

Entrance Antiphon**Cf. Ps26:8-9**

Of you my heart has spoken, seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First reading**Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18****God enters into a covenant with Abraham, the man of faith.**

In those days: God brought Abram outside and said, 'Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.' And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness. And he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm****Ps 27(26):1. 7-8b. 8c-9c. 13-14. 1a***The LORD is my light and my salvation.***Second Reading****Philippians 3:17-4:1**

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****Gospel Acclamation**

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father. From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'. Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

Gospel**Luke 9:28b-36**

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah' - not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!' And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen. The Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Communion Antiphon This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.**Mt 17:5**

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTS OUR PARISHES FINANCIALLY. Our coloured envelopes for the new financial year are available for collection and you can use them from 5th April. If you'd like a box of envelopes & don't already have one please ask. If you'd prefer to make your donation via Standing Order we have a form for you to submit to your bank. You can also donate with the DONA machine at the entrance to St Vincent's & Our Lady's via your debit/credit card or use the QR code for your parish on the next page. If you are a UK taxpayer we can claim an additional 25% on what you give if you complete a Gift Aid form and donate using our numbered envelopes, standing order or by cheque. The additional money makes a huge difference to our Parish income.

The Jubilee Prayer: Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Parish Jubilee Prayer (to be prayed daily) - Hail Mary and Glory be.**Extra jubilee Prayer Commitment :** Daily Rosary & Daily Holy Hour (available in our churches 8.30 am to 9.30 am)**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**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, 16th March 2025**You can join us via this Live Stream link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/ourladystockport> (for Our Lady's church) or [Stockport Parishes YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) (for both St. Vincent's and St. Ambrose')

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a Registered Charity 234025



Date	Feast	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sunday 16th March	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	5pm Vigil	St Ambrose	Our Parish Family
		6.30pm Vigil	Our Lady's	Pat Mullin RIP
		9.30am	St Vincent's	Success in Exams
		11am	Our Lady's	Douglas Child, for a swift recovery
Monday 17th March	St Patrick, B, Patron of Ireland	1pm	Baptism Our Lady's	Baptism, Evelyn Rosemary Kelly & Thea Roberts
		2pm	Baptism St Ambrose	Baptism, Aiofe Whitehead
		9.30am	St. Ambrose	All our Irish Brothers and Sisters, Priests and Religious.
		10.45am	Funeral Service	Funeral Service of Carol Ann Angley at Stockport Crematorium
Tuesday 18th March	St Cyril of Jerusalem, B	9.30am	Our Lady's	Deceased Molloy Family Members.
Wednesday 19th March	ST JOSEPH, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.30am	St Vincent's	Souls of Priests
		1pm	Aquinas College	Mass Preceded by Adoration at 12.30pm
Thursday 20th March	Ferial	9.30am	St. Ambrose	Mary O'Connor RIP
		12.30pm	Funeral Service	Funeral Service of Deborah Chambers at Highfield Cemetery
		7pm	Our Lady's	Joanne Keily B'day Ann
Friday 21st March	Ferial	9.30am 7pm	St Vincent's St Vincent's	End to all wars/peace on earth Stations of the Cross, led by chil- dren's liturgy groups
Saturday 22nd March	Ferial	9.30am	Our Lady's	Paul Byrne RIP
		5pm Vigil	St Ambrose	Our Parish Family
		6.30pm Vigil	Our Lady's	Florence Donohoe RIP
Sunday 23rd March	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	9.30am 11 am	St Vincent's Our Lady's	Matthew Thorpe Birthday. Pat Mullin. RIP

There is **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Holy Hour** before every weekday morning Mass from 8.30am - 9.30am and before every Sunday Mass

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

Baptisms: 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 11am Mass every Sunday, at Our Lady's.

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

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

RECENTLY DEPARTED: May the souls of Carol Angley, Joseph Scott, Debbie Chambers, Johanne Mary Winter, Peter Barton, Agnes Costello, Patrick Mullin, Joanne Kiely, William Barton, Florence Donahoe, Brian Quinn, Jean Marie Peake, Brenda Bowden, Eileen Mary Brennan, Christopher O'Gara, Leslie Plover, and all the souls of our recently departed rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARIES: Thomas Fallon, Phillip James Pollitt, George William Wood, James Joseph Nerney, Bert Viggars, William (Bill) Vaughan, John H. Allcock, Mike Dwan, Charles Galligan

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES - Please register now as classes will start soon.

ADULT CONFIRMATION - Any adults who are yet to be Confirmed are invited to enrol now for the Confirmations in June 2025. A special preparation programme, tailored to your situation, will be explored. Please contact the office or Fr Martin.

BAPTISM CLASSES Book early via the parish email or phone.

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

PRO-LIFE PRAYER VIGIL AT OUR LADY'S - at the grotto every Saturday morning at 7:30am. Approx 75 mins. All are welcome.

OUR LADY'S SCHOOL NEWS: Our Lady's School News: To celebrate World Book Day on 6th March, children designed potatoes as their favourite book characters. There was an incredible array of wonderful characters - well done, everyone! Children also voted for the new Reading Ambassadors for each class.

PILGRIMAGE TO ASSISI AND LORETO 2025 - 1st September to 6th September 2025. Bed, Breakfast & Evening Meal. Visits to the Basilica of St Clare and the Basilica of St Francis, the Basilica of St Mary of the Angel, where the Franciscan movement started, the San Damiano monastery - the 1st St Clare monastery, the church of St Mary Major - see Carlo Acutis. Full day excursion to Loreto to visit the Holy House. Trips and guided tours all included in the price. Insurance available to those up to 90 years of age at £60. Cost - £850 per person sharing and £965 for a single room. Poster at the back of church with all the details. For a booking form or more information please email unitedheartspilgrims@gmail.com

DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE - Bookings for the Diocesan 2025 Jubilee Pilgrimage to Lourdes are now open. The brochure and booking forms are available to download from the Pilgrimage - www.shrewsburypilgrimage.co.uk .

RECONCILIATION DURING LENT - In addition to Saturdays, after the 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's, we are hoping to make Confessions available before and during each of the Palm Sunday Masses on 12th and 13th April. Please make the most of these opportunities during Lent; a period of preparation for Christ's Resurrection at Easter.

GARDEN MASSES FOR 2025 - Would you like to host a garden Mass this year? The available weeks are in May, June, July. In August Our Lady's parish will host a BBQ for all the volunteers from our three parishes, watch this space for details! The Garden Masses will be during the week, by 7.00pm, on one of the days that your church has a weekday Mass. Please express your interest in hosting one of these Masses by contacting the office.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - Lent Family Fast Day is on **Friday 14th March**. Envelopes for your donation are now available in our churches. There will be a collection for CAFOD on Saturday 15th / Sunday 16th March.

LENT SERIES OF TALKS on Faith, Hope and Love with Mrs Natalie Orefice and Fr David Irwin at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Hope Rd, Sale M33 3BF. At 7pm on 18th & 25th March and 1st April. The evening will conclude with Adoration and Compline. For Further details please contact Natalie Orefice Natalie.orefice@dioceseofshrewsbury.org or 07730 526826.

JOB VACANCY - Refugee Project coordinator post. Lead required for the established programme of activities across the four Manchester hotels accommodating people seeking asylum, Please see caritasshrewsbury.org.uk for more information.

JOB VACANCY PARISH SECRETARY - A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Secretary at the parishes of St Vincent's, Knutsford and St Winefride, Lymm (Based at St Vincent's). Hours: 12 per week. Rate of pay: £13 per hour. More details can be found via the Diocesan website <https://www.dioceseofshrewsbury.org/latest-vacancies/> CV's with a covering letter should be sent to Pauline McCulloch recruitment@dioceseofshrewsbury.org Closing date: Monday 31 March 2025.

LORETO COLLEGE VACANCY: Loreto Sixth Form is seeking to appoint a teacher of Core Religious Education and Chaplaincy Support. As a Core RE teacher, your unique role will be to develop students spiritually, ethically and theologically. For more information, please go to the Loreto Website vacancies page. Closing date 20.3.25 <https://www.loreto.ac.uk/vacancies/>

FROM SHREWSBURY LOURDES HOSPITALITY: You are invited by Shrewsbury Lourdes Hospitality to join them in prayer, saying the Rosary together via Zoom on Wednesdays during Lent. Details from secretary@teamshrewsbury.co.uk

ST JOSEPH'S EUCCHARISTIC SHRINE is hosting Family Faith and Fun Days, starting 23rd March. The days will start at 1.30pm, followed by adult and children faith study plus fun activities for the children, adults can join in, the day will end at 4pm after Guided Eucharistic Adoration. All are welcome. Fr Sean and all at St Joseph's look forward to meeting you. For more information, please contact Fr Sean via email stockportshrine@gmail.com

RETURNING TO THE CHURCH—We have recently had enquiries about returning to the Church after years or even decades of absence. If you know anyone in this situation, please, inform them they are most welcome back to the Church and to speak to the priest before or after Mass, if they can. Otherwise, they can just come to Confession on Saturday morning (or on appointment with the priest) and resume receiving Holy Communion. Once a Catholic, always a Catholic!

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.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC THIS EASTER (RCIA SESSIONS): We now have 10 candidates attending the programme, preparing to be received into the church this Easter. Are you or anyone you know interested in becoming Catholic or returning to the Church or learning more about the faith? Please contact the parish office, speak to Fr Martin after Mass or just join the sessions after the 11.00am Mass, in the presbytery.

NEW STATIONS OF THE CROSS & BOOK PRESENTATION—28th March at Our Lady and the Apostles at 7pm Stations of the Cross will use new reflections by Brenda Ackroyd - 'Jesus speaks on the way of the Cross'. Followed by a 'launch' of the new stations and other books by Brenda, in the Guild Room with Tea, Coffee and Chat. Proceeding to the Medical Outreach Service.

RETREAT FOR ALL MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST AND THE WORD, ON SATURDAY 5TH APRIL 2025 AT OUR LADY'S. - NEW READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO ALSO ATTEND. During this special day of prayer and reflection we will have a talk by guest speaker, Natalie Orefice, Director of Evangelisation and Catechesis at the Diocese of Shrewsbury. Please see the poster at the back of church and please let the parish office know if you are able to attend.

LENTEN ALMS JAR—are available for you to collect at the back of church. The donations will go to the Medical Outreach Mission. Please return the jars on Easter Sunday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—VOLUNTEER GROUPS REQUIRED - Please put your group's name forward for leading the Stations of Cross during Lent, each Friday until 11 April 2025. 21.3.25 - the Children's Liturgy groups at St Vincent's, 28.03.25 Brenda Ackroyd at Our Lady's. The following Friday evenings need to be covered please, **04.04.25 at St Ambrose** and **11.04.25 at St Vincents**.

CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS at St Vincent's at 7pm on March 21st. This year there will be a focus on the Year of Hope for Jubilee year 2025. Please can you round up our young parishioners to come along and help to lead the stations of the cross; as we did last year. Thanks for your support.

FR MARTIN'S MEDICAL OUTREACH MISSION VIDEO is now available on the parish website or via this link - <https://vimeo.com/1058739212/1fda8b4453>

THE GOFUNDME PAGE IS STILL AVAILABLE, click on this link <https://gofund.me/181ecc20> or scan the QR code. Or let your shopping raise free donations by signing up on <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/fr-martins-medical-outreach-mission> So far, 20 of us have raised over £250.

CHANGE TO OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK - Please note that the office will be closed on Monday 17th March and will be open on Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th, Thursday 20th and Friday 21st.

OUR LADY'S NEWS

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

THE PIETY STALL - Open after Mass on Tuesday morning, and before and after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Lots of St Patrick's day gifts and cards, are now available.

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

TEA AND COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS - After 11am Mass on Sunday.

ST AMBROSE NEWS

PARISH LIBRARY AT ST AMBROSE - There are books on subjects such as the Church, the Saints and the Rosary to borrow at St Ambrose. Please borrow any books that interest you and please expand the library by donating suitable books.

PIETY STALL—Thank you to everyone who supports the Piety stall. Due to your support we have managed to make two donations. One to Fr Geoff for £250 for his education charity and on behalf of his 80th birthday and one to Fr Martin for £50 for his outreach programme. We have some lovely Holy Communion gifts, Rosary beads and children's Bibles available at the back of church and we also have Easter cards in stock.

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

ST VINCENT'S NEWS

THIS SUNDAY - coffee after Mass, please stay and meet fellow parishioners. Also please bring any food donations for Chelwood Food-bank.

Monday 17th - 10am Service of Word and Communion followed by Lent Prayer Group.

Monday 17th - 7.30pm Exploring Faith group meeting. We use a Bishop Robert Barron sermon to guide our discussions.

PIETY STALL-St Patrick's Day, Easter, and Holy Communion cards, Bibles, rosary beads, crosses are available from the piety stall. Please have a look, there is no obligation to buy. This year the stall has raise £200 for the SVP and £200 for the Medical Mission. All the proceeds go to charity and are very reasonably priced. Should you wish to see a copy of the CTS Sunday Missal please see Lucy after Mass. Stop press, I am getting a copy of a different missal by Hodder for you to look at too which is slightly cheaper.

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, Adswold 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

