

Attention all Gift Aid Donors: The tax year 2020/21 will end on 5th April and the Parish will then undertake the process of claiming back the Gift Aid refunds on donations made in the tax year. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay income tax (or if for any other reason you do not wish to remain in the Gift Aid Scheme) please contact Mary McPeake on 0161 432 3284 or by e-mail: m.mcpeake@btinternet.com by 5th April, otherwise it will be assumed you have paid sufficient income tax for the Parish to reclaim Gift Aid on donations made in the tax year.

As an *indication* for each £1 per week that you donate through Gift Aid, you must have paid £13 per year in income tax; for each £5 per month that you donate through Gift Aid you must have paid £15 in income tax. Additionally, if you are in the Gift Aid scheme and have moved house in the last year, please will you contact Mary McPeake.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Next weekend (April 10th/11th) there will be a collection for the SVP. If you wish to make an offering, please use one of the SVP envelopes and put it into the normal collection boxes. If you do not pay sufficient UK income tax, please do not fill in the gift-aid slip. The money will be used to help individuals and families in St Chad's parish as well as overseas parishes, twinned with St. Chad's SVP, in India, Sudan & Romania.

300 Club: The draws have been done for the past few months and the following are all £20.00 winners: **January** 2021: 40 Molly Gilronan, 36 Katie Ryan, 62 Joseph Warburton; **February** 2021: 82 James Maxwell, 72 Chris Hall, 106 Pauline Collinge; **March** 2021: 45 Peter McDonald, 32 Trish Whalley, 50 John McPeake.

Please pray for all those who are sick and all those who have died recently. We remember Arthur Endsor, Kathleen Batey, Annie Johnson, Francis Sullivan, Edna Allsop, Catherine Black, John Burrell, Jack Tate, Ellen O'Brien, Edward Atkins, Alice Brookes, Fr. Steven Tynan, Joan Nadin, Martin O'Brien, Emily Buckley, Harold Rigby, William Barton, Anthony Clarke, Elsie Kearney, Paul Blair, Kathleen Brough, Annie Maloney, Bon Hay, Stephen Reding and all those who anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

Parish Safeguarding Reps: Noel Russell and Bernadette McCrory. If you have any concerns about safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults, please speak to them or contact them via the presbytery, in the strictest confidence.

Address: Stockport Road, Cheadle, SK8 2AF

Tel: / Email: 0161 428 2480 / **EMAIL:** stchadsheadle@gmail.com

Office Hours: Thursday 11am-1pm



The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle

Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson

Sunday 4th April 2021 – Easter Sunday

Dear brothers and sister in Christ,

Alleluia, Christ is risen! This is the most joyful day of the year. It marks the moment in history when everything changed. It is not just that Jesus has won for us unending peace when this short life is past and when our souls depart to their eternal reward. The Bible ends with the promise that at the end of time God will fashion “a new heaven and a *new earth*.” The “first earth”, subject to strife and death, will pass away. (Rev. 21:1) The culmination of Jesus’ mission will be the recreation of all things; and his risen body foreshadows the new world to come. Through his power, spirit and matter will be renewed and transfigured. In this refashioning of reality, our souls will be restored to a bodily existence akin to the bodily existence of the Risen Jesus. St Paul tells us that we cannot fathom what that condition will be like. He compares the death of our poor bodies to the sowing of a seed which then gives rise to a plant or a tree which we could scarcely have imagined when we saw the tiny seed go into the earth to die. He writes: “The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.” (1 Cor 15:42)

The already immense bliss of the souls in heaven will be increased when they are granted an immortal “spiritual body” as St Paul describes it. The human soul separated from its body, even when it beholds God face-to-face in heaven, is still not yet in its completely natural state. The soul was designed to operate as the animating principle of a body. In beholding the risen body of Jesus which is no longer bound by the ordinary laws of time and space we catch a glimpse of what awaits us. To borrow St Paul’s analogy, Christ’s mortal body was the first seed, dying and then rising as the first fruits of the great harvest of human immortality. Pope Benedict once spoke of Christ’s Resurrection – which contains within itself the cause of our future resurrection - using the language of evolution. People often try to picture how human nature might develop as history rolls slowly forward, but on Easter Sunday, human nature took the greatest possible leap

forward into immortality and transcendent glory, not by means of its own natural laws of development, but by divine power. The pope said:

What does [Christ's Resurrection] mean for us, for the whole world and the whole of history? If we may borrow the language of the theory of evolution, it is the greatest "mutation", absolutely the most crucial leap into a totally new dimension that there has ever been in the long history of life and its development: a leap into a completely new order. The Resurrection was like an explosion of light, an explosion of love. It ushered in a new dimension of being, a new dimension of life in which, in a transformed way, matter too was integrated and through which a new world emerges. It is a qualitative leap in the history of "evolution" and of life in general towards a new future life, towards a new world which, starting from Christ, already continuously permeates this world of ours, transforms it and draws it to itself.

In the earth-shattering miracle of the Resurrection, Jesus takes the great supernatural leap forward, and a new world begins. We pray that we will follow him into it one day. Alleluia!

Happy Easter to you all.
Fr Sean

Wanted: Bedding plants or small flowering bushes for the front of the church hall. New plant donations also welcome. We can collect if needed or you can leave them at the back of the hall – just let Karl know when you do. Contact Karl on 07976 784952. Thank you very much.

Mary's Meals www.marysmeals.org.uk/donate Last weekend we mentioned the beautiful work being done by Mary's Meals. Here is a message sent to them from the Daughters of Charity, their partner in Tigray:

"I have never in my life seen or heard the injustice, the evil acts that are being done in the lives of our people [...] there has never been anything as bad as what we have seen and witnessed, honestly. People are so traumatised. It is a time that we need your support and prayers. When we were distributing food, for the first time I was able to see a little bit of joy on their faces. I was able to see some hope. And people were so grateful. Please, let all of those who are helping in any way possible know that we are grateful."

Mass Times & Intentions

Sat 3 rd	Easter Vigil	St Ann's	8pm	Pat Lynch RIP
		St Chad's	8pm	The People of the Parish
Sun 4 th	Easter Sunday	St Chad's	9am	Pat Scott RIP
		St Ann's	11am	For the Parishioners
Mon 5 th	Easter Monday	St Ann's	10am	Barbara Thornberry RIP
Tues 6 th	Easter Tuesday	St Ann's	10am	Gerard Woolf RIP
		St Chad's	6.30pm	Jim Roche RIP
Wed 7 th	Easter Wednesday	No Mass		
Thurs 8 th	Easter Thursday	St Chad's	9.30am	November List RIP
Fri 9 th	Easter Friday	St Ann's	10am	For the Pickard family
Sat 10 th	Vigil	St Ann's	5pm	Paddy Bergin RIP
		St Chad's	7pm	John Murphy
Sun 11 th	2 nd Sunday Easter Divine Mercy	St Chad's	9am	John Drummond RIP and Gerald Cohen RIP
		St Ann's	11am	Bill Holt RIP

Mass Intentions: Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please post the envelope through the presbytery door once completed. Please note that we are now into July with Mass intentions.

Confessions: Available on request. Please telephone the presbytery a minimum of 24 hours in advance to arrange.