



Encountering Christ

The Wednesday Prayer Custom for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families

- 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.
- Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, 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.

1 Read

The Gospel for Sunday 10th November 2024

THE WIDOW'S OFFERING

In his teaching Jesus said, "Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive." He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on."

Taken from Mark 12:38-44 The Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

2 Reflect

After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

We are presented in the gospel with a contrast between the dignitaries of the Temple, parading in their splendour, and the least of the least. These little coins of the widow are called lepta, meaning 'light', hardly more than shavings of copper, hardly worth picking up. Yet the value of a gift depends not on its absolute worth, but in the love with which it is given. The value of a birthday present depends on the love which it expresses, and the care which has gone into choosing or making it. One can imagine the widow debating with herself: if she made this supreme gift to the Lord, could she survive without these two little coins. What would she have to go without? As with the Sidonian widow in the first reading overleaf, this paltry gift is a rich expression of the widow's trust in divine love and care, and of her wanting to do something for the Lord. The little gift would go unnoticed among the riches of the exquisite and lavish Temple building, for its splendour was the wonder of the eastern Mediterranean, but her offering is a heartfelt expression of her love. Just so with our prayer of praise: it is the joyful outpouring of our love.

What gift could you give to the Lord?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

3 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. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, patience, humility, joy, forgiveness, self-control, courage, generosity, faith or something else.

4 Pray for Families

This Wednesday's word for our school families is GIFT!

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

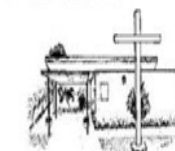
Newsletter for the Parishes of Our Lady and the Apostles, St. Ambrose and St. Vincent de Paul

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



Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time, 3rd November 2024

You can join us via this Live Stream link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport> (for Our Lady's church) or [Stockport Parishes - YouTube](#) (for both St. Vincent's and St. Ambrose')



The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity 234025

Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sunday 3rd November	THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.	9.30am	St Vincent's	Dorothy Hancock 90th Birthday, Thanksgiving
		10am	St Ambrose	Our Parish Family
		11am	Our Lady's	Emmanuel and Florentina Lesole RIP
		2pm	Our Lady's	Igbo Holy Mass
Monday 4th November	St Charles Borromeo, B	9.30am	St. Ambrose	World Peace
Tuesday 5th November	Ferial	9.30am	Our Lady's	Natalya's Father
Wednesday 6th November	Ferial	9.30am	St Vincent's	Mary Ryan
		11.30am	Aquinas College	Mass preceded by Adoration
Thursday 7th November	Ferial St Ambrose Parish Feast Day	9.30am	St. Ambrose	Raymond Burke RIP
		7pm	Our Lady's	Souls of Priests
Friday 8th November	Ferial	9.30am	St Vincent's	Lobo Family RIP
		12noon	Our Lady's Requiem Mass	Funeral, Elizabeth Ann West
Saturday 9th November	FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA OF THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER	9.30am	Our Lady's	Tom Guilfoyle RIP
		6.30pm	Our Lady's	Our Parish Family
Sunday 10th November	THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. Day of Special Prayer for All the Victims of War. R Remembrance Day	9.30am	St Vincent's	Mr and Mrs M Jones, Golden Wedding
		10am	St Ambrose	Ian Charles RIP, Ann.
		11am	Our Lady's	Bernard Lesole RIP

There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Holy Hour before every weekday morning Mass from 8:30am—0930hrs and before every Sunday Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available after 9.30am Mass on Saturday morning.

Please pray for those preparing to receive the sacraments

Baptisms: New Baptism classes will start in October. Contact the parish office.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults): 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. Start date to be announced soon.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION: Please register with the parish office as soon as possible.

WEDDINGS: Please speak to Fr Martin after Mass or contact the parish office.

SAFEGUARDING LEADS FOR THE THREE PARISHES :- St Vincent's-Judy Carey carey.judith@yahoo.com OLATA Ged Murtagh geraldmurtagh@outlook.com St Ambrose — Marie Byrne ma.byrne1@ntlworld.com

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: Teresa Greenhalgh, Jane Coupes, Michael Philbin, Mary Metcalfe, Taya, Hayden Longworth, Peter Stanway, McKenzie Kiely, Pauline Hinson, Eileen McGahan, Barbara Murphy, Michelle Philips, Kelly Brosnahan, Zach Tierney, Irene Cox, Lee Abernathy, Janice Cook, Annie Topping, Marie Kennefik, Nora Reade.

IN ST. AMBROSE'S: Walt Tomlin, Roy Porter, Adeel, Vera Gallagher, Michael Gallagher, Molly Lane, Michael Nealon, Colin Burns, Cerys Jones, June Campbell, Mavis Doggett, Khia Whitehead, Mary Sein, Paul Thuoc, Mary Young, Veronica Norbury, Imelda Judge, Veronica Lane, Joanna Winter, Paul McClure, Helen Jenkins, Helen Leasor, Terry Glynn, Leaf Matthison, Susan Claffey.

RECENTLY DEPARTED: May the souls of Elizabeth West, Veronica Knowles, Margaret Forester, Anne Sheridan, Raymond John Burke, Stuart Thorneycroft, Bernadette Marsh, Maureen Brosnahan, Brian Thorpe, Michael Thomas Keeley, Teresa Burrows, Graham Kingston, Denise Corlett, Joan Constable, Anthony Way, Richard Laurens, Stefanie Goodfellow, Andrew Way, Kevin Yoh, Margaret Porter, Eleanor Loftus, Julie Scanlan, Eddie Hickman, Patricia Byrne, Patrick Ryan, Celia Cameron, John Campbell, Monica McManus, Laurence John Gallagher, Tommy Mackinlay, Dorothy Chamberlain, Sister Thomas More McGrath, and all the souls of all our recently departed rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jenna McDonald, Dorothy Kelly, Thelma Wharmby, Margaret Kent, Eric Joseph Egginton, Francis J. Kemball, John Shepherd, Richard Murphy, Bridie McGowan, Michael Cook, Mark Iverson, Joseph Brett, Kenneth Ashmore, Edward Maguire Snr., John William Power, Andrew Patrick McGowan, Eileen Nerney

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

FIRST FORGIVENESS/FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES—Please let the office know immediately if you have not already put your name down to participate in these Sacramental programmes and wish to do so. Please register by contacting the parish office - stockport3parishes@gmail.com. Mass attendance cards are at the back of church and need signing by the priest after each mass.

BAPTISM CLASSES—The next course will be in January 2025. Book early via the parish email or phone. If you desperately need the baptism course before January, please talk to Fr Martin.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH are held before every morning Mass in our three parishes. Please join us.

OLATA CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP -Adjourned till next spring.

CAFOD-DEC MIDDLE EAST HUMANITARIAN APPEAL The conflict in the Middle East is getting worse and the families affected need our help. Please donate today to the CAFOD-DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal and support local Caritas partners in Gaza and Lebanon as they continue to provide essential food, water and shelter: cafod.org.uk/give

FOREIGN CURRENCY - If you've returned from holiday with any foreign notes and coins, please consider donating them to help the work of the SVP (Society of St Vincent de Paul) among the poor and disadvantaged at home and abroad. If you find any old British, Irish and European coins please bring them as well. There are big jars at the entrances of our 3 churches.

IF YOU ARE A TAX PAYER and are not already in our parish's Gift Aid scheme, please ask for details on how to join.

ST AMBROSE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL are holding a Stay and Play session for children who will be starting Reception in September 2025. Tuesday 19th November from 2:00 - 2:30. Please contact school on 0161 480 8466 to book your place.

OUR LADY'S SCHOOL—On Thursday, we welcomed Linda Varley and family members from the Stockport Normandy Veterans Association, who spoke to the children about their memories and experiences of World War II. Our children will be participating in their Remembrance Service at Stockport War Memorial on 10th November. **SAVE THE DATE:** Thursday 21st November 9:30am-12:00pm. Do you know anyone whose child is due to start school next September? We will be having an Open Morning for our September 2025 Reception Intake on Thursday 21st November. Please spread the word and come and visit our amazing school!

Fr Martin's Book 'Life is always worth living: Assisted Dying or Living' is still available in our churches and on Amazon.

FOOTSTEPS EVENT ON THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER - The next event in the programme of inspiring talks will be on Thursday 7 November at 7.30pm in the parish centre of St Peter's, Green Lane, Hazel Grove SK7 4EA with Mary Hardiman. Her counselling work currently involves dealing with trauma in two North West prisons. Footsteps welcome you to join with other Christians in an informal, relaxed, café-style setting with drinks and nibbles all to help us on our faith journey.

MARY'S MEALS CHRISTMAS CONCERT - Saturday 23rd November 7.30pm, doors open 6.30pm, St Bede's College, Alexandra Park Road, Manchester, M16 8HX, Step in from the winter chill for an evening of joyful music featuring The Sacred Heart Choir. Hear from Mary's Meals founder and Sunday Times best-selling author, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, browse seasonal stalls and enjoy mulled wine and mince pies. All proceeds help Mary's Meals serve nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. (please note this event will have a BSL interpreter) Tickets £12 (inc refreshments) from Eventbrite: averyjoyfulchristmas.eventbrite.co.uk or call 0800 698 1212 or email info@marysmeals.org

ST JOSEPH'S WALSHINGHAM 2025 PILGRIMAGE For 4 nights from 5 May 2025 to 9 May 2025. Please email Shelagh Humphries :- shelaghclarinet@virginmedia.com or telephone 07853176698 for more details, approximate cost £508 Ensuite room / £432 Standard for half board and includes coach . A £100 per person non-refundable deposit required by the 30 November 2024.

THE NEW LECTIONARY will launch in England, Scotland and Wales from 1st December. The Daily Readings according to the New Lectionary will be available in Magnificat from the 1st December 2024. Subscription offers are available: <https://catholicherald.co.uk/magnificat/> or contact the Catholic Herald at: 0203 882 9432 before November 10th to receive the December edition.

PAPER AND CRAFT MATERIALS—A large quantity has been donated to help raise funds for Fr Martin's Medical Mission. If you are interested to have any of this please contact Mark Kernburg 07827628261.

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS TO OUR PARISHES. Please introduce yourselves to Fr. Martin and let the parish office have your email address so that we can send you the weekly newsletter and Sunday reflections every Friday afternoon. Contact us at stockport3parishes@gmail.com.

FILM NIGHT - The Chosen—Season 4 episode 1—Meet Herod, Herodias and Salome and see the dance that got John the Baptist beheaded. We see Zachariah, Elizabeth and Mary together at the Visitation. It's really so well done, if you haven't been to see any of this, just come along—you won't regret it. Enjoy a drink at the social club whilst watching this fabulous show on the big screen. Thursday 7th November 2024—Our Lady's Social Club after 7pm Mass. Donations to Fr Martin Medical Mission optional.

NEW SINGING GROUP.— VOICES NEEDED—Come along to Our Lady's and join our new singing and musicians group—headed by our very own Noel on guitar—in preparation for singing our Sunday Masses. Practice holds every Monday evening between 6-7.30pm in Our Lady's church. Music is an important part of worship and praise to God. Please come along and join us.

NOVEMBER LIST—During the month of November, we pray especially for the faithful departed. Please take a 'Month of the Holy Souls' envelope and place inside the names of your deceased parents, relatives, friends and all for whom you wish to pray. Holy Mass will be offered for them throughout the month of November and any donations will be used for Masses for Holy Souls for the following 12 months.

11TH JANUARY 2025 MEDICAL OUTREACH MISSION—A date has been set for Fr Martin's next Free Medical Outreach in Nigeria - 11th January 2025. A GoFundMe page is now live for donations. For details, please click on this link <https://gofund.me/181ecc20> or scan the QR code.

Thank you all, once again, for your invaluable support, without which this crucial annual humanitarian project would not have thrived for the past five years. Please keep the programme in your prayers, as so many depend on it. God bless you.

EASYFUNDRAISING supporters have already raised £224.12 so far without costing them a penny. You can help them keep up this momentum! Use easyfundraising whenever you need to buy anything online & invite others to sign up and join you in raising free donations. <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/fr-martins-medical-outreach-mission>.

OUR LADY'S NEWS

FIRST SACRAMENTS AND CONFIRMATION—enrolment is now. **PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR A REGISTRATION FORM.** Mass attendance cards are at the back of church and need signing by the priest after each Mass.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY -every Sunday in the Guild Room during 11am Mass.

THE PIETY STALL - at the back of church has cards for every occasion including Mass cards, also rosary beads and medals. Open after Mass on Tuesday morning, and before and after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

DONA ONLINE CARD DONATION STAND -Feel free to give it a try or continue to use the QR code, or the weekly envelopes & standing order.

TEA AND COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS - Come to Our Lady's Guild Room after 11am Mass this Sunday for tea/coffee and chats.

ST AMBROSE NEWS

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ALTAR FLOWERS—Donations are requested for altar flowers. Please put any money you can spare in the box at the back of church. All donations gratefully received.

MASS IN SACRISTY - Weekday Masses will be held in the Sacristy to save on heating costs.

QR CODE Please use this QR for online donations for St Ambrose.

ST VINCENT'S NEWS

FIRST SACRAMENTS AND CONFIRMATION—enrolment is now. **PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR A REGISTRATION FORM.** Mass attendance cards are at the back of church and need signing by the priest after each Mass.

ALTAR FLOWERS - these have been donated to celebrate Dorothy Hancock's 90th birthday and also in Remembrance of Mary Ryan's first anniversary from her daughters.

PLEASE STAY AFTER SUNDAY MASS for coffee and cake to celebrate Dorothy's birthday.

MONDAY 4TH - Service of Word and Communion followed by Knit and Natter

OUR 19TH ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE will be held on Sunday 10th November. If you have a relative who died in conflicts or anyone who has died in the last 12 months, and would like to take a candle to the altar, please let Veronica Martin know by November 8th. Names submitted after this date will not be included on the list.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 1ST - Annual Children's Toy Mass. Donated Christmas gifts will be distributed by Caritas to needy families.

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, Adwood Road, Stockport, SK3 3QA; St. Vincent de Paul, 29 Handley Road, Bramhall, Stockport, The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity 234025 **Data Protection Privacy Notice** The parish of Our Lady and the Apostles sometimes collects personal information about parishioners. All personal information is collected, processed and stored in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. This is retained only as necessary and used by the Parish/Diocese for the benefit of the Parish and for legitimate reasons such as administrative and religious purposes. You can read our full privacy notice at www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/about-us/privacy-notice.*

