



Masses and Liturgies		
Time, church		Liturgy
Monday	0900 STM	Mass
Tuesday	0900 STM	Mass
Wednesday	0930 STM 1900 SP	Requiem Joanna Anderson Stations of The Cross
Thursday	0900 SP	Mass
Friday	1230 SP	Mass
Saturday	1000 SP	Reconciliation
	1100 SP	Mass and Novena
	1300 STM	Jubilee Mass for +Brain
	1800 STM	Reconciliation
	1830 STM	Mass
Sunday	0930 SP	Mass
	1100 STM	Mass
	1500 STM	Stations of The Cross
	1830 SP	Mass

Baptisms Registration takes place at STM after 1100 Mass on the first Sunday of each month. Parents are warmly invited to register their child after that Mass

Pray for those who are sick

Mary Welsby, Colette Ogden, Denis Bardsley, Roy Smethurst, Eileen Gill, Clare Hadlow, Jean O'Loughlin, Ellen (Nell) Orry, Austin Fagan, Anne Edge, Madeleine Sale, Fiona Jones, Paul Brierley, Margaret Murray, Danny Duignan, Irene Woolrich, Christine Cowen, Gordon Jackson, Mary Upton, John Kirby, Anna Beisty, Kathleen Mastin, Denis Fitzpatrick, Martin Brennan, Peggy Connarty, Jean Woolley, John Loran, Donald Adamson, Paul Tamburro, James Weinowski, Liane Clegg

Masses received

People of the Parish, Sick and Housebound, Sheila Welsby, Nora and Norman Brown, Special intention, Mass in thanksgiving, Joan Hall, Imelda O'Hanlon, Joanna Anderson LD 2, Catherine Hunt AV, Joan Needle, AV, Bill Hunt B, Brian Hunt AV, Andrew Maguire, Angela Shepherd AV, Tom Letcher Snr BA, Len Walker BA 2, Vee Williamson AV 2, Joan Anderson LD 2, Bernadette Stark B, William Green Coogan AV, Sheila Allen LD, John Mills LD, Kevin and Enid Boughton 2, Debbie Edwards LD 4, Maud Gibbons AV, Mrs E Hynes LD, Michael Loftus AV, James Weinowski S, Dmytro Owramenko AV

Confirmation 2024

Confirmation applications are now being received. Those in Cardinal Langley school will receive the forms via Sr Linda. If you are not in a Catholic school and would like an application form, please contact the parish office.

Parish finance

Last week £1605 was banked for the parish. Thank you.

Church cleaning at St Peter's

If you can spare one hour every fortnight on a Thursday, after 0900 Mass, please ring 07968 771263. This is an important ministry and we would value any support you can give to keep our church in a clean and pristine condition. Thank you.

Ministry of Lector

		17-18 Feb	24-25 Feb	2-3 March
Sat	1830	M Wray	C Williams	M O'Regan
Sun	0930	M Perks	D Walsh	J Kelleher
Sun	1100	J Duffin	P Martin	M Kelly
Sun	1830	M Gifford	M Hopkins	D Walsh
Extra-ordinary Ministers of The Eucharist				
Sun	0930	C Halliwell	A Sowerby	C Millward

This week's Gospel

The Gospel reading is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent. The desert marks the beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus.

Pope Francis Angelus, 11 February

On Sunday Pope Francis invited the faithful to listen and reach out to the suffering, reminding them that Jesus' style with those who suffer is few words and concrete actions. Love needs concreteness, presence, encounter, time, and space offered gratuitously, Pope Francis said. It cannot be reduced to nice words or images on a screen. The Pope recalled that the day's Gospel reading on the healing of the leper (Mk 1:40-45) offers us an example of Jesus' style with those who suffer: Few words and concrete actions. The Pope said that we see Jesus behave like this several other times in the Gospel: when he heals the deaf and dumb, the paralysed, and many other needy people. He always does this - he speaks little and promptly follows his words with actions. Pope Francis went on to note that we can meet this



St Peter & St Thomas More
CATHOLIC PARISH

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wonderful way of loving also in some people we encounter in our lives: restrained in words but generous in action; reluctant to show off but ready to be helpful; effective in assisting because they are willing to listen. Friends to whom we can ask, 'Will you help me?' This concreteness, the Pope said, is even more important today in a world where an evanescent virtuality of relationships seems to be increasingly prevalent. Love cannot be reduced to nice words, images on a screen, selfies of a moment, or hasty messages. These are useful tools, but they are not enough for love; they cannot replace concrete presence. Pope Francis, therefore invited the faithful to ask themselves if they are able to listen to people and make themselves available to meet their needs or, instead, make excuses and hide behind abstract and useless words.

Coffee morning

The next coffee morning will be on Wednesday 13 March after 0900 Mass at STM.

'One In The Spirit' Prayer Group

We meet for praise, worship and spiritual support on Tuesday evenings 8-10pm in the sacristy at STM. All welcome.

APF Missions

If you would like to donate to the Red Box APF you can bring a donation in an envelope and leave it in the baskets in church, or bring in your box to empty in church.

Sick and housebound visits

If you would like a visit, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

Deanery Station Mass

To be held in STM Church on Thursday 29 February at 7:30pm with refreshments in the hall afterwards.

Pastoral visit

Bishop John is to make a pastoral visit on 24/25 February. There will be tea/coffee in STM hall after 11am Mass on Sunday 25 February so that the Bishop can say 'hello' to parishioners.

Middleton and Heywood Lourdes Group

Coffee Morning, with refreshments including bacon butties, in STM hall after 1100 Mass on Sunday 18 February.

St Patrick's social evening

Friday 15 March in STM hall at 7.00pm. Come along and join in a fun filled night of music, lighted hearted quizzes and entertainment for all the family as we celebrate the feast day of St Patrick. Remember to bring your own drinks and snacks, though tea and coffee will be provided for a donation. The cost of entry is only £3.00.

Toddler Group STM Hall

From Monday 26 February there will be a toddler group every Monday afternoon, 1.15-3pm (term time only) in STM church hall. Entrance will be £2 for an adult & child. Hope to see you there for a play, a cuppa & biscuits, any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch. Thanks, Gemma. 07986696479

Bishop Brain's 60th Jubilee

Bishop Brain will be celebrating 60 years of priesthood in February. There will be a Mass at St Thomas More church at 1pm on Saturday 24 February, followed by refreshments in the hall. It is an opportunity for us to give thanks for the gift of his priestly ministry and we ask God to continue to bless us as a diocese and parish. Please keep Bishop Brain and his family in your prayers at this special time. 60 years spent in the service of the Lord is truly a great gift to the church and a wonderful gift to celebrate.

World day of Prayer 2024

A service for everyone on the theme 'I beg you, bear with one another in love', to be held in Alkington & Providence United Reform Church Manchester New Road, Middleton on Friday 1 March 2-3pm, followed by light refreshments.

Caritas Salford Appeal for Volunteers

To find out more about the huge range of opportunities available, please visit: www.caritassalford.org.uk/volunteer

St Joseph's Penny and Lent appeal

Caritas Salford has lots of information and resources on its website about how you can join in with this year's Lent and St Joseph's Penny appeals. www.caritassalford.org.uk/SJP



Communion Hymn at SP

You are invited to join in the chorus...

Here in the bread that is broken,
here in the cup that is poured,
Here in the word that is spoken: Jesus Christ is Lord!
Here where the poor find their treasure,
here where the greatest are least,
Come find a love beyond measure,
in this heavenly feast.