

**Hymns: Saturday – 69, 450, 38, 502      Sunday – 69, 324, 91, 437, 502**

**Children's Liturgy:** Please note that Children's Liturgy will resume on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Currently, due to a lack of volunteers, we can only run Children's Liturgy during term-time. If you are able to volunteer to help us with this group, please get in touch. Thank you.

**Refreshments:** Please join for refreshments after the 9.30am Sunday Mass in the Church Hall. All welcome.

**Piety Stall:** We have some new stock on the Piety Stall which is in the hall entrance. Please have a look. All items are priced as marked. There is a box of the wall for any monies. Thank you.

**Knit and Knatter:** This Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1pm-3pm in the Church Hall. All knitters and knatters welcome!

**Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team:**

**1) Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage:** Join the Youth Pilgrimage on the Diocese of Shrewsbury Pilgrimage to Lourdes 27<sup>th</sup> July - 5<sup>th</sup> August. For those aged 16-22. Cost is £570 (with additional insurance at £33). For more information and an application form email [youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org).

**2) Young Adults Group:** will next meet on 27<sup>th</sup> February at the Cathedral. Transport will be offered from St Vincent's Knutsford, but can be arranged locally if needed. Anyone wishing to join should email [youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org](mailto:youth@dioceseofshrewsbury.org)

**Wellspring:** next weekend (26/27) we will have our monthly collection for Wellspring. The items that they are most in need of are: tinned veg and meat, pasta, rice, pot noodles, mug shots, dried foods, bread, vegetables, fruit and snack foods. Please leave any donations in the boxes at the back of church. Thank you.

**Bistro San Jose** is now up and running at St Joseph's, Stockport. It's on every Saturday from 10am – 1pm. All welcome for a feast of fine food, faith and warm fellowship.

***Please pray** for all those who are sick and for all those who have died recently. We also remember: Joseph Fabich, Kathleen Hayes, Anne Coulson, Roseanna Broadhead, Martin Brennan, Mary Bligh, Agnes Walden, Ernest Andrew, Margaret Brennan, Cyril Lings, Helen Corrigan, William Thornton, David O'Gara, John Pierce, Agnes Baccas, William Fisher, Joan Anderson, Ronald Billington 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:** 0161 428 2480

**Email:** [stchadsheadle@gmail.com](mailto:stchadsheadle@gmail.com) **Website:** [www.stchadsheadle.com](http://www.stchadsheadle.com)

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

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

**Priest: Fr. Sean Davidson**



**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The phenomenon of suffering is a mystery. The word mystery comes from a Greek term which means to shut the mouth. A mystery is something which we cannot fully comprehend, and before which we must thus fall silent. A mystery can only be patiently pondered. Although we cannot easily explain a mystery, we can at times receive some insight into it. The doctrine of the Trinity is a mystery. We cannot fully comprehend how three Persons can share the same spiritual substance, but the pondering heart may catch glimpses of insight. We ponder the nature of love, which always contains three elements: the one who loves, the one who receives love, and the love that exists between them. For God to be defined as Love it then becomes a veritable necessity that there be more than one Person within the Godhead, otherwise there would have been no one to love before creation was brought into being.

The same is true for the mystery of suffering. I cannot understand it, but the occasional flash of insight into it sometimes comes my way. There are times when I look back after twenty years and see why some sorrowful experience, which I didn't understand back then, had to happen in order to set in motion another chain of events which I would not now change for anything in the world. At times, I see a warring family finally reconciled around the hospital bed of one who suffers. And the wisest and most selfless people I have ever known are the ones who have suffered the most. The fire of pain seems to have somehow refined the gold of their character. Suffering alone can bring forth heroic virtues. How many converts only set out upon the path to holiness after some great suffering stirred up their souls.

If I had been on the hill of Calvary two thousand years ago, I might have seen nothing but the horrible sight of a young healthy life unjustly extinguished. Yet, with the light of faith, we now know that Christ's death meant life for the world. Suffering is rarely understood in the moment, but it contains a hidden redemptive power. In His eternal wisdom, God knows how to bring some greater good out of it. Only on the Last Day will we fully understand human history with all its joy and pain. We will see that the sorrows of this present life were the furnace forging

eternal happiness for countless immortal souls, the birth pangs of their everlasting bliss. It is only because of this final happiness that the God of Love has permitted pain to remain with us as a mysterious part of the journey from a sinful world to a sinless eternity. The light we foresee by faith at the end of the journey carries us through the dark tunnel of suffering. Knowing that our trials are not in vain, we draw strength to get through them, while also humbly acknowledging that we cannot easily understand them.

May God bless you all.  
Fr. Sean

**St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP):** This weekend (Feb. 19th/20th) 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 box. If you do not pay sufficient UK income tax, please do not fill in the gift-aid slip. Thank you.

**The Catholic Church Music of William Byrd (c1543-1623) – A Workshop for singers.** Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb, 10.30am-4pm at St Augustine’s RC Church, Grosvenor Square, Manchester. This workshop will focus on the life and works of Byrd and how he was able to function as a Catholic musician in Protestant England during Penal times. For details see:  
[www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/william-byrd-workshop](http://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/william-byrd-workshop) or please contact Dr Rosemarie Darby [stphilipnerisingsingers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stphilipnerisingsingers@yahoo.co.uk) or 07798858900.

**FOOTSTEPS Event:** The next talk will be on Thurs 3 March, at 7.30pm in the parish centre of St Peter’s, Green Lane, Hazel Grove. Canon John Rafferty will be reflecting on “Lent, a time of self discovery and catching a hint of God”. We look forward to welcoming everyone to this informal, friendly occasion. Come and follow our Footsteps.

**Lenten Reflections: Paul’s People** Wednesdays 12 – 12.30pm across the Churches of Cheadle and Gatley. **March:** 2<sup>nd</sup> – St Cuthbert’s; 9<sup>th</sup> – St James’s; 16<sup>th</sup> Trinity; 23<sup>rd</sup> Gatley URC; 30<sup>th</sup> Bethany; **April** 6<sup>th</sup> – St Chad’s; 13<sup>th</sup> – St Mary’s. Tea and Coffee will be available after each service, but please note it won’t include lunch this year.

**World Day of Prayer:** will take place at 11am on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March in St Mary’s Cheadle. All welcome.

**Coffee Morning:** in the Hall after Thursday morning Mass.

**Mass Times & Intentions**

Sat 19 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann’s <b>St Chad’s</b>	5pm <b>6.30pm</b>	For the parishioners of St Ann’s & St Chad’s <b>Kathleen Maxwell RIP</b>
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> <i>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C</i>	<b>St Chad’s</b> St Ann’s	<b>9.30am</b> 11am	<b>Frank O’Gorman RIP</b> Patricia Horne RIP
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> <i>St Peter Damian</i>	St Ann’s	10am	Barbara Depledge RIP
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> <i>The Chair of St Peter</i>	St Ann’s <b>St Chad’s</b>	10am <b>6.30pm</b>	Private Intention (RG) <b>November List</b>
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>NO MASS</b>		
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>St Chad’s</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Special Intention (MD)</b>
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann’s	10am	For Mira De Souza’s Intentions
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup>	St Ann’s <b>St Chad’s</b>	5pm <b>6.30pm</b>	Sarah Lees RIP <b>For the parishioners of St Chad &amp; St Ann</b>
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup> <i>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year C</i>	<b>St Chad’s</b> St Ann’s	<b>9.30am</b> 11am	<b>Philip Clarke RIP</b> Deceased Relatives & Friends of the Nixon Family.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Will take before Mass on Sundays and Tuesdays and from 9am-6pm on Thursday.

**Confessions:** Available 5.30pm – 6.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the sacristy. Also, available at other times on request by phoning the presbytery a minimum of 24 hours in advance to arrange.

**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 up to June with Mass Intentions. If you do require a specific date, please give as much notice as possible.

**Perpetual Adoration:** Every Thursday 9am-6pm. There is a sign up sheet at the back of church. You are welcome to come along at any time during the day.

**Money Matters:** We have received £265 via the Online Giving link on our website. Thank you very much. If you wish to give your offering in this way, the link is available on the ‘News & Information’ page on the website.