

**Cheadle Catholic Junior School:** Have vacancies for a School Business Manager and a KS2 Class Teacher. Full details and application forms are available at <https://www.cheadle-jun.stockport.sch.uk/recruitment/> Closing date for both positions is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

**SVP:** There is still a need for donations (joggers, t-shirts and sweatshirts) so we will have another collection at the beginning of June. Please no hats or garments with hoods. Please leave in the bag at the back of church. Thank you.

**Right to Life UK:** Carla Lockhart MP has launched a parliamentary motion calling on the Government to end ‘DIY’ home abortion. If ‘DIY’ home abortions become permanent, this will be a very big change to abortion provision that will likely lead to the loss of many more lives - and it is likely that this will have a strong negative impact on the physical and emotional health of women. It is therefore vital that as many MPs as possible sign Carla Lockhart’s motion to send a clear message to the Government that they must end dangerous ‘DIY’ home abortion services as soon as possible. Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to sign the motion. This tool can be accessed at <https://righttolife.org.uk/DIYmotion>

*Please pray for all those who are sick and for Sheilagh Tynan, Ellen O’Shea, David Gallagher and all those who have died recently. We remember John Delaney, Henry Batey, Julia Hall, Baby: Wilber Chadwick, Maureen Frost, Patrick Riley, Mary George, William Margetson, Stephen Carey, Helen Almond, Dominic Mullaney, Gerald Smith, Elizabeth Fraser, Gertrude Robateau, Norbert Scott, Bridget Moorhouse 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.

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**Office Hours:** Thursdays 11am – 1pm

**The Catholic Parish of St Chad, Cheadle**

**Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson**



**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year B**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I share you with some insights about distractions in prayer from a recent papal audience:

*Praying is not easy: many difficulties present themselves in prayer. It is necessary to know them, recognise them and overcome them. The first problem that emerges to those who pray is distraction. You start to pray and then your mind wanders; your heart is here, your mind is there. Prayer often co-exists with distraction. Indeed, the human mind finds it hard to dwell for long on a single thought. We all experience this constant whirlwind of images and illusions in perpetual motion, which accompanies us even during sleep. And we know that it is not good to follow this inclination to disorder. The battle to achieve and maintain concentration does not relate only to prayer. If one does not attain a sufficient level of concentration, one cannot study profitably, nor can one work well. Athletes are aware that contests are not won solely through physical training, but also with mental discipline: above all, with the capacity to concentrate and to remain focused.*

*In the heritage of our faith there is a virtue that is often forgotten, but which is so present in the Gospel. It is called “vigilance”. Jesus said, “Keep vigil. Pray”. The Catechism mentions it explicitly in its instruction on prayer (cf. no. 2730). Jesus often calls the disciples to the duty of a sober life, guided by the thought that sooner or later He will return, like a bridegroom from a wedding or a master from a journey. But since we do not know the day and hour of His return, all the minutes of our lives are precious and should not be wasted on distractions. In a moment that we do not know, the voice of our Lord will resound: on that day, blessed will be those servants whom He will find industrious, still focused on what really matters.*

*The time of barrenness warrants a different discourse. The Catechism describes it in this way: “The heart is separated from God, when there is dryness, with no taste for thoughts, memories and feelings, even spiritual ones. This is the moment of sheer faith clinging faithfully to Jesus in his agony and in his tomb” (no. 2731). Barrenness makes us think of Good Friday and Holy Saturday: Jesus is not there, He is in the tomb; we are alone. And this is the thought that gives rise to barrenness. Often, we do not know what the reasons for barrenness are: it may depend on ourselves, but also on God, who permits certain situations in the outer or inner life. Spiritual teachers describe the experience of faith as a continuous alternation of times of consolation and desolation; there are times when everything is easy, while others are marked by great heaviness. So, what can we do in this succession of enthusiasms and discouragements? One must learn to go forward always. True progress in the spiritual life does not consist in multiplying ecstasies, but in being able to persevere in difficult times: walk, walk, walk on... and if you are tired, stop a little and then start walking again. But with perseverance. Let us remember Saint Francis’ parable on perfect joy: it is not in the infinite fortunes rained down from Heaven that the ability of a friar is measured, but in walking steadily, even when one is not recognised, even when one is mistreated, even when everything has lost its initial flavour.*

May God bless you all.  
Fr Sean

**Recommended Reading**

*Come Rack, Come Rope!* By Robert Hugh Benson

**The Holy Father’s Prayer Intention for June:** Intention for evangelization - The beauty of marriage. Let us pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community: may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience.

**Money Matters:** Next weekend (19/20 June) we will have a second collection for Day for Life.

Please note that Church is monitored by CCTV Cameras 24/7 and by Live streaming Cameras during services.

**Mass Times & Intentions**

Sat 12 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil	St Ann’s	5pm	For BD & Family
		<b>St Chad’s</b>	7pm	Eddie Maguire RIP
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time	<b>St Chad’s</b>	9am	Roy York RIP
		St Ann’s	11am	David Gallagher RIP
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup>		St Ann’s	10am	
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup>		St Ann’s	10am	
		<b>St Chad’s</b>	6.30pm	Deceased Members of the Stapleton & Fanning families
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	St Richard of Chichester	<b>No Mass</b>		
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup>		<b>St Chad’s</b>	9.30am	Deceased Members of the Noonan & Reddy families
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup>		St Ann’s	10am	
		<b>St Chad’s</b>	1pm	<i>Funeral of Ellen O’Shea – family only</i>
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil	St Ann’s	5pm	
		<b>St Chad’s</b>	7pm	John & Martin Foster
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time	<b>St Chad’s</b>	9am	Brian Ashworth
		St Ann’s	11am	

**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 November with Mass intentions.

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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** takes place before Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday Masses.