the next issue of our parish magazine, Shine, in July before the schools break up. So, now is the time start getting your information and stories together and sorting out your photographs. You'll see in previous issues of Shine that are available on the website, that it's a great way of sharing what's going on in our parish communities in Offerton and Hazel Grove, what hobbies you might have, what your parish group has been doing, etc.

Please send your articles and photos to terrythiele@hotmail.co.uk by **Sunday 1 June**. If you haven't got Email don't let that stop you – just hand your papers and photos to Fr Peter in an envelope marked for Terry Thiele. It's time to Shine!

ST PETER'S HELPERS

HEALING MASS AND LUNCH

St Peter's Helpers are hosting a Healing Mass (with the Sacrament of the Sick) on Saturday, 03 May at 12.00 noon. This will be followed by lunch (Hot Pot pie and gateaux, catered by Reflections of High Lane) at 1.00 pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend the Mass but you must let Margaret (07504 708981) know by Wednesday, 23 April, if you wish to join us for the meal. Numbers are limited so places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. As usual, there is no charge for attending but there will be an opportunity for you to make a contribution towards the cost of the meal if you wish.

FOOTSTEPS ON 15TH MAY

Our next event in the Footsteps programme of talks will be on **Thursday 15th May at 7.30 pm** in the **Parish Centre** when will be making a welcome return to Footsteps . Teacher, counsellor, author, Mary is always a most captivating and thought provoking speaker. She will be talking about the **Jubilee Year of Hope** and in particular she'll explore **what jubilee means and how we can experience the hope and freedom that God offers**. Footsteps is for everyone of all denominations and walks of life. We'd love to welcome you again to our informal, cafe-style setting with drinks and nibble a plenty.

SPRING TIDY UP OF CHURCH GROUNDS

Saturday morning 10th May from 9 o'clock.

Can you help?

Please bring garden tool, trugs, wheelbarrows saws brushes, etc. Sausage butties and drinks served mid morning! Please sign the list at the back of church if you are able to come.