

Wednesday 7th September 2022 - A WEEKLY PRAYER CUSTOM



Encountering Christ
Prayerfully preparing for the
Sunday Mass and praying in
particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 11th September 2022 - The Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Relax & Remember

Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



2 Read

Taken from the Gospel for 11th September 2022 (Luke 15:1-32): Forgiveness

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. "This man," they said, "welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he spoke this parable to them: "What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? 'Rejoice with me,' he would say, 'I have found my sheep that was lost.' In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance. Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? 'Rejoice with me,' she would say, 'I have found the drachma I lost.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner." Jesus also said: "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine. So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. And they began to celebrate. Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. 'Your brother has come,' replied the servant, 'and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.' He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, 'Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening.' The father said, 'My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

3 Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

In today's Gospel St Luke recounts three particularly attractive stories about forgiveness. The first two form a typical Lukan pair. First he tells the story of the lost sheep, which also occurs in St Matthew's Gospel account. Luke, however, places the accent on the joy in heaven at the return of the sinner. Then, to the story of the man looking for his sheep, Luke adds the story of a woman looking for her lost coin. He is always careful to show that women have an equal part in the Kingdom with men. So he deliberately pairs Zechariah and Mary; Simeon and Anna, Jairus' daughter raised to life with the Widow of Naim's son, and so on. The main story today, however, is the Prodigal Son, told with all Luke's love, artistry and delicacy of character-study. In the full version of this Gospel, we hear of the wastrel son who goes back home simply because he is hungry; of the loving father perpetually on the look-out, running to meet the son, interrupting the carefully-prepared speech and pampering the returned young dissolute; of the disgruntled stay-at-home who invents slanders about the other's 'loose women' and is gently corrected by his father's reminder that he is 'your brother'. Jesus presents us with an unforgettable picture of the overflowing love and forgiveness of God. Is there anyone you have not yet forgiven? Sometimes it is not easy.

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

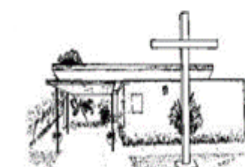
4 Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.



Newsletter for the Parishes of
Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose and St. Vincent de Paul

Telephone: 0161 480 2489 Email: stockport3parishes@gmail.com
Websites: ourladyandtheapostles.co.uk/ stambrosechurch.org.uk/ stvincentbramhall.org/
Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Onuoha Email: frifeanyimom@yahoo.com
Deacon: Rev. Moses Ibeh



TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...) (for both St. Vincent's and St. Ambrose')

Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sun 4th September	TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5.30pm 7.00pm	Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady's	Our Parish Family Deceased Members of McGowan + Higgins families & McGowan + Carney Families
		9.30am 11.00am	St Vincent's Our Lady's	Diane & Rich Smith's Family Betty, Robert, Howard, Ken Whitehead (RIP)
		1.00pm	OLATA- Baptism	Billy Wilson Wall
Mon 5th September	Ferial	9.30am	St. Ambrose	Colin (Speedy Recovery)
Tues 6th September	Ferial	9.30am 12.00noon	Our Lady's Funeral service at the Crem.	Marie O'Neill RIP (1st ann) Anthony Stewart Findell RIP
Wed 7th September	Ferial	9.30am 11.00am	St Vincent's OL- Requiem Mass	Finula- Operation recovery, (Get Well) Eileen Melia RIP
Thurs 8th September	THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	9:30am 7.00pm	St Ambrose Our Lady's	Cerys Jones -Poorly Barbara Wharmby RIP (3rd ann)
Fri 9th September	Ferial (St Peter Claver, P)	9:30am	St Vincent's	Pauline Doherty- ann
Sat 10th September	Ferial (St Ambrose Barlow, P, M) (BVM on Saturday)	9.30 am 5.30pm 7:00pm	Our Lady's Vigil Mass Sat. St Ambrose Vigil Mass Sat. Our Lady's	Tommy Gallagher RIP Gerald Morrissey -(ann) Tommy & Caroline Higgins RIP- Caroline's B/D (ann)
Sun 11th September	TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR EDUCATION)	9.30am 11.00am 1pm-4pm	St Vincent's Our Lady's OLATA	Our Parish Family (For Teachers and Students) Joe Mollard & The Mollard Family Heritage Open Day

There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every weekday morning from 8:30am—0930hrs.
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 will commence in October

First Holy Communion: Preparations will soon resume in school and at Our Lady's church for 2023. We are collecting names and all candidates are expected to come to mass and join the children's liturgy from September.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): *Congratulations to the seven people recently received/baptised into the Church!* 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.

CONFIRMATION FOR OUR LADY'S, ST JOSEPH'S, ST AMBROSE & ST VINCENTS PARISHES has been scheduled for 9th December 2022 at Our Lady's. Please send names to the parish office.

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: McKenzie Kiely, Eileen McGahan, Winifred Thomas, Veronica Morrissey, Barbara Murphy, Michelle Philips, Maureen Brosnahan, Kelly Brosnahan, Zach Tierney, Irene Cox, Lee Abernathy, Janice Cook, 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, and Shelagh Lees.

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

Recently Departed: May the souls of **Anthony Stewart Findell, Father Gregory Downing, Eileen Melia,** and all the souls of all our departed rest in peace.

Anniversaries

Tom Davies, Barrie Cook, Paul Conlon, Graham Joseph Wright, Anthony Blythe, Christopher Morris, Ellen Shiels, Mary Miller, Peter Anthony Gedroge, Caroline Louise McDonagh, Annie Dutton, Margaret Duffley, Edmund Gill, Joseph Heath, Marie Massey, Fr. Con O'Kelly, Monica Deakin, Stephen Duffy, Chris Conlon, John Anthony, Kevin Flaherty, Michael Dawson, Ellen Pollington.

During **September** : We pray for the **Abolition Of The Death Penalty:** that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

MAYOR OF STOCKPORT PRAYER BREAKFAST —Conference Room, 1st Floor, Fred Perry House, (next to the Town Hall) on Thursday, 17th November 2022 - 7.30am to 9.00am

HARRYTOWN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL has vacancies for General Administrator(s). Hours are negotiable, up to 37 per week (Term Time only). Please visit the School Website for more information – www.harrytownschool.org

ST BERNADETTE RELIC TOUR—Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes—please see the at the back of church — Here is the link for all the information with regards to the tour. <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/news/st-bernadette-relics-tour-2022>

DAYS OF ACTION FOR NONVIOLENCE, 21 September – 2 October This is a project of Catholic Nonviolence Initiative and Pax Christi International. What might you do? Celebrate the creativity of nonviolence. Can you bring a story or prayer for nonviolence and link it to one of the dates/events listed? Share and pray the Vow of Nonviolence on 2 October. Amplify the many ways in which Pope Francis is moving us in the direction of nonviolence at personal, national and global levels. Explore the faith challenge of nonviolence. See below prayer and reflection card for personal or group use. **1 September – 4 October**, Season of Creation theme: Listen to the Voice of Creation. **21 September**, International Day of Peace. **15 – 22 September**, Week of Prayer for Peace in Palestine & Israel. **2 October**, International Day of Nonviolence. Use the nonviolence prayer & reflection card on this day in your home and parish. See <https://paxchristi.org.uk/wp/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Prayer-Vow-October-2022.pdf>

SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY—There will be the Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Sunday 11th September 2022 at 2pm. Join us at St Columba, Plas Newton Lane, Chester, CH2 1PL. The agenda and draft minutes of the previous AGM will be available at <https://teamshrewsbury.wordpress.com/agm-and-committee-meeting-agendas-and-minutes/>

THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION'S MANCHESTER NEWMAN LECTURE Thursday 15 September 2022 at 6.30 pm Friends Meeting House 6 Mount St. Manchester M2 5NS: The speaker: Cardinal Archbishop Michael Fitzgerald M Afr. FRATERNITY: A PROPOSAL AND A PROJECT FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS. Admission is free but book your place by contacting Chris Quirke by email dcq@mac.com or phone 07764 946074 .

SECOND COLLECTION—For Mission Sunday will be on the third Sunday in September– 18th. **LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTIONS** (excludes standing orders): **OLATA– £500.27 St Vincent's-£246.50 (error in last week's SV collection. It was £185.22 and not £1185.22) St Ambrose' £217.00 THANK YOU.** **OFFERTORY ENVELOPES** can be obtained from the Parish Office or see links for online giving to the Parishes or check our websites.

WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW PARISHIONERS: Please remember to introduce yourself to Fr Martin, if you are new to the parish, and do indicate if you wish to volunteer for any role in the parish. Perhaps you exercised a particular ministry in your previous parish, or now feel able to, we would be delighted to have your services. You are welcome to our parish family!

WELCOME BACK FROM SUMMER HOLIDAYS to all the school children and teachers.

MASS INTENTIONS: There are loads of available spaces now for Mass intentions. Please complete the envelopes at the back and **SUBMIT**, if you would like to have Masses offered for yourself or your loved ones.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE— There will be a meeting for those booked on the Fatima Pilgrimage on Thursday 15th September 2022 at Our Lady's after 7pm Mass.

FUNERAL OF FR GREGORY DOWNING. The Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Friday 9th September at Saint Peter's, Stalybridge at 12.30pm. Please keep Father Greg in your prayers.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Friday 14th October at Our Lady's Social Club, a social evening for the 3 parishes including live music and disco. £5 per ticket, proceeds to the medical outreach project in Nigeria. Tickets will go on sale soon.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED—For Our Lady's Car Park—Stockport County Home Games. Volunteers required 2 hours before the game to man the car park collecting donations for Fr Martins Outreach Medical Mission. There are 19 games before the end of the season and a great opportunity to raise money for this cause. Can you spare 1 or 2 hours prior to match kick off? Fixture list dates on the notice board.

PRAISE IN THE PARK 2022 Sunday 11 th September, 3pm-4.30pm at Bramall Park, Churches Together in Bramhall and Woodford (CTiBW) lead an afternoon of Christian music and singing on the green next to Bramall Hall. Please do come along and join in the singing. A great opportunity to remind us of our shared Christian faith.

Our Lady's News

SATURDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, CHURCH CLEANING MORNING 10AM TO MIDDAY - please come along with your gardening tools to tidy the weeds around the church or with your cleaning cloths and dusters to clear away the cobwebs etc. Or just come to enjoy the company or help with serving tea and coffee. Please, do get in touch or indicate in the paper provided at the back of the church, if you wish to join a gardening team.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: If you have not yet collected your box of blue envelopes, please check at the back of church. If you recognize any of the names on the boxes, could you please help deliver to them? Thanks! If you would like to start using envelopes or would prefer bank standing order please contact the parish office.

TEA AND COFFEE: On Sunday 4th September the will be no Coffee Morning after 11am Mass. .

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP—resumes **this Sunday, 4th September!**

HERITAGE OPEN DAY:- 1—4 pm. Church is open. Learn about the history of the parish.

St Ambrose News

CHURCH CLEANING will take place after Mass on Monday 5th Sep. All volunteers welcome!

YEAR BOOKS—There are still a few Year books available. Just leave a donation.

PIETY STALL—has some new gifts and cards for sale.

St Vincent News

MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER - Service of Word and Communion only

SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER - CHURCH CLEANING MORNING 10AM TO MIDDAY, please come along with your cleaning cloths and dusters to clear away the cobwebs, or your gardening tools to tidy the weeds from the car park **ST VINCENT'S FEAST DAY SEPT 25TH** - Mass at 1pm followed by a social event with raffle. All proceeds to Fr Martin's Medical Outreach charity. We will be asking for volunteers to bake cakes after Mass

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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