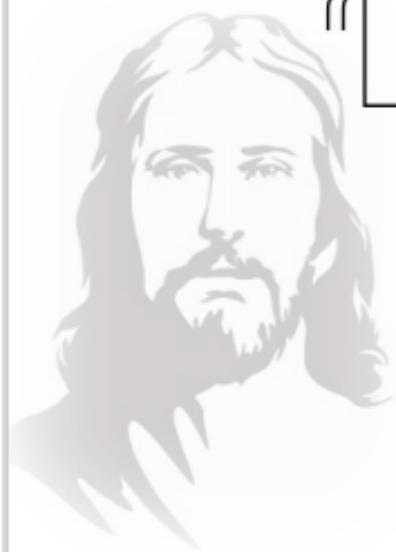


SUNDAY PLUS

Calm down!



“Do you love me?”

In polite society you are not supposed to go around asking people questions like “Who do you say I am?” or “Do you love me?” perhaps because the answers might be deadening. Questions that go to the heart of the matter, particularly when the matter concerns what you really think of another person, are usually eased out of the conversation like slightly potty relatives are eased out of the room after they have misbehaved. In today’s Gospel, however, Jesus is in good voice when he asks Peter three times if he really loves him.

After a long night’s fishing the disciples come up with zero, and a distant figure on the shore tells them to try again. They pull in a marvellous haul. The beloved disciple identifies the figure as Jesus and Peter in his excitement tries treading water to be with him. Peter has a wet breakfast with the Lord. After the meal Jesus asks Peter three times about the reality of his love. Insisting on love is something of a mark with Jesus. Three times Peter affirms his love, as three times Jesus insists on it. And when Peter professes his love, Jesus commissions him to

care for his flock. Seeing the Lord is always a dismissal for ministry; loving the Lord is always a charge to care for others. And that is what Peter does. In spite of the opposition, Peter will continue insisting on his love for Jesus and this insistence will take him to martyrdom in Rome. In the end Jesus’ question “Simon, do you love me?” becomes profoundly unnecessary. There is nothing circumstantial about Peter’s love.

Fr Denis McBride’s many books, CDs and DVDs are available from Redemptorist Publications, www.rpbbooks.co.uk.

By Fr Denis McBride C.Ss.R.

Loving Jesus, you calmed the anxiety of your disciples by the simple act of cooking breakfast for them. Help me to see that sometimes it’s the most mundane, ordinary things which can make all the difference to others. Amen.

Jesus in the ordinary

By Sr Mary Burke FMDM

How wonderful it can be to return from a hard day’s work to find a meal cooked and ready! In today’s Gospel, Jesus provides for the physical needs as well as the spiritual needs of his disciples. They have been unsuccessful in their fishing attempts and by offering them a little advice, Jesus enables them to find an abundance of fish. Jesus’ invitation to do something practical and familiar eases their sense of loss and bewilderment, offers them security and calms their fears.

Bread and fish become the means by which Jesus makes himself known. Very ordinary and familiar food become symbols of the Lord’s resurrection and of Christ’s living presence with the disciples. Jesus sanctifies the ordinary and makes it holy. Perhaps, we too, in this coming week, might find Jesus’ present in the ordinary - calming us in the familiar and offering us food for our journey.

Sr Mary Burke is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.

Pope Francis

Feast of the week Tuesday 3 May Ss Philip and James

When in Rome...


Everyone who visits Rome sees the Piazza Venezia, Forum and Colosseum. Try walking a couple of hundred yards from the Piazza Venezia to the church of the Holy Apostles. Instead of focusing on the upper basilica, where Bonnie Prince Charlie and his brother Cardinal Henry Stuart were baptised, their parents married and their mother’s heart preserved in a stone casket, go downstairs to the confessional underneath the high altar.

There, you will find the tomb of the apostles Philip and James. They are surrounded by glorious early Christian frescoes of the vine and branches, fish, loaves of bread, pelicans and a beautiful picture of Mary with Jesus on her knee – both dressed as Romans, in white gowns decorated by two dark stripes of imperial purple.

A closed-off staircase, 1400 years ago, led to the street, enabling people to pop in for a visit and pay their respects to Philip, James and other early martyrs. Nothing really changes, does it? We still make our personal mini-pilgrimages.

“In his compassion, Christ drew near to the sick in body and spirit, and brought them healing; he pardoned sinners and gave them new life. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is the Good Samaritan who stoops to help the injured man, binds his wounds and cares for him.”

Today: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41 Apocalypse 5:11-14 John 21:1-19	Monday: Acts 6:8-15 John 8:22-29	Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 John 14:8-14	Wednesday: Acts 8:1-8 John 6:35-40	(E) The English Martyrs (Feast): Acts 7:55-60; Matthew 10:17-20	Thursday: Acts 8:26-40 John 6:44-51	Friday: Acts 9:1-20 John 6:52-59	Saturday: Acts 9:31-42 John 6:60-69	Next Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52 Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17 John 10:27-30
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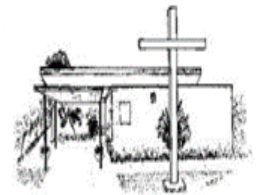
Newsletter for the Parishes of Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose and St. Vincent de Paul

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Deacon: Rev. Moses Ibeh



1st May 2022. THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

You can join us via this Live Stream link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport> (for Our Lady’s church)
OR click on tinyurl.com/stockportparishes or Stockport Parishes - YouTube (for both St. Vincent’s and St. Ambrose’s)
(MASKS ARE NO LONGER MANDATORY BUT RECOMMENDED. PLEASE USE THE HAND SANITISER).



Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sun 1st May	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>(DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR HUMAN WORK)</i>	5.30pm	Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady’s	Our Parish Family
		7.00pm		Our Parish Family
		9.30am	St Vincent’s Our Lady’s	Ann Alan RIP (<i>ann</i>) Bridget Crowley RIP (<i>ann</i>)
		11.00am		
		1.00pm	Our Lady’s– Mass, Baptism & FHC	Ronnie Charles Mallamphy a Tommy Junior Mallamphy & Franky John Mallamphy.
Mon 2nd May	St Athanasius, B, D	9.30am	St. Ambrose	Nora Ann Walsh RIP (<i>2nd ann</i>)
Tues 3rd May	Ss PHILIP & JAMES, Ap	9.30am	Our Lady’s	Breda Geraghty RIP
Wed 4th May	THE ENGLISH MARTYRS	12noon	SV– Requiem Mass	Kevin Mc Kierney RIP
Thurs 5th May	Ferial	9.30am 11.15am 7.00pm	St Ambrose OL– Funeral Service Our Lady’s	John Byrne 5th anniversary Allan Stanway RIP Mary Hough RIP
Fri 6th May	Ferial	9.30am	St Vincent’s	Dierdre & Michael O’Kane RIP
Sat 7th May	FERIAL (<i>BVM on Saturday</i>) VIGIL MASS OF SUNDAY	9.30 am 1.00pm	Our Lady’s OL– Baptism	Diane RIP Ellie Marie & Kimberley Ann van Loon
		5.30pm 7.00pm 7.45pm		Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady’s Our Lady’s
Sun 8th May	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>(DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FOR VOCATIONS)</i>	9.30am 11.00am	St Vincent’s Our Lady’s	Tommy Higgins RIP Allan Stanway RIP
		1.00pm		OL– Baptism

There is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** every weekday morning from 8:30am to 9:30am.
The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available after 9.30am Mass on Saturday morning and by appointment.

Please pray for those preparing to receive the sacraments.

Baptisms: New Baptism classes has started on 23rd April 2022 . The next course will be in July.

First Holy Communion: Preparations continue in school and at Our Lady’s church at the 11am Mass.

RCIA: Are you or anyone you know interested in joining the Catholic Church or wish to know more about the Catholic faith? Please join us after the 11am Mass every Sunday at Our Lady’s.

Sick List

In St. Vincent's: We remember in our prayers all the intentions on the St. Vincent's Prayer Board. Please add your intentions to the Prayer Board in church and you can see who is in need of our prayers on our website under "Thoughts for the week".

In Our Lady's: Michelle Philips, Lucile Ebbs, Maureen Brosnahan, Kelly Brosnahan, Zach Tierney, Irene Cox, Lee Abernathy, Janice Cook, Eileen Melia, Annie Topping, Theresa Burrows, Josephine O'Hagan, Denise Corlet, Nora Reade, Marie Kenefick, Eileen Mains, Beryl Collins, Josie Vaughan, Michael Heath, Honora Hague, Victoria Russell, Sophie Mansfield, Vivienne Goostry, John Wynne, Vincent Tracey, Ronald Fury, Veronica Gallagher, Aine O'Callaghan, Mary Murphy, Kathleen Bond, Jordan Harris, Alana Walsh, Jean Egginton, Mary Glindon, Sean O'Callaghan and Shelagh Lees.

In St. Ambrose's: Denise Carlin, June Campbell, Mavis Doggett, Khia Whitehead, Eleanor Loftus, Mary Andrusiak, Carl Stanley, C. Wootton, Mary Sein, Paul Thuoc, Barry Lloyd, Andrew Way, Mary Young, Irene Walker, Veronica Norbury, John Holt, Imelda Judge, Veronica Lane, Joanna Winter, Pat Judge, Paul McClure, Helen Jenkins.

Recently Departed: Father Robin Sutton, Allan Stanway, Kevin McKierney, Peter Louise Smith. May the souls of all our recently departed rest in peace.

Anniversaries

Nora Ann Walsh, Bridget Connolly, Helen O'Gara, Ann Allen, Bridget (Beenie) Crowley, Eileen Crowley, John Richard Freeborough, The Moran Family, Martin Merriman, Patrick Sidebotham, Elizabeth Kay, James Angus Faulkner, Mary Hough, Catherine (Katie) Calvert, May Jones, Frances Mildred Perkin, Ann Hewitt.

PRAYER FOR SYNOD 2021-23: We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

During May We pray with Pope Francis for **Faith-Filled Young People:** We pray for all young people, called to live life in the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Pilgrimage to Fatima: In the light of Pope Francis' reconsecration of Russia, Ukraine and the World to Our Lady of Fatima last month, Fr. Martin will lead a pilgrimage to Fatima in September / October, 2022. Full details will be in next week's newsletter and on the parish website. Deposits of £250 will be required by Sunday 31st May to secure your place, with the balance due in July. The cost will be about £670 plus insurance to include a full pilgrimage programme, direct flights from Manchester to Lisbon, transfer to Fatima, full Religious programme including tours and visits to key sites associated with the apparitions, and full board in a central hotel in Fatima for 7 nights. Please be ready to book quickly to ensure this wonderful spiritual visit to Our Lady can go ahead. Brochures and forms will be circulated shortly.

WALKING WITH JESUS' - The team would like to thank all those school communities who joined us the Liturgical Prayer for Lent Particularly those schools that pre-recorded readings and hymns and those who submitted the beautiful photographs that were central to the liturgy. Should schools want to access a recording of 'Walking with Jesus', then it can be found at the following link: <https://youtu.be/q3yb5oEoStI>

MARY'S MEALS- Mary's Meals UK Mary's Meals will be running our 'Pray in May' campaign again this year. Mary's Meals has been built on a foundation of prayer and the many little acts of love from those who support us. We are inviting churches across the UK to join us in prayer to celebrate the wonderful work of Mary's Meals and give thanks that we are now reaching more than 2 million children with a nutritious meal in 20 countries every school day. For more information, resources and contact details: <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/prayinmay>

Gift Aid: The annual claim to the Diocese for the year ended 5 April 2022 has been submitted. Once again, can I thank all those people who are in a position to Gift Aid their offering either by Standing Order, Weekly Envelope, Cheque or Online. To also thank those Parishioners who contribute to the weekly collections and the many other donations made to the Parish throughout the year. Should you be new to our Parish and would like a box of Offertory envelopes please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office . Tom Horan.

Last weekend's collections (excludes standing orders): **OLATA- £599.34 St Vincent-£229.05 St Ambrose £72.00 THANK YOU.**

Offertory envelopes can be obtained from the Parish Office or see links for online giving to the Parishes: Please check our websites.

GOD IN YOUR GARDEN:- Bring the word of God to your street with a celebration of mass in your garden. During the months of May, June, July & August, Fr Martin is offering to say mass in your garden. There are to be four dates available, one per month. The first one in the 3rd week May, followed by 2nd week of June, 3rd week of July and 2nd week of August. The mass will be in the evening at 7 pm. And the day is determined by your local parish. Our lady's on the Tuesday evening, St Ambrose on the Thursday evening, St Vincent's on the Wednesday or Friday evening, of the corresponding week. If you would like to host the celebration of the mass, please let the office know and we can arrange a date. It is first come first served. Fr Martin will bring the mass—you gather the people, family members and neighbours!

May - the month of Our Lady: As May is traditionally the time of devotion to Our Blessed Lady, the Catenian Association has provided a box of FREE Rosary beads at the rear of the church for anyone who does not own a set of Rosary Beads. There are also multi-coloured children's Rosaries for you to take if you would like to pray with your children or grandchildren. 'How to Pray the Rosary' cards are also included in the box.

At the upper room with Mary—Total Consecration to Jesus, the incarnate Wisdom, through the Blessed Virgin Mary: We invite everyone to join us for the this consecration. Preparation started on the 28th of April. The books are available at the back of Our Lady's, St Ambrose and St Vincent churches. You could join us in person or virtually everyday, 7.30pm. God Bless.. If we have a good turn out, we hope to have a Marian procession at Our Lady's church, from the church to our beautiful grotto, 7.45-8.00pm every Saturday in May.

Notable Feasts in May - 13th Our lady of Fatima—24th Our Lady Help of Christians— 31st The Visitation.

Lend-a-hand-day: we need volunteers to help clean the church premises, especially around the Grotto for the May Devotion. If you are available, please **join us after Mass on Saturday 7th May. Thanks**

Our Lady's News

The Piety Stall—is now open for cards and gifts, and a selection of rosary beads. **Children's Liturgy & 1st Communion Preparation Classes** - will take place during the 11am Mass. Please bring the children to learn and pray with us. **The First Holy Communion group are taking a break this Sunday to resume next Sunday 8th May.**

TEA & COFFEE – Join us for tea and coffee after 11am Mass.

INTERNATIONAL MASS:- 5 June 2011, 11am mass. Attend in your national dress. If you are willing to sing or read in your native language during mass, please text Magda on 07553552205 or speak to her after mass. Also please bring your national dish to share at the coffee morning after mass. Finger food if possible. Lets celebrate our diversity.

St Ambrose News

The Piety stall - Piety stall has lots of new items for sale including some lovely new children's bibles and christening gifts, many cards, rosary beads, prayer cards and Easter cards. We also have a book case with some lovely books for the children to read if they wish to, just return when they have finished reading.

Books- There is a Library at the back of church with a good selection of books available to borrow. Feel free to have a look and write your name in the register supplied to record any book borrowed. Thank you.

Churches Together—will hold several gatherings throughout the year and one of them is the Pentecost Breakfast scheduled for Saturday 4th June 2022. We meet at St Gabriel's church on the corner of Garner's Lane and Clover Avenue from 9am for a continental breakfast of croissants, bread rolls, cheese, ham and jam along with juice and a hot drink. This will be served until 10.15 when we begin our act of worship with a guest speaker. The whole thing will be finished by 11am.

INTERNATIONAL MASS:- 4th June, 5.30pm—watch the space

St Vincent News

Collection to help Chelwood Foodbank Plus on Sunday May 8th. There will be a list posted in the church porch of items that are needed, both foodstuffs and toiletries. You can also look on their FaceBook page and click on "Shop on website" to get an idea of what is needed to help those who are currently struggling to feed their families. This week they ran short of bags of rice too, 500g and 1kg.

Concert at St Michael's on Friday 6th May- Eccles Community Choir Music for every taste. £8 on the door, proceeds to The Mill in Bramhall.

Roof-work - The site set up & scaffolding for the Roof Replacement is scheduled for the 19th May for commencement on the 16th May.

INTERNATIONAL MASS:- 5th June, 9.30am—watch the space

Please send any items for inclusion in the newsletter to the Parish Office by 12 midday on Thursday. Kindly indicate parish of choice for your mass intentions. Bear in mind that dates might not be available.

Our Lady and the Apostles, Shaw Heath, Stockport SK3 8BQ St. Ambrose, Adswood Road, Stockport, SK3 3QA, St. Vincent de Paul, 29 Handley Road, Bramhall, Stockport, SK7 3E

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