

OFFERTORY GIFTS Thank you for your generous offerings last week which amounted to £1163.60 online 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 for 20th,27th April and 4th May amounted to £821.97 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: **CAFOD FAMILY FAST** collection amounted to **£1199.23** thank you for your generous support.

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 6 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

FROM ST PHILIP'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The governing board of St Philip's 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

St Philip's are looking to organise a Community Culture Festival and would love your help! If you feel that this is something which you are able to support with then please contact the school at headteacher@st-philips.stockport.sch.uk. A meeting will take place at the school on Wednesday 7th May at 5.30pm

ST PETERS BOOK CLUB A book we recommended last time, **Stone Yard Devotional by Charlotte Wood**, which is a story about a woman who retreats to a convent in the Australian outback and goes on a journey of self-discovery, was really enjoyed by the group.

For this time, we are returning to a favourite author, **Tracey Chevalier** and her most recent novel, **The Glass Maker**. The story traces a family of glassmakers from Venice over a period of 500 years. **Yellowface by R F Kuang** comes highly recommended as a satirical exploration of the world of publishing when a white author steals the manuscript of a dead Chinese author. **The Rose Code by Kate Quinn** is a story that focuses on a group of code breakers who meet at Bletchley Park and is apparently a great piece of historical fiction set between 1940 and 1947. We have also decided to feature a 'blast from the past' - a book that we read and loved that we are happy to read again - **Captain Corelli's Mandolin by Louis de Bernieres** was written over 30 years ago and is a World War II story set on the island of Cephalonia.

We will meet again in July - if you would like to join us please get in touch. Alison McGarr 07792 107152

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

LOURDES HOSPITALITY Following a very positive meeting held early April, where we explored the role of the Hospitality, you are invited to continue this reflection at a further meeting. We hope to build on the previous lively discussions and consider areas for further development. The meeting will take place on Wed 21st May at 7pm at St Columba's, Plas Newton Lane, Chester CH2 1SA. Confirm your attendance at secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

RADIO MARIA Join Radio Maria for a Worldwide Rosary live from the Chapel of the Apparitions at the heart of the Fátima Shrine. Pray with our global family on Tuesday, 13th May at 4pm. Listen on DAB+, online at RadioMariaEngland.uk, on the free Radio Maria Play app, or on your smart speaker by saying, "Play Radio Maria England."

Fr Peter writes

Habemus Papam! In the time honoured words our new Pope was announced on Thursday evening just as we were getting ready for our VE Day celebrations. Pope Leo XIV afterwards came out on to the balcony of St Peter's to introduce himself and give his blessing Urbi et Orbi—to the city and the world. Our new Holy Father has extensive pastoral experience as a missionary and bishop in Peru and also knows about the workings of the Vatican Curia as he has more recently been Prefect of the Dicastery of Bishops in Rome, having charge of the appointment of new bishops throughout the Church. We pray for him in his new role as Supreme Pastor

Fr Peter



POPE'S INTENTIONS

MAY

For working Conditions:

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING:
ACTS 13:
14.43-52;

PSALM 99:
WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, THE SHEEP OF HIS FLOCK

SECOND READING:
APOCALYPSE 7:
9.14-17

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

ALLELUIA ALLELUIA!
I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD, SAYS THE LORD. I KNOW MY SHEEP AND MY OWN KNOW ME. ALLELUIA

GOSPEL READINGS:
JOHN 10: 27-30

'I AND THE FATHER ARE ONE'

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

16, Green Lane, Hazel Grove, SK7 4EA Phone 0161 483 3476
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



EASTER WEEK IV

DIVINE OFFICE PSALTER WEEK IV

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

Saturday 10th May 2025 - St John de Avila

11- 11.45 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction
12 Noon Kath Thiele RIP Birthday Memories
1.30 pm Wedding Service for Bethan Dorsett and Paul Tickner
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philip's - Norah Connelly
Readings: Acts 9: 31-42; Psalm 115; John 6: 60-69

Sunday 11th May 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.30 am Austin Roy Intention ORGAN
10.00am Ruth Thompson RIP TOAST
11.00 am Syro Malabar Rite Mass at St. Philip's
6.00 pm People of the Parish CHOIR
Readings: Acts: 13: 14. 43-52; Psalm 99; Apocalypse 7: 9. 14-17; John 10: 27-30
DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Monday 12th May 2025 -St Pancras

12 Noon Peter Brewer RIP
Readings: Acts 11: 1-18; Psalm 41; John 10; 1-10

Tuesday 13th May 2025 - Our Lady of Fatima

12 Noon Service of Word and Communion
Readings: Acts 11: 19-26; Psalm 86; John 10: 22-30

Wednesday 14th May 2025—St Matthias

9.15 am Mass at St. Philips - Special Intention
12 Noon Service of Word and Communion
Readings: Acts 1: 15-17. 20-26; Psalm 112; John 15: 9-17

Thursday 15th May 2025

12 Noon Caroline Howard RIP
Readings: Acts 13: 13-25; Psalm 88; John 13: 16-20

Friday 16th May 2025

12 Noon The Bugeja Family Intention
Readings: Acts 13: 13-25; Psalm 2; John 14: 1-6

Saturday 17th May 2025

11- 11.45 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction
12 Noon Kath Buiss RIP
2.00 pm Wedding Service for Hannah Hurst and Joseph McKay
6.00 pm Mass at St. Philip's - Mary Farrell RIP
Readings: Acts 13: 44-52; Psalm 97; John 14: 7-14

Sunday 18th May 2025 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.30 am Mark Rigg 80th Birthday Memories CHOIR
10.00am Joseph and Martha Quinn RIP FOLK GROUP
11.00 am Syro Malabar Rite Mass at St. Philip's
6.00 pm People of the Parish PRAISE BE!
Readings: Acts 14: 21-27; Psalm 144; Apocalypse 21: 1-5; John 31-35



Your prayers are asked for:

LATELY DECEASED : **Gerry Clarke** whose Requiem Mass will be here on Monday 19th May at 12 Noon. **Richard Dearman** whose Funeral Service will be here at 10.00 am on Thursday 22nd May . **Maura Burke** who Requiem Mass will be held here on 22nd May at 12 Noon , **Colin McAllistar** whose Funeral Service is at Stockport Crematorium on 20th May at 1.45 pm, and Peter Ratcliffe

Anniversaries that occur around this time: James Kane, Claire Kan Hai, Muriel Christie, Mary Morgan, Joan Howard, Agnes Bumstead, Jennifer Southward, Bridget Quinn, Doreen Irwin, Barbara White, Zeger Beyens, Maureen Rowbotham, Vic Ratcliffe, Paul Kivell, Ernest Swindells, James Vernon

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 10: 27-30 'I give eternal life to my sheep.'

At that time: Jesus said, My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.'

1. Spend some time quietly reading and rereading the passage.
2. Note the words/phrases that draw your attention.
3. Place yourself in the scene...Imagine Jesus speaking these words to you now...take time to talk with him about all that you are thinking and feeling....
4. How might you live out this call to love in the coming week?

For Conversation:

Moments when you have experienced God's glory.

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

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

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



BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 13th May at 7.00 pm in the Members Lounge - The theme will be Mental Health and Wellbeing with refreshments and a bit of crafty fun!

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

THE CENTERING PRAYER GROUP meet every Tuesday morning in the meeting room in the parish centre. We start at 11 15am and finish at 11 45am. This is a silent prayer group and if you feel this might be for you why not join us next Tuesday or indeed any Tuesday. All are welcome.

THE SCRIPTURE GROUP meet on the second and fourth week of each month. We read and discuss the readings for the following Sunday. We start at 7 30pm and finish at 9 30pm with a cup of tea and biscuit. All are welcome. Our next meeting is on Wednesday the 9th of April.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Rachel Buckley from Aid to the Church in Need will be visiting St. Philips on 17th May at the 6.00 pm Mass and on the 18th May at the 8.30 and 10.00 pm Masses at St Peters. She will be giving us an insight into the work of the Church in Need. There will not be a second collection but Rachel will be selling a few religious items at the back of Church and there will be gift aid envelopes available for anyone who wishes to donate to this very worthy charity.

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 to-day!

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

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!

FOOTSTEPS ON 15th MAY

Our next event in the Footsteps programme of talks will be on **Thursday 15th May at 7.30pm** in the **parish centre** when **Mary Hardiman** 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, café-style setting with drinks and nibbles a-plenty.

St Joseph's Stockport Family Faith and Fun Days

Our next event is on Sunday 18th May, as it is the month of May our theme will be The Rosary and the message of Our Lady of Fatima.

Our afternoon starts at 1.30, please bring at packed lunch, tea/coffee and juice will be provided.

At 2pm we will be showing a short film about the children of Fatima, the film is aimed at children, however adults are welcome to watch also, this will be followed by Eucharistic Adoration, the day will finish with Fun for children, adults too if they wish, and faith study. Please do come along and join in, all are very welcome. If you would like to know more, please contact Fr Sean via email at stockportshrine@gmail.com

SHROUD OF TURIN

An evening talk on the Shroud of Turin on Thursday 26th June at 7.30 PM in St Peter's Parish Centre.

Michael Kowalski is the editor and author of the British Society for the Turin Shroud. Matt Burke from St Philip's recently attended this talk and has kindly arranged for Michael to give the same talk for us at St Peter's. This 60-minute presentation (including Q&A) provides an overview of evidence revealed by a century of scientific and historical research. It focuses in particular on the astounding findings revealed by scientific examinations of the image markings visible on the Shroud, which undermine the claim that a medieval artist could have simply "faked it up and flogged it". It also explains why, after examining the Shroud's image markings and bloodstains, several forensic scientists have concluded that this is the true cloth that wrapped the body of Jesus Christ between His death and resurrection. Free entry although opportunity for donations to contribute towards expenses.

Refreshments will be available

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS (11TH MAY 2025) – Have you considered exploring a vocation to the diocesan priesthood in imitation of Jesus the Good Shepherd? A first step might be to speak to your parish priest or contact the diocesan vocations director at vocationsdirector@dioceseofshrewsbury.org who can help you with discernment. We have a simple website www.Shrewsburyvocations.org where you can explore more. Further resources are available at www.ukvocation.org or www.ukpriest.org.

Vocations Weekend for Women (20s and 30s) -Discerning God's Call in your life 23rd - 25th May, Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org To register: <https://bit.ly/FCJVocationWeekend>



A PASTORAL LETTER

On Welcoming Pope Leo XIV with Great Joy

**To be read at all Masses on the Fourth Sunday of Easter
11th May 2025**

My dear brothers and sisters,

On Thursday, an outburst of joy marked the announcement that we have a new Pope. This joy was known before we even knew the name or had glimpsed the kindly face of Pope Leo XIV. It was the announcement that we had a Pope that was the source of this joy. The man chosen was still unseen, and undoubtedly conscious as never before, of his human weakness and the immense weight of the mission suddenly entrusted to him as the 266th Successor of the Apostle Peter. The new Pope would first lead us in prayer by greeting the Holy Mother of God and asking her to pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. This struck me as a beautiful expression of our Catholic faith in the office of the Pope, whoever the man happens to be, and in the mission entrusted by Christ to Peter and his successors until the end of time. It is in this faith that we welcome Pope Leo XIV. For it was Christ who made Peter the rock of His Church, gave him the keys of the Kingdom, and to feed the sheep and lambs of His flock, as a witness to His love called him to strengthen His brethrenⁱⁱⁱ ^{iv}.

It seemed significant that before we caught sight of our new Pope, we saw first the Cross of Christ carried onto the balcony of Saint Peter's. For the Pope always stands before the world as a witness to Christ and to the victory of His Cross. In his first words and greeting "Peace be with you all", Pope Leo consciously echoed the words of the Risen Jesus and reminded us "*We are disciples of Christ, Christ goes before us, and the world needs His light*" for in His love we find the assurance that evil will not prevail.

Following a previous papal election, I was asked at a petrol station whether I 'liked' the new Pope. This is a strange question for a Catholic, akin to being asked whether you 'like' your father or mother! The Pope is not a celebrity, a politician nor a public personality whose popularity may grow or fade. The place of the Pope in the family of the Church is always seen in the light of faith, whoever the man happens to be, for he has taken the place of Peter for us.

We pray for the Pope with a loyalty and affection which transcends all human 'likes' or 'dislikes.' We might even pray, as one faithful soul did, that the Pope gets a good night's rest, conscious of the burden he bears. It is with such faith, loyalty and human affection that we welcome Pope Leo XIV, our thirteenth Holy Father since his predecessor Pope Pius IX founded the Shrewsbury Diocese in 1851.

A still wider perspective is offered in the Cathedral this Sunday, when our Greek Orthodox brothers and sisters bring an icon and relic of Pope Saint Sylvester I, in celebration of the Creed we profess each Sunday. If you don't recognise his name, this was the Pope at the time of the Council of Nicea in 325 AD, when the bishops first gathered to make the great profession of the Church's faith that we echo together at Mass each Sunday. It is the enduring mission of Peter and his successors to keep this faith and strengthen us in faith by serving as "the visible source and foundation of unity"^v. In celebrating the 1700th Anniversary of the Creed of Nicea and remembering the saintly Pope of that distant time, we are reminded of the long continuity of the mission of Saint Peter, which continues with the fourteenth Pope Leo in our time.

^v Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 552

The World Day of Prayer for Vocations celebrated on this Good Shepherd Sunday, also leads us to remember that a young man, *Robert Prevost*, was first ready to dedicate his whole life to Christ in the Catholic Priesthood. Today, as we pray for this young man as our Pope, let us also pray for many new and generous vocations to the Priesthood that are a source of joy for the whole Church. It is because of Robert Prevost's generous and faithful response to his calling, that we are now able to receive "with great joy" Pope Leo XIV as a holy father for us all.

United with you in this joy and in this prayer,
+ *Mark*
Bishop of Shrewsbury

ⁱ Mt. 16: 18 -19

ⁱⁱ Lk. 22:32

ⁱⁱⁱ Jn. 21: 15-17

^{iv} Cf. Pope Saint John Paul II "The Ministry of Love" 17th October 1978