

SHINE



TOAST is back on Sunday 13 September 2026



Time on a Sunday together

Sundays at 9.30am, St Peter's Parish Centre

TOAST and refreshments at 9.30am

All families are welcome. We will unpack the Gospel of the day through music, prayer, fun and games.

What's at TOAST:
Music
Live interactive Gospel
Quiz and fun activities
Terry's Teaser

You are all very welcome.

For more information about TOAST contact Teresa Thiele on 07778 848709



Hello all,

As we come to the latest issue of Shine, the parish continues to be very busy, with clergy and parishioners living out their faith and proclaiming the Good News of Christ.

A major highlight was the ordination of Kevin Hogan to the priesthood on Saturday 4 July at Shrewsbury Cathedral, in a Mass celebrated by Bishop Mark. A large number of people travelled from our part of the world with coaches from our two parishes and Our Lady and St Christopher's in Romiley, where Fr Kevin celebrated his first Mass on Sunday 5 July. The whole experience has been a great joy to Kevin and will continue to be so throughout the summer months, as he celebrates with family, friends and parishioners. It will be nice to begin our journey with Fr Kevin but in some ways it is sad to say goodbye to Deacon Kevin, as together with Deacon John we have had a wonderful team of Deacons. I take this opportunity to thank both of them and all our parishioners for the support they have given me in what is my first year as Parish Priest here.

Recently we have been offering special prayers for our children with our First Holy Communion Masses and our Confirmation for our young people. We have also been celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage and continue to be blessed with a large number of Baptisms. Many children and young people will be moving to new schools, colleges, universities and the world of work, and so will be saying goodbye to their former places of education. With so much to do, we pray that the month of August will give us all time to reflect on our lives and our faith and get some well deserved rest before a new academic and sacramental year.

My first few months have been very busy with all the work of the parish and of course getting to know the parish once again. Our clergy team and others have made some real progress over this time and hopefully we can continue this positive journey with the love and guidance of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fr Philip

News from the parish communities of
St Peter's, Hazel Grove and
St Philip's, Offerton.

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Shining a light on our parish communities

Moira shares her experience of our Bereavement Group

Bereavement has a major impact on people's lives. The bereaved would not have chosen to become bereaved. We must adjust to a world that remains the same for other people, but for us, everything is different. We must navigate a new environment, whilst we are struggling to come to terms with our loss and grief.

The Bereavement Group in our parish offers support to us. At our last meeting we watched a video about grief and discussed two poems relating to grief. The members of the group are making the same journey but moving at their own pace, taking different perspectives, each on a unique path. We have many things in common. Some of us find it difficult to return to places where we used to go with our loved ones, some even find it difficult to leave their house to encounter a new altered environment. For others, even everyday activities eg cooking, listening to music, watching certain



programmes by ourselves evoke emotions, which can be challenging. Time brings changes to the way we feel, however, we will always treasure our memories; photos, videos, letters and conversation can bring pleasure and joy, but sometimes are also tinged with sadness. Please be patient with us; we don't know when 'normal events' can trigger grief – we have an altered view of the world. Our lives have been enriched by our loved ones and they live on in our lives, even though they have died.

I found the Bereavement Group a place where I can meet others also trying to come to terms with our new place in the world. We are there for each other and through our shared emotions we can help each other. Some meetings are discussions like our last meeting, other meetings are social events eg a fish and chip supper, a musical evening or a film night.

Come and join us, we are a friendly and welcoming group. You are not alone; we have similar feelings.



Tatiana fondly remembers her experience there on 20 June

The three times I have been to Savio House for the retreat have all been completely different experiences. Each one gave me something valuable, but in a different way.

The first time was a journey of discovery. Everything was new and I did not know what was coming next. I simply allowed myself to be immersed in the experience. The second time was different. I was amazed by the environment surrounding the retreat centre: the sheep, the breathtaking views and the beautiful fauna and flora.

The major difference between my first two experiences and this last one was that I was now officially a helper. Although I still experienced the retreat like one of the young people, I was also able to witness how everything was organised and to see what happened behind the scenes.

This year the focus of the retreat was the Holy Spirit. Mary and Chris gave us two beautiful talks about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit truly works in mysterious

ways. I felt as though both of them were speaking directly to me, because I could apply everything they were saying to my own life. It made me realise that God is intentional. Everything we experience, see, hear or feel has a purpose. Every place we are led to, every person we are meant to meet, all of it is intentional.

Taking a break from the rush of daily life helped me. I am sure it helped everyone who was present to open our eyes more fully to our surroundings and recognise that God is everywhere. He is in every flower we see, in every breeze that blows, in every person who speaks to us, in every sheep grazing in the fields and in every bird flying across the sky.

It can be difficult to find time to pause and reflect. We often become so caught up in our routines and responsibilities that we forget to appreciate the beauty around us. This retreat reminded me of the importance of slowing down, of listening and being present. It reminded me that God is always near, working through both the extraordinary and the ordinary moments of our lives.

Farewells and welcomes

Since our last issue, the following people known in our community have gone to their rest:

Monica Beckett	Vincent Thompson
Margaret King	Marie Glennon
Beryl Griffiths	Sarah Cryne Kirkpatrick
Peter Collins	Dorothy Hillier
Patricia Williams	Jean Campbell
Charles Stowman	Frances Burke
David Harris	Patrick O'Reilly
Mark Kirwan	Barbara Rudder
Ellen Farrell	Richard 'Chris' Powell
Colin Price	Martin Darcy
Barbara Goodier	Terence O'Toole
Enda Donegan	Rita Blacklock
Kathleen Hibbert	
Nora Waring	
Francis Kinsler	

...and the following have been baptised:

Adrian Razaie	Suet Fei Pak
Maeve Yates	Sheldon Pak Yin Lee
Franckie Steed	Pak Hei Lee
Inola Grommell	Ka Yi Lung
Reuben Holland	Cheng Tong
Riley Benett	Michela Mak
Jacynta Arnfield	Logan Woolveridge
Leo Hulme	Amelia Hunt
Dylan Hulme	Roco Bradshaw
Noah Thornbury	Aston Stewardson Marrima
Jayden O'Rourke	Theodore Warburton-Allen
Leo Kan-Hai	Finley Hubbard
David 'Tony' Senior	Willow Mooney
Ivy Burns	Jessica Donnarumma
Kin Man Lee	Joshua Donnarumma



The beginning of the Ordination Mass



Fr Kevin with his proud daughters, from left to right, Ciara, Caitlin and Ailish



Some of the 50 parishioners waiting for the coach to Shrewsbury

Deacon Kevin's Ordination 4 July 2026

It was on a rather cloudy Saturday morning that a happy band of pilgrims from St Peter's gathered with Father Philip on the A6 to board the coach to Shrewsbury to join in the celebration of the Ordination to the Priesthood of our very own Deacon Kevin. We were all hoping that the rain would stay away and thankfully by the time we reached the Cathedral in the late morning, the sun was shining on the start of what would be a beautiful and joyful day.

We had a quick coffee in the Cathedral grounds and were then ushered into the beautifully restored church for the start of the Ordination Mass. After taking our places, the Mass started and what followed was a wonderful and ancient ceremony rich in the tradition of our Catholic faith. Kevin sat with his daughters and family

at the front of the nave before being taken into the sanctuary and presented to Bishop Mark to make his promises to serve God and his people as a faithful priest and pastor. After his investiture with stole and chasuble, the garments of his office as a priest, he was anointed with the Oil of Chrism and received the laying on of hands from the bishop and his brother priests. In acknowledgement of his other vocation as a parent, one of his daughters then carried the paten and chalice to the bishop who presented it to Kevin. Our new priest Kevin then took his place with the bishop and brother priests to celebrate the sacred Eucharistic Liturgy.

After the bishop's final blessing and the dismissal, we and others formed an orderly queue along the central aisle to receive a first blessing from our newly ordained priest and now



A few familiar faces at the Ordination



Bishop Mark with Fr Kevin



Some of our parishioners taking a break after a long day



Fr Kevin about to give his first blessing to his daughters and the rest of the congregation

Father Kevin. It was a truly moving experience for all of us who had grown to know Kevin over the past few months since he joined St Peter's as a deacon.

After Mass we went into the Cathedral Café for a welcome reception and the chance to mingle with friends, former parish priests of St Peter's and Kevin's family. Bishop Mark also joined us to wish Kevin well and to chat with his flock. A more visibly relaxed Kevin was able to move amongst us so that we could offer him our congratulations and best wishes for the future wherever he would be sent to serve in the

diocese. It was a joyous celebration and we were all grateful to have been given the privilege to take part in this momentous occasion for him.

It was a tired but happy bunch of people who boarded the coach to return home after a splendid day out.

We offer our prayers and best wishes for Kevin as he embarks on this new stage of his life as priest and pastor to God's holy people and give thanks to God for Kevin's vocation to serve us. We also pray for new vocations to the diaconate and presbyterate.

Ad multos annos, Kevin.



Fr. Kevin Gerard Hogan

Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood

Saturday 4th July 2026

Cathedral Church of Our Lady
Help of Christians and Saint Peter
of Alcantara, Shrewsbury

*You did not choose me, but I chose
you and appointed you that you
should go and bear fruit and that
your fruit should abide, so that
whatever you ask the Father in my
name, he may give it to you.*

[John 15:16]

Fr Kevin's Ordination card given out after becoming a newly ordained priest



Deacon John, Fr Kevin, Bishop Mark and Fr Philip

Mum and the church

A week in the life of... by Marie Glennon



(This is based on a sense from Jayne Glennon that Marie would like all her friends at St Peter's to know and understand how important the St Peter's community was in her life.)



Saturday This is my favourite day. Nothing formal and an evening to myself. 199 bus to St Peter's and celebrating a full Sunday-obligation Mass. All my friends are here and Fr Philip delivered an uplifting homily; he is such a good speaker. I'm on Eucharistic ministering duties today, always an honour. Back home promptly to finalise my reflection for Wednesday – it has to be right.

Sunday Early start, early bus – need time to chat with my friends before 10am Mass. Lovely to share our pews with the Margarets, Hannah, Tom, Helen and all. Chris may even grace us with his presence. On the second Reading today – I'll have to make sure it's faultless as Anne-Marie is up first! Oooh, Eileen is singing the psalm – another treat. Deacon Kevin is on homily duty – such a learned man. And Teresa and the Toasties make an entrance at the end – such a pleasure to see so many youngsters beaming joyously at the front of church; a credit to the work that Teresa and the Toastmasters do.

Teas and Coffees after in the parish centre. The team there do such a good job, and a chance for some more chatting before heading off home.

Monday Today there is a Requiem Mass at St Peter's – who doesn't like a good funeral? This one is for a popular lady and long-standing parishioner. Hopefully I can take some ideas for my own and have an additional Order of Service for my collection. I'll chat to some friends and head home – but not before my home visit with Holy Communion in High Lane.

Tuesday A busy day today: Mass followed by a Bereavement Group gathering, one of my favourite groups. Always uplifting to see how others have overcome adversity so well. Also



Sycamore at St Philip's this evening, Michael kindly gives me lifts. Chris was right – such lovely people attend this group.

Wednesday Front and Centre today – I'm leading the Service of the Word including a 'reflection'. Rachel is always so kind, I must not let her down. What a wonderful surprise – Chris turned up to listen!! It seemed very well received. Got the bus back and enjoyed a little nap in the afternoon – I've been feeling a little extra tired recently.

Thursday Early bus for a Stepping Hill appointment before carrying on to Mass. A lovely service and Rachel, John, Teresa, Terry, Mary, Jim, Sandra, Tim, David, Laura and all my friends were there – I realise I have far too many to list! A reminder of how much I have to be grateful for. And this evening

is Footsteps – what a wonderful job Anne-Marie and the team do arranging this. No need for the bus this evening, I have volunteered some people to take me. And what a treat – St Mary of Hardiman is speaking. And we weren't disappointed.

Friday Although still glowing from last night I feel very rough today. Anyway, duties to perform, off to Mass and I'm on Eucharistic minister duties. Friday's always popular – apparently those who should be WFH all attend – the Lord will forgive you. A wonderful Mass with my lovely friends. Disaster though – I am in much pain and have to call Nuala, my daughter. I spend Friday night in hospital.

Saturday I wake up in Stepping Hill, in a quiet ward, not good news, I think my time has come. Biz, another daughter, has my list of people I must see, hopefully they can all get here. So much for the 'no more than two visitors' rule – anyway, rules are there to be broken! Fr Philip gives me the Sacrament of the Sick, I feel I am beaming, I am ready, my work here is done. Thank you, Lord for a wonderful life.

Palm Sunday My triumphant entry into the Kingdom – now, where's Margaret King, we need to set some ground rules with the Lord, Philip can wait.

Marie's family would like to add this...

Thank you to all Mum's friends at St Peter's too many to mention by name and apologies if we have not managed to include you in the above. You have all helped to make St Peter's such a wonderful, people- and faith-focussed community and ensure her last few years were filled with faith, love and kindness.

In the evening of 28 July 1923, John - known to his friends and family as "Jack" - Traynor pushed his own wheelchair along Liverpool Lime Street railway platform. My grandparents were among the jubilant crowd that had turned out to greet him. Just one week earlier, John, suffering from epilepsy, a paralysed right arm, paraplegia of the legs, ulcers and wounds and a surgical hole in his skull, had left from the same station with the first Liverpool archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Traynor, from an Anglo-Irish Liverpool family, had a lifelong devotion to Our Lady, instilled by his mother. He was a war hero. In October 1914, carrying a wounded officer to safety, he was wounded in the head by shrapnel, requiring a surgical operation. At Gallipoli, his team cut Father Finn, a Catholic chaplain, from the barbed wire and buried him. On 8 May 1915, Traynor had all the nerves to his right arm severed by machine gun fire. The first, unsuccessful, attempt at nerve suture was performed by Sir Frederick Treves, the foremost surgeon of his day and best known for caring for Joseph Merrick, the "Elephant Man", at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, my alma mater. Traynor was advised on several occasions to have his "useless" arm amputated, but he refused. He was awarded a full disability pension for life by the War Pensions Ministry.

In 1920, a trephine operation removed a 2.5cm piece of his skull, supposedly to relieve pressure in his brain. In fact, it left him paralysed in both legs. In July 1923 he was due to be admitted to Mossley Hill Hospital for Incurables. Despite strong opposition, he used a precious gold sovereign he had kept for an emergency to make a down payment on the cost of the pilgrimage to Lourdes. His wife, Mary Ellen, pawned her jewellery to raise the balance.

Traynor was so ill that the doctors, thinking he might die, stopped the train three times, but since there was no local hospital, they continued to Lourdes. John went to the baths nine times. After the third bath, he had no further epileptic fits. On 25 July, he felt his legs move during his



Jack Traynor pictured on his return to Liverpool from Lourdes in 1923.

Lourdes miraculous cures and the cure of John (Jack) Traynor

Kieran Moriarty: *A doctor's dossier helped Jack Traynor's cure to be declared a miracle.*

ninth bath. At the Blessed Sacrament procession, when blessed by the Archbishop of Rheims, he burst the bandages and blessed himself with his right arm. On the morning of 26 July, he raced 200 metres, barefoot in his night clothes, to pray at Our Lady's grotto. When he removed his dressings, all his sores had healed. Drs Azurdia, Marley and Finn, the pilgrimage doctors, examined and certified John's condition on 24 July, before his cure, on 25 July, soon after

his cure, and then again on 27 July.

As a child, I was fascinated by the story of the "miraculous" cure of Jack Traynor. My Aunty Margaret went to Lourdes in 1958 and brought me back a glass globe of Bernadette praying to Our Lady in the grotto. When I turned it upside down, snowflakes would shower them both. In those innocent pre-TikTok days, I delighted in this every night.

I first went to Lourdes in 1971. I

What is a Miracle?

- Latin "Miror" = surprise
- Scientific vs Spiritual dimension - fact vs sign
- "A miracle is an extraordinary event believed to be due to benevolent Divine intervention to which is attached spiritual significance".

Explanation of a miracle

found that I loved assisting pilgrims on their journey, getting them to and from the grotto, helping at the baths, railway station and airport. In 1972, while still a student, I worked there for six weeks. I learnt that Traynor's cure had never been officially recognised as "miraculous". "Just maybe," I thought, "one day, I might be able to help put that right."

In the late 1980s, I was a doctor to the Shrewsbury diocesan pilgrimage, and between 1990 and 2018, by which time I was working as a consultant physician in Bolton, I was medical director of the Salford diocesan pilgrimage. I am also a

member of the Lourdes International Medical Committee (CMIL), which meets annually to discuss any potential cures. We are strictly objective, mindful of the need to protect the credibility of Lourdes and of the Church.

In 2021, I was asked to serve on a diocesan board of inquiry into a possible miraculous cure associated with the cause of a candidate for sainthood. I read *Sanctorum Mater*, the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints' 2007 Instruction for conducting diocesan or eparchial inquiries in the causes of Saints, and I realised for the first time that the Vatican can recognise that a

miraculous cure took place even when the "cured" person has since died.

In August 2023, a hundred years after Traynor had pushed his wheelchair along Lime Street station platform, Dr Alessandro de Franciscis, the President of the Lourdes Medical Bureau, asked me to examine his Lourdes dossier. It included a reference to a report published in the Annales de Notre Dame de Lourdes in February 1927. Nicolas Dargegen, curator of the Lourdes Sanctuary's archives, found the original. It was signed by Dr Auguste Vallet, acting president of the Medical Bureau, following an examination of Traynor in Lourdes on 7 July 1926. Drs Azurdia, Marley and Finn were also present, as well as two other doctors. It concluded: "It's a true resurrection, which this fortunate beneficiary attributes to the power of God and the merciful intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes. As for us, obliged to confine ourselves to our role as doctors, we recognise and proclaim, along with our Confreres, that the process of this prodigious cure is absolutely outside and above the forces of nature."

In September 2023, I spent two days in the Liverpool diocesan archives with archivist Neil Sayer. I found a copy of the Journal de la Grotte, the shrine's official journal, published on 26 December 1926. It was very old, 50 per cent destroyed, but in it was the report of Traynor's cure which was republished the following February in the Annales. Dr de Franciscis found the original in the archives of the Medical Bureau. He realised that this was the official Lourdes medical report into the alleged miraculous



"Given the weight of medical evidence, the testimony to the faith of John Traynor and his devotion to Our Blessed Lady, it is with great joy that I declare that the cure of John Traynor, from multiple serious medical conditions, is to be recognised as a miracle wrought by the power of God through the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes".

Archbishop McMahon's declaration

Lambertini Criteria

1. The disease must be serious and impossible (or at least very difficult) to cure by human means
2. The disease must not be in a stage at which it is liable to disappear shortly by itself
3. Either no medical treatment must have been given or it must be certain that the treatment given has no reference to the cure
4. The cure must be instantaneous
5. The cure must be complete
6. The cure must be permanent
7. The cure must not be preceded by any crisis of a sort which would make it possible the cure was wholly or partially natural.



The Lambertini Criteria has to pass seven steps

Lourdes Miracles - Setting

- More than 80% of the miracles occur in females
- The youngest miracle occurred to a two-year-old
- The country of origin of people who have been miraculously cured is:
 - France (56)
 - Italy (9)
 - Belgium (3)
 - Germany (1)
 - Austria (1)
 - Switzerland (1)
 - England (1)
- 6 miracles relate to intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes, but did not occur in Lourdes
- The majority of the miracles relate to contact with the water of Lourdes (52), particularly in the "piscines".

Lourdes Miracles occur in many countries

cure. Between 1913 and 1946, the Medical Bureau did not refer these reports to the relevant diocesan bishop. The Traynor case had never been processed.

In 1944, a few months after 'Traynor's death, the Catholic Truth Society published *I Met a Miracle: The Story of Jack Traynor* by Fr Patrick O'Connor, which includes Traynor's own account of his cure. Fr O'Connor had read the official 1926 report by the Medical Bureau that declared the cure to be "absolutely beyond and above the powers of nature".

Prospero Lambertini, who subsequently became Pope Benedict XIV, between 1734-1738 wrote the seven criteria by which the Vatican and the Lourdes CMIL still assess miraculous cures today. These are (1) The disease must be serious and impossible (or at least very difficult) to cure by human means; (2) The disease must not be at a stage at which it is liable to disappear shortly by itself; (3) Either no medical

treatment must have been given or it must be certain that the treatment given has no reference to the cure; (4) The cure must be instantaneous; (5) The cure must be complete; (6) The cure must be permanent; and (7) The cure must not be preceded by any crisis of a sort which would make it possible the cure was wholly or partially natural.

People have argued that the Traynor cure does not satisfy the Lambertini criteria. Dr Vallet recorded that John still had slight clawing of the right hand and there was a 1.5cm difference in forearm circumference, and a slight depression on his skull remained where the trephine hole had been.

My major contribution to the case for Traynor's cure being declared miraculous has been to identify and separate out the five serious individual conditions from which John was cured. In July 1923, John was instantly cured of his epilepsy, paraplegia and severe sores and arm ulcer. These three cures fulfilled all

seven Lambertini criteria. The cure of his right arm strictly fulfils criteria 1, 2, 3 and 7. However, while his muscles grew back steadily over the next three years, it is clearly medically inexplicable that a man with a completely paralysed arm, with gross muscle wasting, impaired sensation and held on by catgut, such that several doctors advised amputation, could subsequently work as a coal merchant, lifting bags of coal weighing 200lbs. Similarly, the hole in the skull, through which the pulsation of the brain could be seen, healed progressively over three years.

In a "medically inexplicable" cure, there is virtually always just one diagnosis to consider, and cure from that single diagnosis is sufficient to recognise the cure as being "medically inexplicable". John was - uniquely at Lourdes - cured from five serious medical conditions.

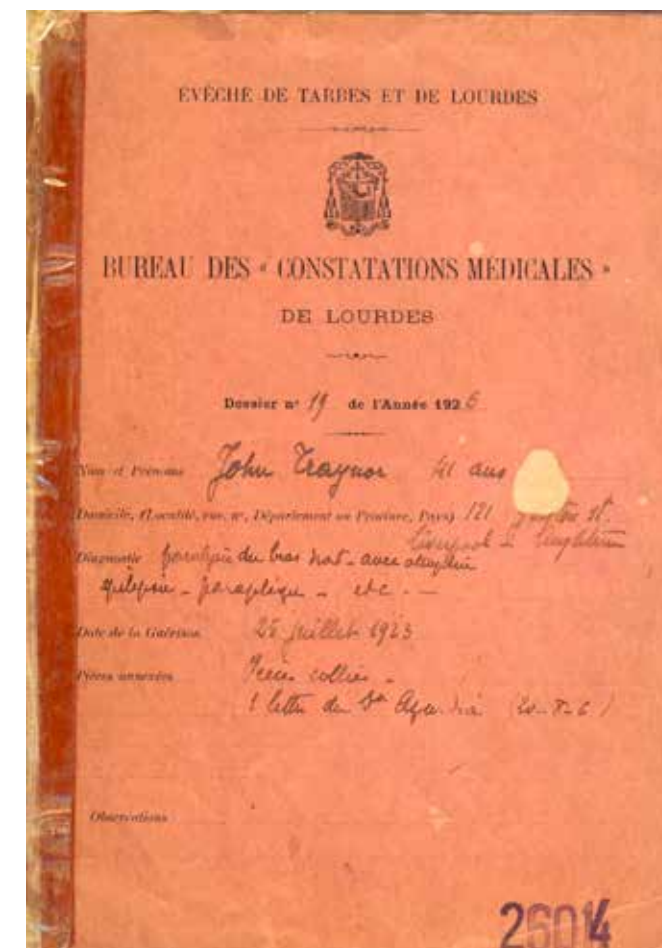
I had planned to present the evidence for the miraculous nature of Traynor's cure at the 2023 CMIL meeting, but I became seriously

CBS Programme

Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes: Investigating medically unexplained cures | CBS Programme 60 Minutes

CBS programme 60 Minutes can be found on Youtube.

"This deeply-moving video on the Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage website www.salfordlourdes.co.uk details the 1923 cure in Lourdes of Liverpool pilgrim, John (Jack) Traynor. Filmed in Lourdes during the 2025 Salford diocesan pilgrimage, the talk was given by Dr Kieran Moriarty CBE, KSG, Member of the Lourdes International Medical Committee, Emeritus Medical Director of the Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage and Consultant Physician, who conducted extensive research into John's five medical and surgical conditions from which he was uniquely cured. Following a Canonical Commission, Archbishop McMahon of Liverpool declared the cure miraculous on 8th December 2024.



John Traynor's Lourdes dossier

ill with an infected heart valve and sepsis. Terrified that the case might lapse with me, I persuaded the incredulous nurses to give me an office so that I could give a zoom presentation while hooked up to my drip. In July 2024, Dr de Franciscis and I collated a dossier for Monsignor Jean-Marc Micas, Bishop of Tarbes and Lourdes. He sent this to Archbishop Malcolm McMahon of Liverpool.

On 29 November 2024, a canonical commission was convened in

Liverpool. I appeared in person and Dr de Franciscis joined the discussion online. I gave my evidence and answered questions for about an hour. I was led into a waiting room and shortly afterwards I was invited back.

The archbishop told me that he intended to declare the cure a miracle. I wept at the enormity and relief of it all. In fact, I am crying writing this. On 8 December 2024, Theresa, my wife, Katharine, my daughter, and I were in the cathedral

with John 'Traynor's family to hear Archbishop McMahon formally declare his cure had been a miracle.

While I was waiting to be interviewed by the canonical commission, I reflected that my 65 years of experiences from childhood, as a physician caring for patients and writing academic papers, and as a diocesan Lourdes doctor had brought me to this day. I am not pious, but I was mindful of the words of St John Henry Newman: "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another." Although far more likely, it was a word from John Traynor himself, my grandparents or mum to Our Blessed Lady for her intercession. And, of course, not forgetting Aunty Margaret and that treasured 1958 snowflake globe of Our Lady and Saint Bernadette.

How do Cures become recognised Miracles?

- CMIL submits authenticated "Medically Inexplicable" cures to the Bishop of the Diocese of residence of the cured person
- Diocesan Bishop sets up a Canonical Commission of enquiry and decides on an official Canonical proclamation of a Miracle.

The process of authenticating Miracles



The winning school project on Jack Traynor's Miracle

Miracle - Concepts

- Miracles in the Gospels and Jesus - 17 Miraculous Healings
- Lourdes Miracles – Our Lady's Intercession – First Miracle at Cana "Do whatever He tells you"
- "God has such thirst for our love that he grabs our attention by performing miracles"- Jean Eudes
- "Anyone who doesn't believe in miracles is not a realist" - David Ben Gurion
- "God sheds sufficient light on miracles for the believer to believe, but leaves enough shadow for the unbeliever not to" - Blaise Pascal
- "My task is to give you the message, not to make you believe it" - Saint Bernadette
- "For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe in God, no explanation is possible". Song of Bernadette, Jennifer Jones Oscar, 1943.

Many different quotes over the years on Miracles

Kieran Moriarty CBE, KSG, is a Member of the Lourdes International Medical Committee. This Tablet article is reproduced with kind permission.



A joyful evening of mission and thanksgiving

Joe O'Brien recalls a truly wonderful evening of celebration at St Peter's

On the evening of 4 February 2026, St Peter's parish was blessed to welcome Cardinal Giorgio Marengo for a MISSIO Mass and talk in memory of Margaret King RIP, a much loved parishioner and dedicated MISSIO volunteer for many years.

The evening was one of thanksgiving: thanksgiving for Margaret's faithful service, for the missionary spirit that has flourished in our parish and for the lives transformed through our support of the Church's mission throughout the world.

Fr Tony, National Director of MISSIO, introduced both MISSIO and Cardinal Marengo to the parish. He reminded us that since 1991, the people of St Peter's have raised more than £250,000 for MISSIO. Through generous giving, faithful prayer and steadfast commitment, our parish has played a part in

supporting communities across the globe. It was heartening to hear how this generosity has made a tangible difference to so many lives and stands as a testament to the strong missionary spirit that continues to thrive in St Peter's. Cardinal Marengo's own story is inspiring. Born in Piedmont, Italy in

1974, he became a missionary priest and was ordained in 2001. He has now spent more than two decades serving in Mongolia. Pope Francis appointed him Bishop and in 2022, made him the youngest member of the College of Cardinals. Those who meet him are immediately struck by his humility, warmth and gentle



The Cardinal meets two of Margaret's sons and a grandson



strength of purpose. Although his visit to Britain lasted only four days, it was important to him to spend time with our parish, to thank us for our support of MISSIO and especially, to honour the memory of Margaret King. He came in a spirit of friendship and that friendship was warmly returned.

The Cardinal's talk offered a fascinating insight into the Church in Mongolia, a country that many of us know little about. Situated between Russia and China, Mongolia is six times the size of Great Britain but has a population little larger than that of Greater Manchester. Its vast landscapes stretch across the great steppes, while its history reflects many different influences, from Buddhism and Shamanism to Communism and more recently, democracy.

When democracy was restored in 1992, diplomatic relations with the Holy See were re-established. Soon afterwards, three missionary priests arrived to begin the work of rebuilding the Catholic presence. Today, the Church continues to grow quietly and faithfully.

Cardinal Marengo beautifully described his mission as "whispering the Gospel to the heart of Mongolia." It is a phrase that captures both the gentleness and the depth of evangelisation. Rather than imposing change, missionaries seek to live among the people, learning their language, understanding their history and appreciating their culture. Through friendship, prayer and daily witness, they share the Good News in a way that speaks not only to the ears and minds of people but also to their hearts.

The Cardinal explained that education and healthcare are key priorities for the Church. The House of Mercy has become an important centre where people can find belonging, support and practical assistance. The Church in Mongolia

Tony Nield also offers his reaction to this landmark event.

I had the pleasure of attending the Missio Mass and the talk afterwards in recognition of all the hard work performed by the late Mrs Margaret King and all her tireless devotion and dedication to Missio. Occasionally in life we can be lucky enough to meet humble, genuine people like Margaret who care and act for others.

A few months ago I attended a Meet and Greet evening at Edgeley Park, where I met another person with similar attributes: Kevin Sinfield – a great gentleman who helped and supported his late friend and former team-mate Rob Burrows and his family. Rob was cruelly afflicted by MND, a terrible, debilitating disease. Who can forget the TV footage of Kevin carrying Rob over the finish line on one of his marathons and the compassion he showed him. Definitely, "love thy neighbour as thyself".

To date, Kevin and his team have raised over £10 million for research and adapted buildings, by completing scores of gut-wrenching marathons. No egocentricity, airs and graces or such from people like Kevin, his team, or Margaret. Attending the Missio Mass, celebrated by Cardinal Marengo was inspirational to me. He is the Vatican's now second youngest Cardinal and in his own words proclaims the gospel as a "whisper".

I found that he opened my ears when he spoke with such conviction and affection of his 20+ years' missionary service in Mongolia and about the many hardships the people of the country endure daily.

Although Mongolia is six times larger than the UK, more animals inhabit it than people. However, it is very vulnerable, land locked by Russia and China. With the latter and Mongolia's proximity to the Gobi Desert, life is hard; winter temperatures range between minus 36-40 degrees centigrade. Ulaanbaatar, where the Cardinal lives, is the coldest national capital in the world. However, in contrast, summer temperatures are between 20 and 25 degrees centigrade, although it can reach up to 39 degrees.

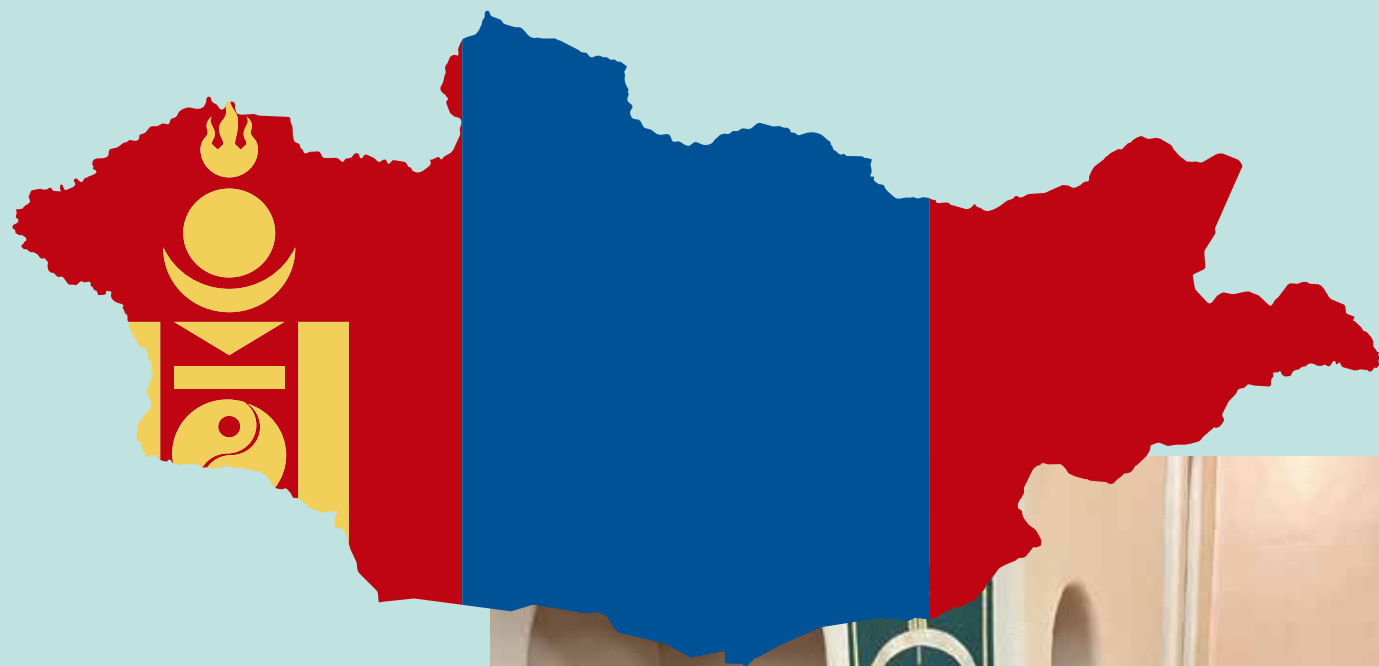
The main religion for decades was Tibetan Buddhism which spanned back to the 13th and 14th centuries and the leader Genghis Kahn.

When the first missionaries were attempting to establish themselves there, they were looked upon with suspicion, even as spies by the locals. This continued even when Cardinal Marengo settled in the country. The Cardinal, however, places high importance on building relationships with other religious traditions; he learnt the language and even accompanied a group of Mongolian Buddhists to the Vatican to meet Pope Francis.

At the end of the Mass, on invitation I asked the Cardinal among other things what sports are followed in the country and he replied "wrestling and horse riding." The Cardinal then questioned me on my scarf and we spoke about Stockport County. With him being Italian and from Turin, I enquired which football team he followed or had followed – Juventus, he said. I later found on Google that the Cardinal used to be a keen swordsman/fencer.

A fitting evening to attend and one which I am sure Margaret would never have expected. So God bless Cardinal Marengo, priests and ministers and the people of Mongolia. And RIP Margaret; it was an honour to know you.





is also preparing to open its first seminary – a significant milestone in its development.

One of the highlights of the evening was hearing about Pope Francis's visit to Mongolia. Invited by the President, the Holy Father travelled to this distant nation to encourage a Catholic community of just over 1,500 faithful. It was a powerful example of his love for those on the margins and of his conviction that every community, however small, matters deeply to the Church.

Mongolia is a land of contrasts. While the capital struggles with severe air pollution, many people in the countryside live closer to nature and enjoy a slower pace of life that fosters relationships and community. In these settings, missionaries accompany people patiently, sharing their lives and allowing the Gospel to take root naturally within the culture. There is no grand strategy, Cardinal Marengo explained – simply living among the people, praying with them and for them, serving where there is need and remaining open to the work of the Holy Spirit.

Today, missionaries from 26 countries – priests, religious sisters and brothers and lay men and women – serve together in Mongolia. Their witness of joy, prayer, mutual support and faith continues to bear fruit.

As we reflected on the Cardinal's words, we were reminded that the Catholics of Mongolia are connected to us here at St Peter's through prayer, friendship and MISSIO. What a privilege it is to know that our



Cardinal Marengo and Fr Tony

generosity reaches far beyond our parish boundaries and helps support the Church's mission in places we may never visit ourselves.

Above all, the evening was a celebration of thanksgiving. We gave thanks for Cardinal Marengo's inspiring witness, for the work of MISSIO, for the growing Church in Mongolia and especially for Margaret King, whose faithful dedication to

mission continues to bear fruit. We also thank the MISSIO team and all the parishioners whose generosity and prayers have sustained this work over many years.

May we continue to nurture the missionary spirit that Margaret embodied so well, trusting that even the smallest acts of faith, prayer and generosity can help whisper the Gospel to hearts across the world.



Alpha just gets better!

Chloe Henshaw shares her very positive experience of the Alpha course

I started Alpha only a few weeks after returning to the parish. I wasn't sure what to expect or who I would know but when I arrived on the first day I was welcomed with smiles, food and drink and was pleased to see many faces that I recognised.

In Alpha we explored the foundations of Christianity, beginning with the concept of faith then building on this each time. Throughout the course, we explored different ways to develop our relationship with God.

I enjoyed the format of the sessions as each week we watched a video then went into groups to discuss its contents. I found the videos both compelling and inspiring as they showed personal testimonies where lives were transformed through Christ. The group discussions were a highlight for me because we came together with the same small group each week to share our thoughts on the video and to reflect on what it meant for each of our lives.

As the course progressed, I got to know others well and a strong sense of community developed as we met, talked and prayed together each time. It was wonderful to be surrounded by caring and supportive people who all looked out for one another as we walked on our faith journeys together.

I finished the course excited by all that I had learned, happy to be part of a new community and with gratitude for all those who had made it such a special experience.

and Chris Rhodes offers his feedback of the same Alpha course

When Deacon John said, "If you think Alpha's for you, then great, it is. If you think Alpha's not for you, then it really is," I wasn't so sure and initially wasn't going to go along. As it neared the time for the first session, I kept thinking about it and decided that there was only one way to be absolutely sure: go along to the first one and see for myself.

John was, of course, absolutely correct. It was for me.

I learnt so much about theology, the history of the church and the sacraments but most of all what a fabulous Christian family I belong to. I was welcomed so warmly, deepened friendships and made new ones. It really strengthened my bond with the parish.

After a couple of weeks, I really looked forward to the next session and the next. It gave me time to think about my faith beyond the Mass on Sundays.

I now feel more connected to the parish and value my place in it.

Alpha – it's for you!



St Oswald's Way is a long distance path in Northumbria that starts at Heavenfield and ends on Lindisfarne (Holy Island). Well, strictly this is the reverse direction to the official route, but both of us thought Holy Island was a more significant destination for our pilgrimage. The route links together places that were significant in the life of St Oswald. He was King of Northumbria in the early 7th century and played a major part in bringing Christianity to the people of England.

Heavenfield is the site of the battle where St Oswald defeated Cadwallon to become king. Shortly after that, St Oswald asked Iona for a spiritual leader to help bring about the conversion of Northumbria to Christianity. After an initial leader who did not last very long, St Aidan was sent and St Oswald gave him the island of Lindisfarne (Holy Island) as his base. St Aidan was made Bishop of Lindisfarne in 635 and Lindisfarne became the cradle of Christianity in England. Bamburgh, also on the route, was St Oswald's royal capital.

The walking pilgrimage was 96 miles (155km). We planned to do the walk over six days: each day's walk varied in length, the shortest day being 13.5 miles, and the longest was 19 miles. As with any such undertaking, there needed to be a lot of planning and preparation. We arranged transport to the start of the walk, to our accommodation for each night and

The Pilgrims' Progress

Peter Henshaw shares the account of a walking pilgrimage which he, Deacon John and Nora (John's dog) went on along St Oswald's Way at the end of April.

back home at the end. We also had to research the safe crossing times when we would be able to complete the walk onto Holy Island. The final information we needed was the sunset times for the days we were walking.

It turned out that on arrival at Holy Island on the Saturday it would not be possible to cross until 7.25pm which then only left an hour's daylight. A decision was therefore taken that trying to cross to Holy Island via the sands in the dark was not safe, so we would instead cross via the Causeway that links Holy Island with the mainland. We also decided that whilst doing the walking pilgrimage we would try to raise money for a charity by seeking sponsors. We decided to collect sponsorship

for East Cheshire Hospice, where John had worked during his career as a doctor. A Just Giving page was setup with the permission of East Cheshire Hospice and

a blog page was created to enable people to follow our progress on the pilgrimage. The final aspect of our preparations was lots of walking to ensure our fitness levels were adequate, which culminated in walking the Gritstone Trail (38 miles) in two days.

Before starting the walking pilgrimage, East Cheshire Hospice published an article in the Macclesfield Express about our upcoming adventure. A photo of us with Nora was put on the front page; Nora was the star of the article!

Sunday 26 April soon came around. After the 10am Mass at St Peter's and a blessing from Fr Philip, we got a train from Stockport to Hexham where we would stay the night before starting the walk the next day. On the journey we were joined by Chris who travelled up to Hexham to see us off on the Monday.

Hexham is a few miles away from Heavenfield, so on Monday morning we got a bus to Wall and then walked the final two miles to the starting point.

At Heavenfield we visited a cross that

marks the site of the battle and a church built in the adjoining field. The church is on the top of a hill and from the churchyard you could see in the distance that day's destination, Kirkwhelpington.

Before leaving Heavenfield we did the St Oswald's Way rubbing from the St Oswald's Way notice board. Along the walk there are six rubbings you collect as evidence you have completed the walk to enable you to receive an official St Oswald's Way certificate.

DAY 1

We set off on the first day's walk which was 17.5 miles. However, given we had already walked 2 miles to get to Heavenfield, the day was going to be a long walk at 19.5 miles. The first stage followed Hadrian's Wall then after a while, we headed north through pleasant farmland. At one point during the afternoon, we were walking through a



Fr Philip blesses the pilgrims – Nora was still getting ready at home!



The Cross at Heavenfield to mark the site of St Oswald's battle



Inside the church at Heavenfield

field of sheep that had lambs with them. One of the sheep started chasing Nora (who was safely with John on her lead). We were not sure whether the sheep had mistaken Nora for a lamb! Later that afternoon we passed a church that had been left open with a sign saying you could use the toilet and kitchen. This act of kindness provided us with a welcome break and opportunity to fill our water bottles. We reached our destination for the evening, Kirkwhelpington, at around 7.30pm. We stayed that night with Elaine and Dominic whose hospitality was second to none.

DAY 2

Before leaving the next morning we did our second rubbing. The second day's walk took us further north to Rothbury, a 15 mile walk. As we left Kirkwhelpington and climbed up into rugged farmland it was raining lightly which added to the sense of remoteness. As the morning continued, the rain lifted and gave way to clearer skies. We continued across rugged farmland before reaching the edge of Kielder Forest. Kielder Forest took several hours to walk through along a combination of forest tracks and bridle ways. We emerged from the forest onto remote moorland. After crossing this moorland for a few hours, we reached the summit of a hill and got our first sight of Rothbury in the valley below. The final stage of the day's walk descended from the moors into the River Coquet Valley at Rothbury. As we entered the town, we were greeted by John's sister, Anne Marie and we all walked the final mile to our accommodation for the evening. That evening we had a stroll around the picturesque town

of Rothbury and located the plaque for our third rubbing.

DAY 3

Day 3's walk followed the River Coquet Valley from Rothbury to Warkworth, an 18 mile walk. As we left Rothbury, we said goodbye to Anne Marie who was going to meet us at the end of the day's walk. The weather was ideal: blue skies but not too hot, with a gentle breeze. The walk was very different to the first two days. After the rugged farmland on the first day and moorland and forests on the second day, this walk took us along the valley which was sometimes wooded and sometimes in open fields. We stopped for lunch at a footbridge across a tributary stream overlooking woods carpeted with bluebells.

The day was warm and by the half way stage we were starting to feel thirsty. As if by divine providence we crossed a bridge and there before us was the Angler's Rest! A very welcome break! We continued along the River Coquet Valley until we got our first sight of the sea as we reached the coast. From here it was a short walk to our destination for the evening, Warkworth. This was another lovely Northumbrian town with impressive architecture and the first of numerous castles we would pass on the pilgrimage. That evening we met up with Anne Marie again and John's niece joined us for dinner. We found our fourth rubbing in Warkworth.



Walking through Kielder Forest

DAY 4

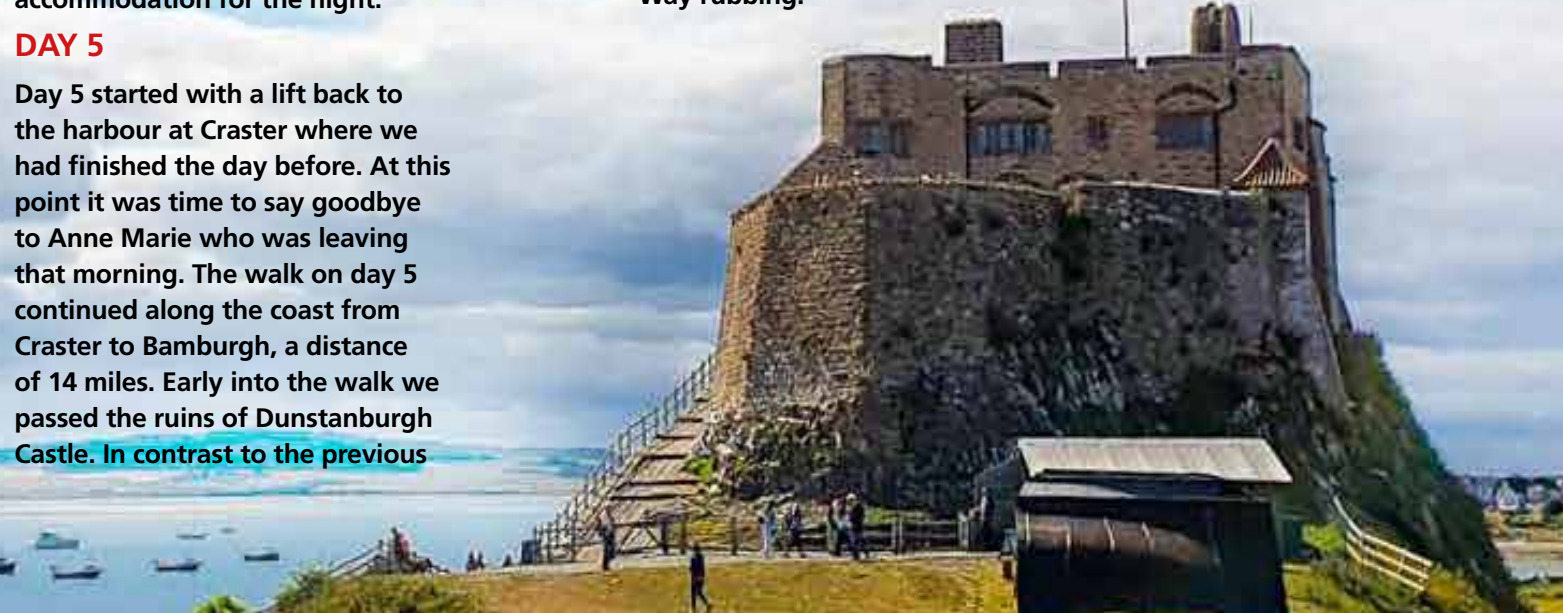
Day 4 took us north to Craster, a 13.5 mile walk along the stunning Northumbrian coast. The coastal sections of St Oswald's Way follow the national coastal path. Anne Marie joined us for the first half of the day. Along the walk we passed several beautiful beaches, which provided an opportunity for Nora to have a swim in the sea. At about the half way stage of the walk we came to Alnmouth, a lovely seaside town, where we had lunch and enjoyed an ice cream by the beach. At Alnmouth, Anne Marie got the bus back to Warkworth to collect her car. The second half of the day's walk continued north along the coast with the imposing ruins of Dunstanburgh Castle in the distance. When we reached Craster we met up with Anne Marie and drove a few miles to our accommodation for the night.

DAY 5

Day 5 started with a lift back to the harbour at Craster where we had finished the day before. At this point it was time to say goodbye to Anne Marie who was leaving that morning. The walk on day 5 continued along the coast from Craster to Bamburgh, a distance of 14 miles. Early into the walk we passed the ruins of Dunstanburgh Castle. In contrast to the previous

day, the coast on the first half of this day's walk was more rugged with rocky shores, although there was the occasional beach for Nora to have a swim! By lunchtime we reached the seaside town of Beadnell after which it was a short stretch to Seahouses. On the way there, we were able to walk along the beach for a while and John took the opportunity to take off his boots and socks and get his feet into the sea.

At Seahouses we had a rest and enjoyed a pint on a balcony that overlooked the picturesque harbour. The final stretch of that day's walk headed slightly inland towards the town of Bamburgh. On the approach we had a stunning view of Bamburgh's imposing castle. Bamburgh was the end of the walk for Day 5 and also the location of the fifth St Oswald's Way rubbing.



Arriving at Warkworth



Nora enjoys a swim in the sea

THE FINAL DAY

The final day took us around Budle Bay, at times heading slightly inland and climbing to give impressive views back over the bay and our first sighting of Holy Island. When heading inland, we twice crossed the East Coast Mainline Railway. At the crossing points there was a telephone you had to use to contact the signal box to ask for permission to cross. Anyone who can remember the article Peter wrote in the 2025 Christmas issue (19) of Shine about his walking pilgrimage to Walsingham may remember how he got chased by troublesome cows. Well, we encountered some troublesome cows again, which John thought was due to his red rucksack he had borrowed from Eamonn! (Eamonn thought the cows were interested in Nora rather than the rucksack!)



Arriving at the start of the Causeway

Shortly after crossing the railway line for the first time, we passed through the pretty village of Belford where we had a rest and some refreshments in a café. The final day had a variety of landscapes, including beaches, farmland, moors and forest. We eventually reached the start of the Causeway that crossed to Holy Island at 6.30pm. We couldn't cross until 7.25pm so we collapsed by the side of the road and waited for our families to arrive. Mary (Peter's wife) and Chloe (Peter's daughter) met us and we drove a mile back inland to the nearest pub, the Lindisfarne Inn. We then met up with Rachel (John's wife). Nora was very excited to see Rachel! We had dinner whilst we waited for the tide then we drove back to where we had been picked up. Chloe joined us as we started to walk across the Causeway and Mary and Rachel went on ahead with the cars and then headed back to meet us at the half way point of the Causeway. We all then walked the final mile of the pilgrimage onto Holy Island and finished at the Priory. By the time we reached the Priory it was 9.55pm and the sun had set. We ended the day with a celebratory pint in the inn next to the Priory.



Crossing the Causeway at sunset

Over the six days of the walk, we had a routine of daily devotions. We started the day with morning prayer, then in the morning and the afternoon said the rosary as we walked along. Around midday we said the Regina Coeli (the walking pilgrimage was during Eastertide) and evening prayer ended each day.

On Sunday we attended Mass at Berwick-upon-Tweed before returning to Holy Island for the day. On Holy Island we visited the Priory, St Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, St Aidan's Catholic Church and St Cuthbert's Centre United Reformed Church, as well as the Priory Museum. At St Aidan's we said a rosary and met a very friendly nun who kindly gave us a cup of coffee and biscuits. Holy Island was a place of great contrast. When the Causeway was passable the Island was bustling with people enjoying the Bank Holiday weekend. Then when the tide was due to come in there was a stream of people making their way back to the car park in order to leave before being stranded on the island until the next safe crossing time. To remind people why they had to make sure they left the island in good time, road signs could be seen around the island, warning motorists of the consequences if they didn't! Once people had left there was a sense of peace and quiet.

Over the six days of the walking pilgrimage, time seemed to slow down. The peace and quiet made us aware of the sounds and rhythm of nature. We avoided watching television, looking at the internet or news on our phones. This meant we were able to step out of the busy world for a few days. This was a very mindful experience which gave us lots of time to encounter God and reflect.



Enjoying a celebratory drink after completing the walk

We were blessed in many other ways during the walking pilgrimage. We met lots of lovely people, from those who provided us with accommodation and hospitality to those whom we chatted with on the walk. Having our families greet us at the end of the pilgrimage and walk the last part of the pilgrimage with us was wonderful. We were blessed by the many prayers and messages of support. These were especially helpful towards the end of the walk as our feet started to feel the effects of the six days' walking! The weather was wonderful and perfect for walking.

Now we have completed the walking pilgrimage we would like to say thank you to many people. Thank you to everyone who prayed for us or sent messages of support. Thank you to all the people who looked after us each evening. Thank you to Chris for travelling up to the start of the walk with us, and for sorting out our accommodation hiccups! Thank you to Anne Marie for supporting us over several days

and giving us lifts to and from overnight accommodation. Thank you to Chloe for uploading our blog entries each evening. Thank you to our families for travelling up to Holy Island to greet us as we completed the pilgrimage and to then drive us home. Finally, a huge thank you to all the very generous people who have sponsored us. As a result of people's amazing generosity, we have together raised £5,822 plus £1,014 gift aid; this means East Cheshire Hospice will receive £6,836.

The final word goes to Nora. Nora probably walked many times the distance we walked as she ran around exploring. She made it through the six days to Holy Island and contributed to the experience with her excitement and boundless energy. Well done, Nora!



Peter, John and Nora presenting a cheque for £6,501 to East Cheshire Hospice

In January this year, six couples took time out on the Marriage Course held in St Peter's parish centre over seven weeks. These couples made a commitment to each other to invest in their relationships and came out expressing a positive experience in doing the course.

The course

The couples attended on seven consecutive Thursday evenings to watch video presentations about various aspects of married life. As couples, they had a number of discussion exercises from the personal course handbooks to share their perspectives of their relationship. The emphasis of the course is to help the couples rediscover the bond that brought them together in the first place.

The setting

Each of the couples is given their own table decked with flowers and candlelight within an intimately lit room with gentle background music. The evening will start with a main course meal and soft drinks; dessert and hot drinks are served later in the evening. The emphasis is to present a special 'date night' environment for the couples.

Reflections of the hosts

Delivering the Marriage Course is a challenge, especially in creating the right environment to make it special for our guests and enable them to get the most out of the course. The outcome is rewarding when the 'penny drops' with our guests about the benefits of the course they are doing.

We have run a number of courses in St Peter's over the last 10 years and have done the course twice ourselves.

Marriage Course Reflections

It is enlightening when you have had couples who have been married for 50 years saying that they have learnt something new about each other.

The fruits of the course are immeasurable, which makes us feel that all married (and co-habiting) couples should seriously consider doing the course. Seeing the change of sceptical partners attending the course to those who engage in the process clearly demonstrates a positive process.

Hosting the course does involve having a good team to help with cooking, serving, washing up and making our guests comfortable. The team builds up great camaraderie and has a social element to it as well. We are always open to volunteers who are interested in joining the hosting team (you get fed too!).

Reaction from support team member, Sophie

"I have had the pleasure of being part of the support team during the seven week course and get to watch the magic of marriage at work. Marriage is a continued learning about each other, learning to be a couple and how that all comes together.

From the table settings with flowers and candles to the menu options and music selection, Laura and David lead the team so that everything is set up in

just the right way to allow couples to focus on each other during the sessions.

Having attended the marriage course with my husband Brett in the past and learning so much about our own marriage that we had either forgotten or genuinely had not known, has enriched our marriage and family life in ways we would not have thought of on our own. One of the best lessons we took from the course is to communicate by listening to one another and sharing responsibilities.

If there is ever any small doubt about joining a marriage course, let it pass; the rewards are not only the food and people you meet on the way, but the life-enriching lessons that you take home each week and use, because every session has something in it that will provide you with a new perspective.

So, if you fancy a night out, once a week, just the two of you – no cooking, no cleaning, quiet couple time with no hustle – then definitely ask about the next course and sign up in good time to join in."

If you are interested in participating in any future Marriage Courses on the strength of this article, you can register your interest by emailing to lauradavidsmall@outlook.com.

Guest reactions

All aspects of ambience, hospitality, refreshments, meal and the course in general have consistently been rated as 'excellent' by our course guests. The expectations of the course have been consistently met and surpassed in some cases. All the couples would recommend the course to a friend.

Here are some of the comments from our guests:

- "This was an opportunity for regular 'time-out' in a relaxing, caring setting – our date night."
- "We could explore themes that we would rarely consider in the chaos of everyday life."

- "The course has made us look at our relationship and each other differently. We have had struggles in the past, however, we thought we were in a good place before the course. Now we feel in an even better place and equipped with new ways to support and love each other."
- "Time to reflect together and learn new things about each other."
- "We felt that you thought of everything and the little touches like the flowers and candles were really nice."
- "The centrality of marriage is the most important relationship overlooked by society – too much focus on weddings, but not marriage in society."



A wonderful family experience

from Emma & Sandy, Mum & Dad
to Oliver aged 5 and Grace aged 2

“As a family we were initially invited to TOAST with no real understanding of what we were about to experience. We certainly didn't expect the sheer numbers of families that are welcomed every week to TOAST.

The first thing we felt was that TOAST welcome, one that comes with open arms. TOAST, for us as a family, was our biggest welcome to a parish we have ever found and we were taken aback by how many other families call it home. For us, this welcome is the most important reason for us coming back week after week. Our children, Oliver and Grace excitedly wear their name badge and love saying hi to the people they meet.

TOAST is a wonderful family experience where each individual is cherished. It's a place that accepts every child just as they are. Grace is two and can't sit still, likes a little wander and likes to make a bit of noise. One Sunday Emma, my wife, was reading. Grace decided there was no way she was sitting with me while Mum was at the front and so took it upon herself to wander to the front to sit with Mum. But in what I believe is the true family spirit of TOAST, Teresa opened her arms and Grace happily sat, quietly for once, on Teresa's knee while her Mum read. This is the true family spirit of TOAST. All are welcome here.

TOAST creates an environment where children and young people are engaged and want to go back



One of our TOAST Masses in church



Palm Sunday activity where all the children made palm crosses

time and time again. Oliver started reception last September. His favourite bit of TOAST is the activity, from making sunglasses, to prayer hearts, to "bee-attitudes", the skills and dedication of the TOAST team help him explore the Sunday Gospel in a creative way. Oliver now enjoys sharing the things he has made at TOAST with other family members and even with his teachers at school. He now joyfully goes back into school and is able to retell the story he has heard at the weekend. This is all down to the dedication and creativity of the TOAST team, for which we are eternally grateful.

One of the unexpected gifts of TOAST has been the way it has enriched our own faith as adults. As parents, we naturally want to pass on our faith to our children, but seeing Oliver and Grace genuinely excited about Jesus, prayer and the Gospel has added a whole new dimension to our own journey. Their enthusiasm encourages us to engage more deeply with our own faith and helps us see familiar stories through fresh eyes. TOAST doesn't just nurture the faith of children; it strengthens and renews the faith of parents too.

From those first days of not really knowing what we were going to encounter right up until now where we happily leave the most wonderful experience with two happy children singing their little hearts out TOAST has made a big impact on our family and our faith.”



TOAST had a stall at St Peter's inclusion day



Our TOASTIES at the Christmas nativity



Some of the many activities we do at TOAST



Our TOAST families were part of the Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday

Marianne's poem all about TOAST

*A little glimpse of God's great kingdom,
We look forward to week on week,
Where our kids learn the love of Jesus,
And all ways the Spirit does speak.*

*With tea and toast and colouring pens
And prayers written from the heart,
We settle in and greet each other
Before the morning's joyful start.*

*Then Terry's Teasers get us thinking,
A challenge, puzzle, game or two,
Smiles and giggles fill the room
And everyone can join in too.*

*The music starts, the clapping follows,
Voices rise in happy song,
"Our God is a Great Big God" reminds us
That every child can sing along.*

*We hear the Gospel story told,
Listening hard for the quiz is next to test!
With five questions on the Gospel we've
been hearing,
And some surprise trivia for the rest.*

*We cut, we stick and we create together,
Like when Jesus healed the blind man
We made glasses and wrote on them
What makes us blind to God's healing
hand.*

*At St Peter's, TOAST is more than a
children's Mass,
It's friendship, faith and helping hands;
A place where every child and helper is
valued,
And everyone belongs and stands.*

*For children with additional needs,
For parents seeking space and grace,
TOAST offers welcome without
judgement,
And understanding in this place.*

*Some children dance, some sing, some
wander,
Some learn through music, joy and
sound;
Yet all are touched by love and kindness,
And feel God's presence all around.*

*We wave our flags at parish Masses,
And join Inclusive Masses too,
Sharing faith with our whole community,
In all the ways that we can do.*

*So here's to TOAST, our special Sunday
Mass,
Where no one bats an eye at a baby's
shriek;
A place of welcome, song and wonder,
And one place I drink hot tea in peace.*

from Marianne & Olly, Mum & Dad to Francis aged 10,
Mary aged 4 and James aged 1

Journey to the church



Tony Senior

I was Baptised on 12th April 2026 at the age of 88, along with my 6-month-old great granddaughter Ivy Josephine Burns.

I began attending Mass four and half years ago following the funeral of my wife Jo, a lifelong Catholic.

Drawn increasingly to the comfort of the Mass, I have continued my journey through Alpha, Sycamore and now "The Gift".

My journey into Catholicism has been richly rewarded through the friendship and influence of so many.



Richard (left) with Hannah and Lee who also made their first Communion

Richard Ellis

About four years ago my daughter and I came to St Peter's, specifically to the TOAST Mass. From the first visit we were made to feel welcome and the vibe was one of expecting toddlers not to want to sit for an hour – which is fantastic because Beatrix cannot sit still, as I am sure many who know her can affirm.

After three years I started to think about my own faith and decided to join the Alpha course and later Sycamore. For someone who had spent 30 or so years out of the church, these two courses gave me the chance to see what I had missed. And so I took the journey to coming back to the church.

Preparation for making my first Communion saw a group of us head to Shrewsbury Cathedral (this

is a lovely little cathedral and worth a visit if you are in the area), and culminated in the Easter Vigil where I received my First Communion in a service not quite like any other throughout the year and if you have never been to it, I would highly recommend it.

Lee Kan-Hai

'Becoming part of the Catholic Church has been a deeply personal journey for me. I didn't arrive here quickly; it grew through quiet moments, questions, and a longing for something steady and true. The more I learned, the more I felt God gently drawing me in. The support, patience, and kindness I've received have meant everything. Today, I feel at home in a way I've been searching for for years.

Desmond, Fiona, Jake and Sheldon

It's been two years since we first participated in TOAST and we must say it was an amazing experience as we could feel the warmth and love given by all the TOASTies families. Jake and Sheldon enjoy every "Terry's Teaser" and always sing the loudest during the "Sorry Prayer". It was such a pleasure to see their growth as well as ours.

This year particularly was very meaningful to us – we got baptised at Easter and started our life-long journey in learning to be better persons and more importantly, grow up with our kids under Jesus's guidance. It was never easy but we got all the support and guidance we needed which meant a lot to us.

TOAST is such a welcoming environment for everyone. We are absolutely grateful to become part of the St Peter's family and are looking forward to embracing our new lives here.



Gloria, Kayze, Josette and Michela

"My baptism day was a very special and meaningful moment in my life. I felt happy, grateful, and excited to take this important step in my faith. Being surrounded by my family, friends, and church community made the experience even more memorable.

This day reminded me of God's love and guidance. My baptism marked a new beginning in my spiritual journey, and it is a memory I will always cherish.

Looking back, I feel thankful for this blessing and the support of those who shared the day with me. The experience strengthened my faith and inspired me to continue growing closer to God each day."



St Peter's Inclusion Group: Open Day

The Inclusion Group has been working within the parish for three years and we decided that the time had come to celebrate our journey. The focus of our group is to ensure that, as a parish, we are as inclusive as possible in all our services and activities to those people who often find themselves on the margins, to those with disabilities/different abilities that often result in them being excluded from our local community activities.

On Saturday 18 April we opened the church and one of the meeting rooms to our parish and the wider community. We invited local organisations working with children and adults who provide amazing support for those with a wide range of difficulties. The organisations who were unable to be represented in person provided flyers and leaflets for our use. We had dementia support groups, housing support groups, those supporting young people and adults with neurodiversity,



additional needs and mental health and many more local organisations.

In addition to this, we had activities in church. We had a signing choir, our local primary school choir and a visit from a hearing dog and its owners, which was a difficult act to follow!

What probably engaged people the most was when two of our group members gave us an insight into how disability has impacted them and their families. They told us how difficult the pathway is to negotiate through the local services; they offered support to others and told of how the Inclusion Group has impacted St Peter's, Hazel Grove to be a truly supportive church. Our afternoon was closed by a reflection, prayer and blessing by Fr Pat Munroe.

Was the day a success? It was truly a resounding success. The most difficult part was letting the local community know what we were doing, but we welcomed both parish members and people from outside the parish and the response was great.

You are also warmly invited to one of our short inclusive Masses, which in 2026 are on the following Sundays at 2.30pm: 4 October, 6 December.

Joining forces sharing song!

Sarah Jenyon, tells us how St Simon's choir welcomed the season of Spring

On Saturday 18 April St Simon's School Choir took part in a special evening concert at St Peter's church. They were invited as special guests at The Maia Singers' spring concert, Freshet. (Freshet [noun]: the flooding of a river caused by heavy rain or melting snow.) The music chosen for the concert centred on the theme of winter coming to an end and the arrival of spring.

The Maia Singers is a local mixed-voice adult choir established in 1903. Recently, under the new direction of Henry George Page, the choir sought to reach out to a local school choir and join forces for this special spring concert.

Miss Jenyon, a member of The Maia Singers and Director of St Simon's School Choir, jumped at the opportunity to bring together two choirs she is involved with to share their love of song.

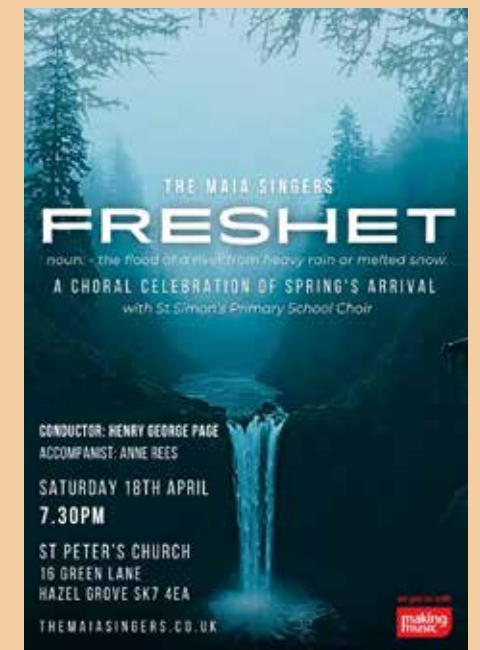
The first half of the concert transported the audience into a wintry world of stillness and reflection. Through expressive performances,

The Maia Singers painted musical pictures of icy mornings and snow-covered scenes with works by Ola Gjeilo, Edward Elgar and the beautiful spiritual Deep River, arranged by Paul Ayres.

In addition to the choir's singing, The Maia Singers' accompanist, Ann Rees, performed two piano pieces by Debussy. Des pas sur la neige created a mood of quiet contemplation, its gentle melodies conjuring images of footsteps crossing a snowy landscape. In contrast, La neige danse sparkled with lightness and movement, capturing the playful dance of falling snowflakes.

Following the interval, the mood shifted dramatically. The music became lighter, brighter and full of energy, with uplifting melodies and joyful rhythms celebrating the arrival of spring and leaving the audience with a real sense of hope and renewal.

St Simon's Choir was ready for its turn to perform and announced the arrival of spring in spectacular fashion. The children performed three songs with a



water theme: Under the Sea, I've Got Peace Like a River and Wade in the Water. Their performance was bright, confident and full of energy, with their actions and enthusiasm bringing great joy to the audience.

Following their set, St Simon's joined forces with The Maia Singers for the final work, Welcome May. This piece was commissioned by The Maia Singers and Stockport Youth Choir and was first performed on 17 May 2005. Its four light-hearted movements begin with The Snow Melts, as winter fades and life begins anew. This is followed by A Hymn to Spring, celebrating new growth and then the humorous nonsense song Spring is Sprung — now a firm St Simon's Choir favourite! The work concluded with Welcome May, full of optimism and the promise of brighter days ahead.

The Maia Singers were delighted by the children's contribution and it was clear that both choirs drew energy and enthusiasm from one another throughout the performance.

Thank you once again to the team at St Peter's church for hosting this wonderful concert. The children have had the privilege of performing in some very special venues over recent years, including Stockport Town Hall and the Co-op Live Arena in Manchester. However, there was something particularly special about singing in their own church — a place that is familiar and welcoming to all our children — and using the voices God has given them to bring joy to those around them.

St Peter's school 1st Holy Communion



“It was a very special day.” Frankie

“I liked taking the bread in the offertory.” Martha

“I was proud of myself for reading a prayer.” Barney

“I liked wearing my smart suit.” Keegan

St Simon's school 1st Holy Communion



Back row, left to right: Jacynta, Kegan, Finley, Riley, Jayden and Nina

Front row, left to right: Kayleigh, Jack, Mia, Ava, Merryn, Tadhg, Tyler and Fletcher

St Simons' Faith Explorers have been preparing for their Sacraments of First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion since January. On Saturday 13th June 2026, the children made their First Holy Communion at St Peter's church with their families and school staff present. The children were very reverent and spiritual throughout Mass and made their families and the staff and governors of St Simon's School very proud. Following this special Mass, the families were welcomed back to school for a

gathering to celebrate together. This was a lovely occasion which ended with cake, as every special occasion does. Thank you to Teresa and Terry at St Peter's for their valuable support and to all of the staff and families at St Simon's School who were involved in preparing the children for this special day. Thank you also to Fr Philip and Deacons Kevin and John for making the Mass such a special event for the children and their families to remember for the rest of their lives.

PRAYER

Finding joy in thankful prayer

If I am honest, my prayers can tend to begin with requests. I pray for family and friends, for people who need the Lord's help, for guidance when I have tough decisions to make and sometimes simply for the difficult things in my life to become easier. There is, of course, nothing wrong with bringing my needs to God. He invites me to do exactly that. But over the years, I have found that some of my most joyful prayers are not the ones in which I ask for something, but the ones in which I simply say "thank you."

Like many people, I can sometimes focus on what is going wrong in my life rather than what is going right. It is easy to notice the worries, the disappointments and the things I wish I could change. Yet when I take time and look more carefully, I realise that every day is filled with gifts from God. Gifts such as time spent with a friend, a beautiful sunny morning, the sound of laughter, good health and the comfort of knowing that God is always with me. All of these are blessings that are deserving of my gratitude.

One Scripture passage that comes to mind here is St Paul's instruction to the Thessalonians: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). I used to find that verse quite challenging. It always seems easier to give thanks when life is going well than when I am facing difficulties. But

Joe O'Brien shares her thoughts on prayer



I have come to understand that St Paul is not asking me to be thankful for my problems. Rather, he is reminding me that God remains present and faithful in every situation and that there is always something for which I can be grateful.

I think St Francis of Assisi is a wonderful example of a person who prayed joyfully. Even when he was ill and suffering, he continued to praise God for the beauty of creation and for the many blessings he had received. His joy came not from having an easy life but from recognising God's goodness in all things. This joyful praise is what has endeared him to me and to countless others.

One simple practice that has helped me is ending the day by thanking God for three things that have happened. A gratitude prayer. Sometimes they are significant events, but more often

they are very ordinary things: a smile from a stranger, a successful meeting, time spent with family, or simply a quiet moment of peace. Taking a few minutes to reflect in this way helps me to see God's hand at work in my life far more clearly. Perhaps that is why thanksgiving is at the heart of our faith.

The word "Eucharist" itself means "thanksgiving." Every time we gather for Mass, we join in Christ's perfect prayer of gratitude to the Father. We are reminded that everything we have is a gift.

As I continue to grow in faith, I am learning that thankful prayer changes not only how I speak to God but also how I see the world. Gratitude brings joy. It opens my eyes to God's presence in everyday life and helps me recognise that, even on the most ordinary days, I have so much to be thankful for.

What a year we've had at Footsteps – and we're only halfway through! Our audiences comprise many regulars – people who wouldn't miss it for the world and many who travel from far and wide to get there. We're talking about New Mills, Whaley Bridge, Bollington, Romiley, Marple, Heald Green, Bolton, Oldham, Manchester, Altrincham – as well as from many parts of Stockport including Hazel Grove of course!

There are always new faces arriving to see in whose footsteps we'll be following that particular night. They're always the footsteps of those who can help us on our Christian journey of faith with their ideas, their thoughts, their experiences, their insights, their humour and their stories.

There's a lovely buzz in the room before we start, as people interact, get their drinks, choose their nibbles, take their seat and settle down ready to be inspired, challenged, reassured, encouraged...

Each speaker is different in style and content, in presentation and experience. Take this year so far, for example. We started by getting our socks blown off by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy, a man who travels the world preaching and teaching, especially to Spiritan missionary priests, but also to the general laity. (His twin brother usually comes too, and his sister so it's a real family affair!) Fr Eamonn gave us a whole raft of ideas on how to get the best out of Lent – so timely, as Lent was starting the very next day. His talk was followed by a range of questions and observations from the huge audience (we nearly ran out of cups!) and at the end of the evening we were all ready to face the next six weeks of Lent with renewed vigour.

A month later we were treated to the most considered and inspiring talk by Mary Hardiman – a teacher, counsellor, author from our own parish – who shared her reflection on The Cross before the Crown, preparing us for Holy Week. Mary always skilfully interweaves personal experiences, considered analyses of Bible passages, suggested reactions and direct challenges to leave us feeling an integral part of the Scriptures and so much closer to our God. This was one of her most powerful reflections, so we were particularly blessed. Our next evening, this time in May was spent

Footsteps in 2026



in the company of Fr Chris Thomas from Liverpool who delved into all four Gospels to highlight what he called "Glimpses of the Resurrection". He had us 'in the palm of his hand' as he shared his thoughts and findings, interspersed with some lovely reflective music and opportunities to chat.

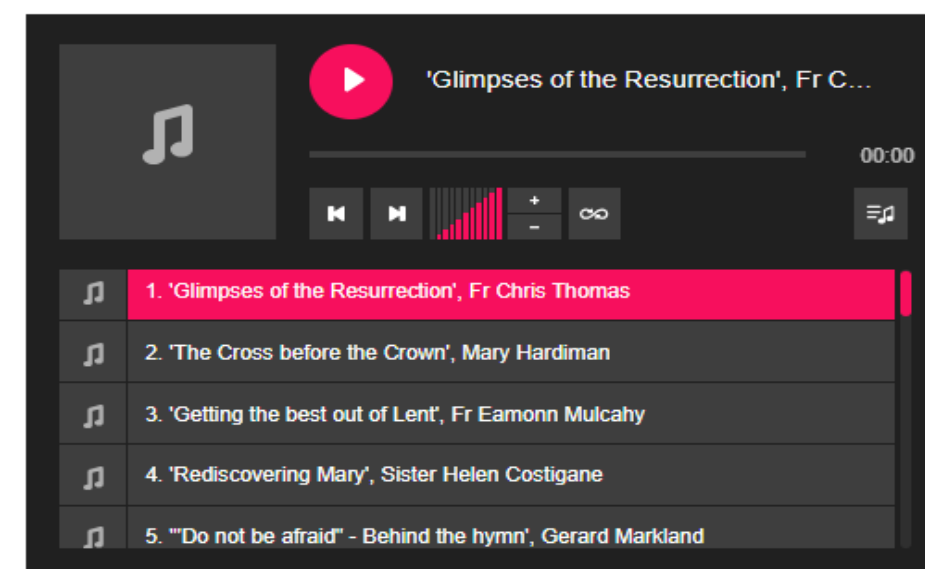
And now, as we go to print, we're looking forward to hearing from Reverend Heidi Munn, a curate at our neighbouring Norbury Parish Church who will be talking on 18 June about how she discovered the Sign of the Cross. She has been in our audience most of last year after her appointment at Norbury and is eager to share how, coming from a non-Christian home, she came to understand the importance of the cross of Christ and the ancient Christian practice of making the Sign of the Cross. Bear in mind that Footsteps is all about sharing with people of all faiths, so this will be a most interesting evening.

We try to record all our talks so that others can share in the content afterwards. Often people who have been to Footsteps say they'll look forward to hearing the talk again once it's available because there was so

much to think about on the night! Just go to the News and Events page on our parish website and scroll down to the section with 'Talks from our Footsteps programme' – here's the link: <https://stpeterscatholic.church/Parish-News-Events/#talks-section> and at the bottom of this page you'll see what it looks like!

Looking forward to meeting again on 3 September, we'll have the pleasure of welcoming back the Bishop of Stockport, +Sam Corley who is the most engaging, informal and, dare we say, entertaining speaker. After that there are two other dates in 2026: Thursday 15 October and Thursday 12 November, all at 7.30pm in the parish centre. Our events are mentioned in our parish newsletter and in many other churches in the area, so you can find the current details if you'd like to join us. Alternatively just Email us on footsteps2020@mail.com. Footsteps is very informal and you would be most welcome.

Some talks from our Footsteps programme



Mothers' Prayers is a group for mothers who wish to pray for their children and grandchildren. During our meetings we unite in prayer with one another and place the names of our children into a basket at the foot of a cross offering them into Jesus' care. Our collective prayer is powerful, transformative, supportive and restorative. What's more, it's filled with joy, laughter and blessings too many to count.

I had wanted to join the St Peter's group for some years but I didn't feel it was possible until 2023, after the death of my mother, after our last child had left for university and after the crazy business of family life seemed to come to a sudden and abrupt halt! In this phase of disorientation and transition, Mothers' Prayers came as a sweet gift. It's been such a source of bubbling friendship, love and life, I just wished I had joined sooner!!

The history

Mothers' Prayers was launched in 1995 by two ordinary grandmothers Veronica and her sister-in-law, Sandra. They felt led to pray in a special way for their children. Realising that the only way to take away the pain and anxiety that so often accompanies motherhood, they simply surrendered their children together in prayer, into God's abiding care.

From that humble beginning, Mothers' Prayers groups have sprouted up in over 80 countries worldwide! Each will be unique with its own stories of prayers answered, broken hearts mended and blessings poured out onto children and families across the globe.

Our history

4 July 2011 was the day St Peter's very own Mothers' Prayers group was established by Teresa Thiele, Joe O'Brien and Mary Henshall. For 15 years, every other Monday evening at 7.30 pm Teresa has unfailingly welcomed mothers of the parish into the safety, peace and overflowing warmth and love of her home.

There are 36 members in the WhatsApp group with Teresa only having a sketchy idea as to who will actually arrive for the meeting! Remarkably, over that time she has never been alone and equally never found she was unable to



Mothers' love conquers the world

Clair Gadzama gives us an insight into one of our parish groups as they celebrate their 15th anniversary.



seat everyone in her cosy sitting room, even if it's a squash and a squeeze!

Over the years, the group has prayed its way through the rollercoaster of our collective lives: the profoundly sad, the hard, the horrible, the painful - but also the joyful, the celebratory, the many healings and recoveries, the solutions to problems and the lost being found. Actual examples from our group include praying for broken relationships, for consolation of the bereaved, for all types of sickness - whether physical or mental including

addictive - for unemployment and financial stress. We have given praise and thanksgiving for beautiful marriages and safe arrival of babies, for healings of all kinds and for the overwhelming sense that no difficulty is too big for God to solve in His time and in His way.

It's a completely safe space in which to confide; nothing said in the meeting is ever repeated outside the circle. As a result, sincere and trusting friendships have blossomed and burdens feel much lighter and easier to bear.

The meeting format

It's the same everywhere. Once we have settled, the Holy Spirit is invited to guide the evening through prayer and sung praise.

More prayer headings follow as we ask together for protection from all evil, for forgiveness, to be united in prayer and song, to be united with all Mothers' Prayers groups, to give thanks for motherhood, for understanding and inspiration as we listen to a member's prepared reflection. And lastly, as we place the names of our own children in a basket at the foot of the cross, we put them into the Lord's care. We sit quietly in contemplation as each member reverently takes their turn. We are acknowledging we can't fix things - It is a sacred surrender.

The meeting table

On a small table we place a cross to remind us of our Redeemer, a candle to remember that Jesus is the Light of the world showing us the way, a Bible because He is the Living Word encouraging us and a small basket is put in front of the cross to receive the paper discs on which each of our children's names is written.

The meeting draws to a conclusion as we sing a song of thanksgiving, 'Father, we adore you' sung very sweetly in a round! We finish by reciting the Lord's Prayer and the Glory be to the Father. This is Terry's cue (Teresa's kind and equally generous husband) to rush to switch on the kettle and make us all cups of tea or coffee, accompanied always by extra-delicious biscuits!!

Finally, I personally would like to thank:

- those three Mums taking that leap of faith in 2011 to set up the group for all of us
- Teresa for hosting us those 15 years, come rain or shine in your own life; we are so very grateful. Bless you and Terry for all you have made possible by God's amazing grace
- and St Peter's Mother's Prayers group, with congratulations and celebrations on your 15th anniversary!! Well done! Through prayer, mothers' love has conquered in Hazel Grove - and we will continue.

SVP prison visiting

Kevin McKenna offers his insight

Many people may think that members of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) only visit housebound parishioners and those living in care homes. The range of work by the SVP is far, far wider. As an example, the SVP works with prisoners and on their release from custody.

Official Prison Visitors

"I was in prison and you visited me." Simple words like "visiting" and "befriending" are fundamental to the traditional work of SVP members. In prison, those two words are evident but with added complexities. Some SVP Members are Official Prison Visitors (OPVs). In this capacity, members visit prisoners who rarely, if ever, have visits from friends or family. A member acting as an OPV may be the only contact a prisoner has with the outside world - hence the slogan "Bringing the outside in". Through regular visits, a relationship with the prisoner is built where trust, empathy and understanding are key. Discussions between a prisoner and members are always confidential (unless an OPV has concerns relating to the prisoner's health or safety, as well as that of fellow prisoners, staff or the prison).

Visiting and supporting prison chaplains

Some SVP members help Prison Chaplains at Mass or other services; this happens in around 20 prisons. They support the Chaplains with donations of Bibles, rosaries, hymn books and other resources. At Christmas and Easter, they give prisoners cards, chocolates, Easter eggs and other small gifts.

In one very large prison, the visiting priest celebrates two Masses on a Saturday morning. The 'regular' prisoners are escorted to the chapel for Mass (the men read, and one acts as an altar server). After Mass, there is a period of socialising with the visiting SVP members.

When those 'regular' men return to their prison accommodation, other prisoners, defined for various reasons as being 'vulnerable', are escorted to the chapel for Mass. Again, at the conclusion of Mass, those men, with coffee and biscuits in hand, enjoy

a period of socialising with the visiting SVP members. Through the chaplaincy, SVP members also support requests for clothes, transport, reading material, stationery and much more.

Supporting requests for help

"For I was hungry, and you gave me food. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you welcomed me. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you took care of me."

Professional services are overwhelmed by the number of cases and have limited budgets. Too many offenders, within a few days of being out of prison, revert to old behaviours and lifestyles, reoffend, or suffer being recalled to prison.

Without the help of friends or family, prisoners are often released in the clothes they were wearing when they first came in! In many cases, they could be imprisoned during the summer and released in the winter. So, on release, they would have no winter coat or warm clothing.

On release, prisoners only get a small discharge grant, and Universal Credit payments start only around five weeks after release. Some are accommodated in 'approved premises' where they can live for a maximum of three months. SVP members help ex-offenders and their families 'get back on their feet' by supporting requests for food, clothing, basic household items and transport. Some also volunteer in "prison departure lounges" through which prisoners are released. They supply the departure lounges with clothing, food, tents and sleeping bags.

SVP members try to support every request, but there are some requests they can't due to limited resource or safeguarding guidelines.

Final Thoughts

All of us know that our prisons are overcrowded and in crisis. Too few know that the SVP is quietly very active in many prisons.

For further information,
Email: prisonwork@svp.org.uk



The procession followed the pilgrim path to the Catholic shrine



All our group came together for worship

Walsingham Pilgrimage 2026

Peter Henshaw shares the pilgrim journey to Walsingham

On Monday 8 June 20 parishioners from St Peter's and St Alban's, Macclesfield went on a pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham. We were joined by a former Deacon from St Peter's, Rev Steve Pomeroy and some of his new parishioners. Our priest for the pilgrimage was Fr Peter Burke, with Deacon Steve serving at our Masses and other services.

Most of us travelled by minibus and a few people chose to drive. As we normally do, we broke up the journey with a break for lunch in Newark. This year the restoration work on the parish church in Newark had been completed so we were able once again to visit the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham where we prayed for a safe onward journey and our pilgrimage. On reaching Walsingham we all settled into our rooms before

the arrival Mass, then after our meal we concluded the day with evening prayer.

We began Tuesday with morning prayer before breakfast. Then as we all gathered for a procession to the Catholic shrine we decorated the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham with flowers. The procession followed the pilgrim path passing through beautiful countryside. During the procession we sang some of our favourite Marian hymns, said the rosary and the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

At the shrine we presented our petitions to Our Lady in the Slipper Chapel. There was time for everyone to explore there before we took part in the midday pilgrim Mass and then returned to the village. After our group photograph we all made our

way to the Anglican shrine, which is in the village itself. There we took part in a blessing service at the well and explored the shrine.

That evening we all gathered in the Church of the Annunciation for a healing service where the Sacrament of the Sick was available. At this service we also all prayed an act of dedication of England to Our Lady as her dowry. The service concluded with evening prayer. The day ended with social time in one of the village pubs where we all chatted and got to know each other better.

Wednesday began with morning prayer and after breakfast, we all gathered for our second procession, this time to the Abbey grounds that are the remains of the original medieval shrine. Before the procession we again decorated the

statue of Our Lady of Walsingham with flowers. We spent the afternoon in the seaside resort of Cromer walking along the pier, eating an ice cream or a crab sandwich (a Cromer delicacy!). On Wednesday evening we gathered in the Church of the Annunciation for evening prayer and Mass followed by a candlelit procession, concluding with prayers at a statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and more socialising with our fellow pilgrims.

On the final day Deacon Steve gave us a wonderful talk on contemplative prayer, after which we attended the pilgrim Mass. As we travelled home, we reflected on a wonderful time in Walsingham, returning spiritually refreshed and renewed and having made many new friends. Booking for the 2027 Walsingham pilgrimage will begin in autumn 2026!



We decorated Our Lady of Walsingham statue with flowers



Wednesday afternoon in Cromer by the sea

Future Lionesses

Mike Farrell used to share with us his model-making expertise, but now he's turned his hand to football commentary!

I am writing this sat by the pool enjoying the sun and sipping a cocktail. We're in Majorca. I didn't have to tell you that but that's the kind of guy I am; I like to share things. Anyway, here's the story.

Our son Matt and his wife Nic have two lovely and very active daughters. Swimming, dancing and gymnastics are on the weekly agenda, which means that Matt and Nic are extremely busy taxi drivers. Heidi, the eldest at 11, decided that her parents weren't quite busy enough and that there was room for football. She's always been football-mad and very competitive, so two years ago she

joined Stockport Vikings Under-tens, known as The Jags. Not content with that, she dragged her Dad into the equation as one of the coaches.

Last season, I started to write up post-match reports so I have included a couple below to give you a flavour of the match atmosphere. I hope you enjoy this little article and that it might inspire all you young footballers. Due to the popularity of girls' football, the Vikings have two Under-ten teams, the other being the Pumas. The Pumas were established the year before the Jags and were considered to be the lead team. Not so now. That first season the Jags went from strength to strength and I think it's fair to say they are now ahead. 'We' are now a team to be very wary of and other teams take us seriously. Heidi finished the first season as top goal scorer with 23 goals, a brilliant effort.

Jags power onwards

A very wet day at Seashell Trust today, but a more sensible kick-off time of 11.30am. A very tight first half with missed chances adding to the tension so a team talk at the break was welcome. The second half was a different game with the girls getting back into their stride and passing the ball in their usual crisp way. Heidi broke the deadlock with an opportunist goal, taking the ball off the defender and slotting it in the bottom corner. Grace scored the second, followed by a great goal from Skyla. Great work from the midfield enabling Heidi to push down the wing and put a super cross for Grace who finished with a great shot. The last came from Emily



who had almost scored earlier with a storming shot. The girls all played really well and deserved their victory. Player of the match was Ella. Final score...Jags 5 Bollington 0.

That's seven games unbeaten – unstoppable

This week the weather was kind at Seashell Trust, perfect for football. A really good game ensued with Mountfield being our opponents. The first half was close with the Jags just edging it. All the girls were magnificent which means we're developing as a team. Skyla played the full game and was instrumental in controlling the midfield. This was essential today as we were missing Jess, our rock steady centre half. Ella once again took command at the back with Sienna putting in the extra yards. Libby too was cool, calm and comfortable, contributing to the overall defensive plan. The coach Gavin was again on his own today with Matt having to work, but Gav was ably assisted by all the

parents and grandparents doing their bit, coaching from the sidelines, I'd say 'assisting' - I'm not sure he welcomes it! Towards the end of the first half, the deadlock was broken by a brilliant run down the right wing by Zoe. Her speed took care of the fullback and she neatly put the ball in the back of the net making it 1-0 at half time. The second half belonged to Grace who played a central role, with Heidi once again playing wide on the left. Having narrowly missed out herself on a couple of chances, she provided a perfect service for Grace, continually probing down the left and cutting in onto her right foot. Together with Zoe on the other wing, Mountfield really were struggling and it was only a matter of time before we went further ahead. A speedy run down the left with a low fast cross from Heidi saw Grace latch on and score her first. Five minutes later, a mistake from Mountfield's keeper fell to Grace for her second, with the hat trick coming six or seven minutes after that. Right at the end, the Jags got a penalty for hand ball which was just a little unfortunate for Mountfield as the young defender was trying to protect her face from a fast cross from Heidi. Up stepped



Heidi and one of her greatest fans, Gramps!

captain Skyla who confidently put the ball into the bottom right-hand corner. If I'm fair, the score line was a bit flattering, but the Jags were worthy winners. Special

mention must be made for Zoe the Cat our keeper who was magnificent today, together with Ida, Libby and Sienna who helped out by playing in two different positions. We are improving by the week and are a team to be reckoned with. Our two main strikers Heidi and Grace are on fire with 19 goals each, with every other girl capable of scoring. A joy to watch. Final score... Jags 5 Mountfield 0. Player of the match? A hard pick today, but it went to Zoe the Wizard for her tireless running and tracking back. Well done.

This season has just finished, and Heidi scored 22, but she and all the girls are far more accomplished now; the football has evolved and the team plays with far more technical knowledge and ability. They are such a joy to watch; the honesty and application are an example for all young footballers; their behaviour and manners on and off the pitch should be a study for the Premier League. Next season will see big changes at Under-12s. Bigger pitch, nine a side, home and away and the offside rule making its entrance - a further evolution that I'm sure the girls will take in their stride. I can't wait for it to start.

STOP PRESS. READ ALL ABOUT IT.



Since I finished this article, there has been more news. On Sunday 7 June the Jags entered a tournament run by Bramhall North. Six teams played initially in a league with the top four qualifying for the semi finals. Needless to say, the Jags romped to the semi finals with goals coming from Heidi and Zoe The Wizard Hughes. The semi was hard going, finishing goalless, meaning penalties. Heidi scored the first slotting the ball in the bottom corner. Grace got the next with a tremendous shot into the top corner followed by Zoe Hughes with Sienna also scoring. Queensgate missed one so we were in the final against Stockport Dynamos. The final was terrific and very hard fought ending yet again goalless. Another penalty shoot out and more nail biting but we need not have worried, the Jags never missed a beat. Heidi yet again went first and smashed a brilliant penalty into the top corner. The ball must have broken the sound barrier. Our keeper Zoe The Cat went next scoring a beauty followed by Zoe Hughes who never misses. Dynamos had one saved by Zoe The Cat making her a member of an exclusive club. That meant Grace had to score to win the game. No pressure then, she just stepped up and blasted it into the net. Wonderful, our first major trophy. Glory to the girls.





Mary's corner

Mary Hardiman offers her thoughts on praying the Our Father.

Living the Lord's Prayer

Recently I attended a series of monthly talks entitled 'Lord, teach us to pray' in which each presenter gave a personal testimony on how prayer had impacted his or her life. I found myself reflecting on the prayer given to us by Jesus in Matthew's gospel (Matthew 6:9-13), a prayer we now call the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father.

Back in 2023 I wrote a piece for Shine magazine (Issue 15) about ways in which we can pray the Lord's Prayer. However, for this issue I offer you a reflection on ways in which we can live the Lord's Prayer or see it lived out in our lives and in the people around us.

You see, in our personal intercessions to God, we lift up our needs or the needs of others and then we wait to see if or how God responds. But how often do we look for the fruits of this beautiful prayer? Can we see the Lord's Prayer lived out in our lives or in the lives of others? Familiarity can sometimes jade our outlook; we can find ourselves reciting prayers without really paying attention to the words.

I think it's really important that as we pray we allow God to make our prayers happen through us and that we both see and acknowledge the fruits of prayer in our lives. In this way we can grow in trust of our Heavenly Father who loves us and who always listens.

For each line, I offer you an example of how I see this prayer being lived out in my life and my experiences and invite you, as you read it, to make it your own.

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father in heaven, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us. And do not put us to the test, but save us from the Evil One.

Our Father in heaven

I love that here Jesus immediately makes God both accessible and universal. We can speak to him like a loving parent. He's not just the father of Christ but father to us all.

Four years ago, a young Ukrainian single mother and her three-year-old boy came to live in our home and stayed for two years. Initially my husband wasn't too keen on the idea but sometimes you just have to do what you're told. Karim, the little boy was really suffering but unable to articulate what was wrong. He was often angry, destructive and scared. At the end of each day I used to bath him and talk through his day, to help his English. I always tried to pick out something good he'd done. Slowly he learnt to trust my husband and me; he learnt that he was loved, no matter what. What has made a huge difference is the way my husband is with this child – firm but endlessly patient and kind. That little boy has thrived on this love. I watch them walk together, a little hand in a big one, a small child on the shoulders of a tall man. I watch them kick a ball around in the street or watch a film on the sofa and I think if that's

what a surrogate grandfather can do, how much more will our heavenly father do for us?

Where do you see examples of parental love that give you a glimpse of our Heavenly Father?

May your name be held holy

I write to a man who has been on Death Row in the USA for 25 years. This man was convicted of the kidnap and murder of a woman called Mary and he was convicted on my birthday. He had, in his own words, been nasty, dirty, angry and full of sin. One day, he got to his knees in his cell and told God that he was nasty, dirty, angry and full of sin. It was in that moment he discovered a God of love and each day he does everything he can to serve this God who has been so gracious and forgiving to him. He keeps God's name holy by the way he serves the other men incarcerated with him. Earl is one of his neighbours and Earl has never had a visit from a family member or friend in over 30 years; he also has learning difficulties and is unable to do much for himself. Every day my friend takes him to the shower, washes his bedding, helps him to get dressed and always makes sure that if he has food to share, he shares it with Earl. Is that not a lovely way to keep the name of God holy, by recognising him in our brothers and sisters?

How or where do you see the holiness of God's name?

Your kingdom come

My counselling room is my holy ground and I have seen God's kingdom in there many times. Years ago I was working with a teenage boy; let's call him Connor. Connor had been bullied so badly at his mainstream school that he had tried to take his own life. By the time he came to me he was planning to be a gangster, to sell drugs and stab or shoot anyone who got in his way. I knew he was hurting and didn't know what to do; so I told God I didn't know what to do. Then I felt God say, 'take him back'. So I asked Connor what he was feeling when he was bullied as a little boy. Then I watched. I watched him look up, down, side to side and behind and finally he put his head in his hands and his elbows on his thighs and I could see the tears fall onto his trousers. There was not a shadow of doubt that in that moment of pain the redemptive and transformative love of Jesus Christ was in that room.

God's kingdom had come down; a kingdom of love and protection was there; the whole place was shimmering with it and we both knew it. What a moment of incredible grace!

How and where do you see God's kingdom in your life?

Your will be done, on earth as in heaven

Writer and broadcaster Malcolm Muggeridge once said that the only prayer we need ever say is 'thy will be done'. Four years ago I left teaching because I felt it was what God wanted and I knew there was no point arguing with him. After I handed in my notice, I cried every day for a full month. Then I waited for God to show me what was coming next. Despite having no life experience with prisoners I felt called to work with them; by this point I was very already involved in Death Row work.

And so I waited. Five months later I was already very involved listening to an app called 'Pray as You Go' which gives a little reflection on that day's gospel. I can't remember what the presenter said, 'what would you like to ask God for right here and now?' I said, 'well since you're offering, I'd like a paid counselling role in a prison'. Then I logged on to my computer, searched for and immediately found that same thing. That is where I have been working ever since. I believe that God's will became mine.

How and where in your life have you seen God's will done?

Give us today our daily bread

When Kamila and Karim came from Ukraine to live with us, she told me that her suitcase containing most of her clothes as well as precious and sentimental possessions had gone missing at Calais. She was so accepting of this; there was no rancour or bitterness for her loss. What did it matter in the great scheme of things? I remember the gentle acceptance and absolute trust that her needs would be met in whatever way God chose to meet them. Our daily bread is not just food; it's so much more than that. Kamila showed me that God's providence can be trusted; he will give us what we need to get through each day.

How is God meeting your daily needs?

And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us

This is such a bold prayer! I work with men in prison who

have suffered trauma; for many of these men it's sexual trauma, abuse or exploitation. One of my clients had experienced all of this in his childhood over a period of some eight years. He was in prison on drug charges and had been violent and destructive. One day he said to me, 'I've forgiven him, you know'. Then he went on to say that he had to forgive his abuser, that he couldn't keep holding on to the past and to the damage that had been done to him as well as the consequences of it all. The abuser was dead and my client had a life to live. He wasn't a religious man but I think that somewhere in his soul, he'd found the peace and forgiveness he needed. He said he had to move on, to move beyond what had destroyed his childhood because he was no longer prepared for his adulthood to be destroyed too. And the only way was to forgive, to release this man who had done so much damage because he was broken too. And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us.

Where have you experienced God's forgiveness and been able to offer it to another person?

And do not put us to the test, but save us from the Evil One

In July 2024 a man I knew called Ramiro was put to death by lethal injection in the state of Texas for the kidnap and murder of a woman in 2001. Not long before he died he wrote to me and said this: 'there is no river too deep, no mountain too high that my God and I cannot pass together'. In the execution chamber, before he was strapped down, he apologised to his victim's family for the pain he had caused before turning to the executioner and saying, 'please can you be quick because I want to meet the Lord Jesus so bad?'

On Death Row I believe that Ramiro had descended to his own personal hell and had encountered the loving and forgiving face of God. How else could he have written and said those words? Evil no longer had power over him and he had learnt to trust in a God of love and mercy, right to the end of his life.

Where in your life have you seen or experienced God's saving power?

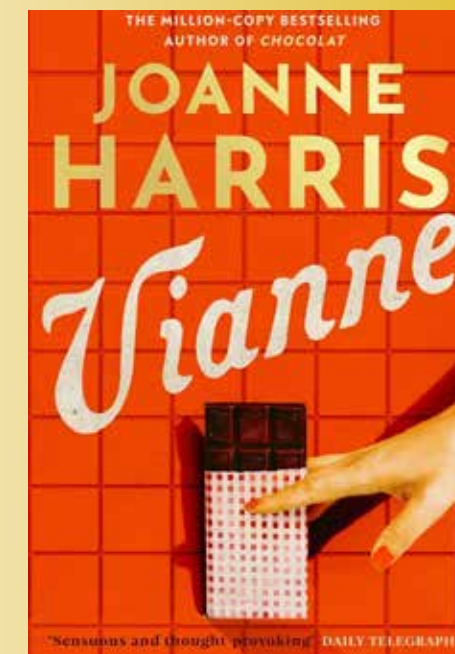
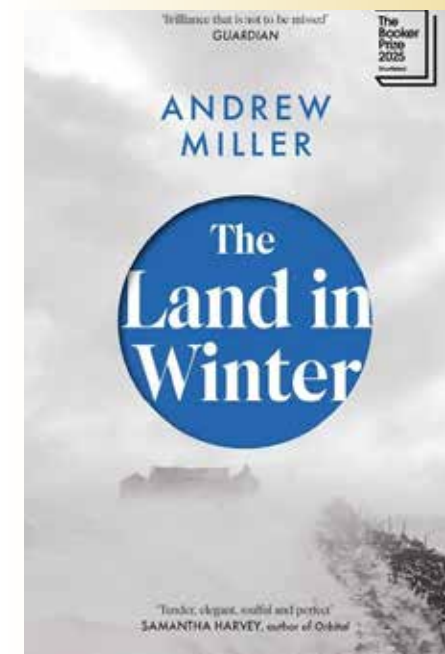
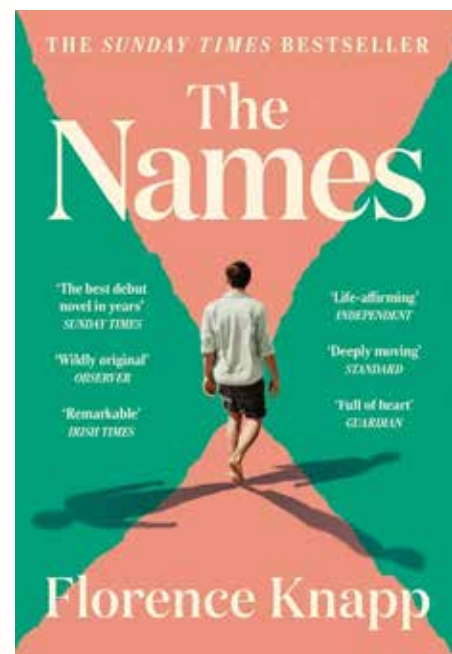
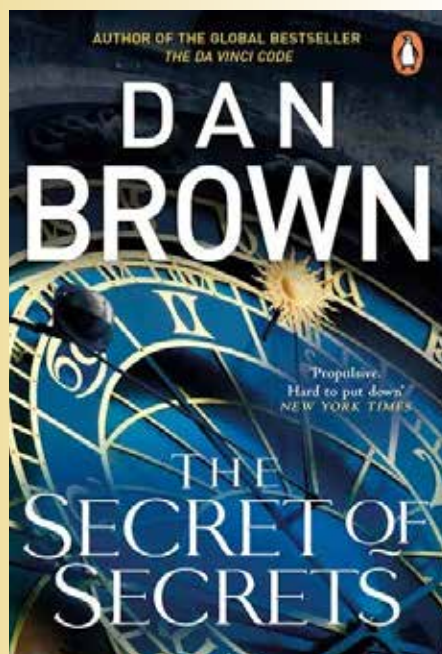
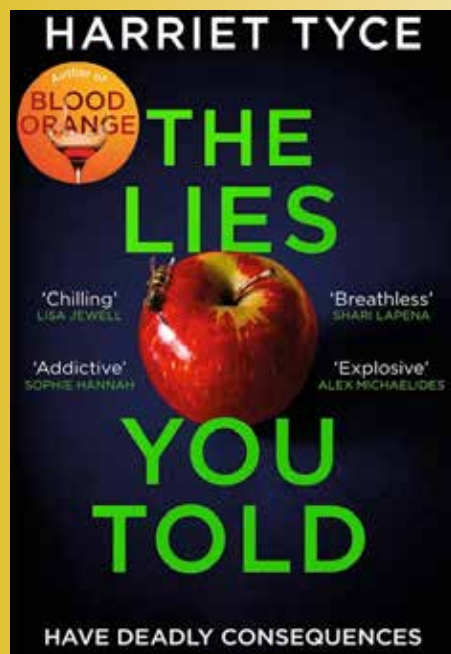
Let me end with this prayer:

Loving and creator God,

You love us with a love beyond anything we could ever imagine. In the humdrum of our daily lives, we ask for the grace to see your kingdom all around us, to see and experience your will, your generosity, your forgiveness and your safekeeping.

We ask this in trust of your love and mercy.

Amen.



St Peter's

Book Club

Across the novels we have read since Christmas runs a strong thread of people grappling with truth, both personal and collective and the hidden aspects of their lives.

Once again we're grateful to **Alison McGarr** for the reviews and recommendations from the Book Club.

The Lies You Told Twice Harriet Tyce

This gripping psychological thriller follows a successful woman whose carefully constructed life begins to unravel when events from her past resurface. As professional pressures mount and personal relationships grow strained, she is forced to confront difficult choices and hidden truths. The story explores how easily self-deception can take hold and how fragile trust can be when tested.

Secret of Secrets Dan Brown

In this fast-moving thriller, a series of mysterious clues draws the protagonist into a race against time to save a scientist and stop a powerful group from hiding a discovery about the nature of human consciousness. As puzzles unfold and hidden connections



The Book Club will be meeting again in October. If you would like to join us, or if you have a book you would like to recommend, please contact Alison McGarr on 07792 107152.

emerge, the story blends history, science and intrigue. Brown keeps readers turning pages while raising questions about knowledge, belief and the lengths people will go to uncover, or conceal the truth.

In other novels we have read this year, there is an attempt to explore identity more deeply, particularly how people come to understand themselves through life experience.

Names Florence Knapp

This thoughtful novel centres on a woman trapped in an abusive marriage who must choose a name for her newborn son. The novel follows three alternate versions of their lives over 35 years, showing how that single choice (Bear, Julian, or Gordon) shapes their identities, relationships and futures. As relationships develop and past experiences are revisited, the story

reveals how identity is shaped over time. With quiet emotional depth, it speaks to themes of belonging, memory and the ways in which we come to understand ourselves and others.

The Women Kristin Hannah

At the heart of this powerful novel is a young woman who volunteers as a nurse during the Vietnam War, stepping into a world far removed from her previous life. Through her experiences, we see both the intensity of wartime service and the challenges faced on returning home.

The next two novels we read started connecting personal truth with history and the environment, suggesting that our lives are shaped by forces beyond ourselves, whether war, landscape or the legacy of the past.

The Land in Winter Andrew Miller

As 1962 draws to a close in rural southwest England, we're introduced to four people who make up two neighbouring couples. As couples, they

have two very different dynamics: one more traditional and the other trying to do things a bit differently, but as individuals, their lives are very divergent. Caught between a sense of duty and a desire for change, surrounded by the ongoing impact of WW2, they all seem frustrated. When the New Year brings some of the coldest temperatures in recent history and the snow traps them, tolerance for their mundane ways begins to untether. As the weather turns colder and the feeling of isolation intensifies so does the sense of foreboding.

There Are Rivers in the Sky Elif Shafak

The novel weaves together the lives of three characters across different times and places: a poor boy in Victorian London, a Yazidi girl in 2014 and a modern hydrologist. Their stories are linked by a single drop of water and the rivers they live beside. As their lives unfold, the book explores how memory, history, loss and human suffering travel across generations, showing the deep connections between past and present. The narrative unfolds in a layered

and almost poetic way, encouraging reflection on how the past shapes the present and how humanity is called to care for the world and one another.

Vianne Joanne Harris

The novel explores Vianne Rocher's past, before Chocolat, as she tries to build a stable life for herself and her daughter. Living in Marseille while pregnant, she attempts to settle down and abandon her nomadic lifestyle. But as she navigates new challenges and connects with those around her, the story gently explores themes of belonging, acceptance and transformation. With its warm, sensory style and touches of the unexpected, it is both comforting and quietly profound.

Overall, the books we have chosen this year offer not only engaging stories but moments for reflection, on truth, resilience and the importance of human connection. There is something here for every reader, whether you are seeking suspense, beauty in language, or deeper insight into the human heart.



Pots of love

Janet Dunn reflects

For Christmas when I was ten years old, I received a potter's wheel. It was a small battery-operated device. I had many an entertaining, messy and trying time using it. I kneaded the clay with vigour before aiming to land it in the centre of the wheel. I then struggled to control the clay and form any recognisable shape. The only things I managed to achieve, with limited success, were little trinket bowls.

My sister and I made one each and gave them to our Gran. I can picture them now: clumsy, thick, shallow, uneven bowls. Mine I decorated blue with white dots; my sister painted hers yellow with red dots.

Gran placed these bowls on a shelf with all her other lovely, perfect

ornaments. They remained there until the day she died. She loved those ugly, malformed pots because we, her granddaughters, had made them. The pots were a symbol of love.

Thinking on this brings to mind a verse from Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 4: 7

"But this precious treasure – this light and power that now shine within us – is held in perishable containers, that is, our weak bodies. So everyone can see that our glorious power is from God and is not our own." (Life Application Study Bible)

The reflection on this verse reads, "The supremely valuable message of salvation in Jesus Christ has been entrusted by God to frail and fallible human beings. Paul's focus, however, was not on the perishable container

but on its priceless contents – God's power dwelling in us. Though we are weak, God uses us to spread His Good News and He gives us power to do His work. Knowing that power is His, not ours, should keep us from pride and motivate us to keep daily contact with God, our power source. Our responsibility is to let people see God through us."

Gran saw the effort put into making those pots as an expression of our love for her. By displaying them for all to see, Gran showed her love for us. Despite the defects in those pots they were treasured. God sees us as His creation and loves us just as we are, despite our flaws. We can achieve great things regardless of our many personal faults. It is in our weakness that God uses us most.

Here's a list of the parish groups and activities at St Peter's

Celebrating liturgy

Altar linen
Pat Carrahar: 07703 351896

Altar servers
Elaine Rhodes: 07973 943238
ellie.r.28@icloud.com

Church cleaners
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Eucharistic ministers
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Flower arrangers
Colette Christie: 07714 470854
colette.christie4982@hotmail.co.uk

Lay-led liturgy
Rachel McKay: 07724 749217
mckay7897@hotmail.co.uk

Adult and junior choirs
Eileen Rigg: 01625 872948
emrigg@hotmail.co.uk

Folk group
Steph Leyden: 0161 456 6285
stephleyden@icloud.com

Piety stall
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Readers
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Welcomers/stewarding
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Creating social activity

Book club
Alison McGarr: 07792 107152
ajmcgarr68@outlook.com

Men's group
John McKay: 07715 362403

Parish newsletter
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Parish noticeboards
juliewilliams10@ymail.com

Parish website
Chris Rhodes
christopher.d.rhodes@virginmedia.com

Special events
Helen Lyons: 07854 928072
helenlyons1957@hotmail.co.uk

Tea and Coffees, after Mass
Rachel McKay: 07724 749217
mckay7897@hotmail.co.uk

Theatre group
Tony Martin: 0161 483 7720
tony.martin@ntlworld.com

Walking group
Tony Martin: 0161 483 7720
tony.martin@ntlworld.com

Walsingham pilgrimage
Peter Henshaw: 07845 711540
peterhenshaw26@gmail.com

Exploring faith

Alpha and Sycamore programmes
Rachel McKay: 07724 749217
mckay7897@hotmail.co.uk

Baptism programme
Parish office: 0161 483 3476

Confirmation programme via SPY
Chris Glennon
glennonchris1970@hotmail.co.uk

First sacraments preparation
Teresa Thiele: 07778 848709
terrythiele@hotmail.co.uk

Marriage preparation
Fr Philip

RCIA - Enquirers group
Tony Martin 0161 483 7720
tony.martin@ntlworld.com

Vocations
Fr Philip

Email address for the parish office is
admin@stpetershazelgrove.org.uk

Names and contact details are correct at the time the magazine went to print, but are subject to change.

Sharing faith

Centering prayer
Mike O'Malley: 0161 483 8296
michaeldomalley@sky.com

Footsteps
Anne-Marie Bailey: 0161 456 2213
footsteps2020@mail.com

Guided prayer
Mike O'Malley: 0161 483 8296
michaeldomalley@sky.com

Mothers' prayers
Teresa Thiele: 07778 848709
terrythiele@hotmail.co.uk

Rosary groups: adult and children
Laura Small: 01625 876 752
laurasmall@hotmail.co.uk

Scripture and faith sharing group
Mike O'Malley: 0161 483 8296
michaeldomalley@sky.com

Supporting families and youth

Bereavement support
Helen Lyons: 07854 928072

TOAST (Time On A Sunday Together) Children's liturgy
Teresa Thiele: 07778 848709
terrythiele@hotmail.co.uk

Little fishes
Anne Wroe: 07763 387001
anne.wroe@sky.com

Marriage and family life group
David Small: 01625 876 752

SPY (St Peter's Youth) group
Chris Glennon
glennonchris1970@hotmail.co.uk

Outreaching in the community

Disability Inclusion group
Maura Beesley
inclusionstpeters@gmail.com

Hospital chaplaincy
Chaplaincy Office: 0161 419 5889

Hospital Chaplaincy (Emergency)
Hospital switchboard will bleep
0161 483 1010

Via St Peter's
0161 483 3476
admin@stpeterhazelgrove.org.uk

LAMBS disco group
Kath Coll: 07592 755980
Brenda Martin: 0161 483 7720
brenmart46@gmail.com

Lenten lunches
Helen Lyons: 07854 928072
Jackie Mackay: 0161 483 6348

Missio
Fiona Preece: 0161 456 4319

Schools chaplaincy
St Peter's
Fr P Atkinson: 0161 483 2431
0161 483 3476

St Simon's
Fr P Atkinson: 0161 483 9696
0161 483 3476

St James' High School - Via School
0161 482 6900
office@stjamesche.org.uk

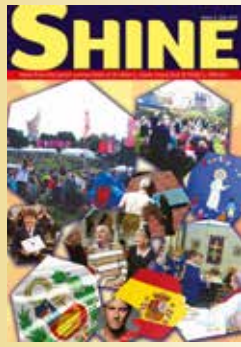
Harrytown High School - Via School
0161 430 5277
office@harrytown.stockport.sch.uk

Aquinas 6th form college
0161 483 3237
Carmel.Scanlon@aquinas.ac.uk

St Peter's Helpers
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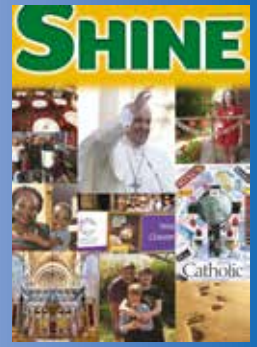
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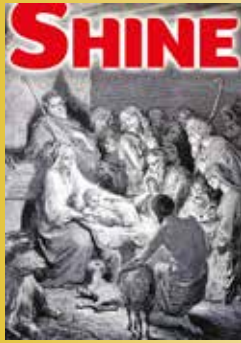
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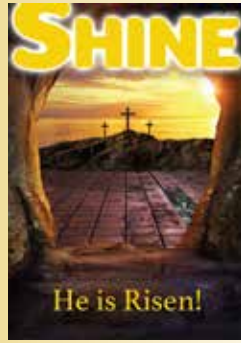
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Issue 9, December 2019



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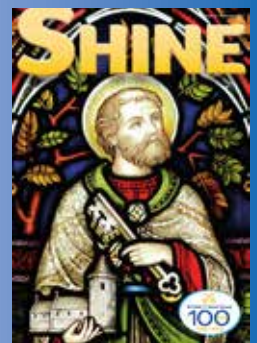
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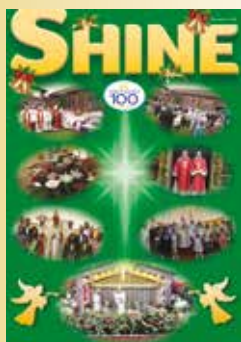
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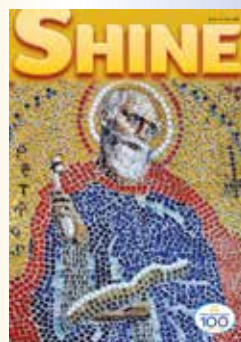
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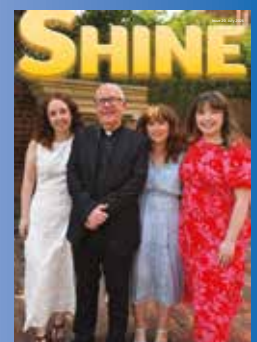
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